

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Kingston Police Services Board  
Held on Thursday, January 21, 2021, at 12:00 Noon  
Via Webinar Hosted at Kingston Police Headquarters**

**IN ATTENDANCE VIA ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr Jarrod Stearns, Chair	Chief Antje McNeely
Councillor Jefferey McLaren, Vice-Chair	Deputy Chief Christopher Scott
Councillor Bridget Doherty	Members of staff and media
Dr Christian Leuprecht	
Mr Jamshed Hassan	
Mrs Donna Harrington, Secretary	

1. The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

**DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

2. The members confirmed that there were no conflicts of interest to report.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

3. It was moved by Councillor McLaren and seconded by Councillor Doherty that the agenda be approved. Carried.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

4. It was moved by Mr Hassan and seconded by Councillor McLaren that the minutes of Meeting 21-1 held on December 17, 2020, be adopted. Carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

5. It was moved by Councillor McLaren and seconded by Councillor Doherty that the communications be received.
6. With respect to the Ministry memorandum on the extension of temporary exemptions under the *Police Record Checks Reform Act, 2015*, Chief McNeely explained that this legislation limited the types of information that could be reported, depending on the level of police check (regular Police Record Check, Police Record and Judicial Matters Check, or a Vulnerable Sector Check), but that police agencies had been exempted from this legislation for the purposes of screening police personnel. She noted that this allowed agencies to consider other types of information, such as suspect information. She relayed that the exemptions had been extended to July 1, 2021, to allow a more fulsome discussion by the Ministry with stakeholders to develop a framework for permanent exemptions.
7. The Chair noted the Ministry correspondence on the *Reserved Parking for Electric Vehicle Charging Act, 2019*, which amended the *Highway Traffic Act* and created two new offences (parking a non-electric vehicle in an electric vehicle charging station and parking an

electric vehicle in a charging station without connecting to the charging equipment). Chief McNeely noted that a set fine of \$125 had been established for these offences.

8. With regard to the Ministry correspondence on further changes to regulations under the *Reopening Ontario Act, 2020*, Chief McNeely noted that this assignment of public health units to the various colour-coded zones and associated measures was as at December 21, 2020.

9. The Chair noted the Ministry memorandum regarding further changes to regulations under the *Reopening Ontario Act, 2020*, that had come into effect on December 26, 2020. Chief McNeely noted that this time-limited shutdown was meant to restrict points of interaction and travel between different regions for non-essential activities by assigning all public health regions to the grey zone of Stage 1 lockdown for 28 days for Southern Ontario and 14 days for Northern Ontario. She added that these changes included identifying stores that may open and places that must close or be subject to conditions and that the memorandum also addressed enforcement orders.

10. With respect to the Ministry memorandum on the new deadline for community safety and well-being planning, Chief McNeely explained that the initial deadline of January 1, 2021, for municipalities to prepare and adopt these plans had been extended to July 1, 2021. She noted that she and Councillor McLaren were on the committee to develop Kingston's plan.

11. With respect to the Ministry correspondence on submission of Use of Force Reports, Chief McNeely relayed that police agencies had been required to submit new report forms as of January 1, 2020. She explained that this correspondence was to ensure that agencies submitted all of their 2020 reports by February 16, 2021, and prior to submitting any 2021 reports so that the Ministry could accurately report publicly on use of force statistics for each year.

12. With respect to the Ministry memorandum on dealer plate changes to RRO 1990, Reg. 628 (Vehicle Permits) under the *Highway Traffic Act*, Chief McNeely explained that this allowed dealer plates on light-duty commercial vehicles within the dealer's inventory for private use, whether or not they were carrying goods of a private nature. She noted that these plates did not allow the towing of another vehicle and the driver had to support the use of dealer's plates with proper ownership documentation as to the vehicle being in the dealer's inventory for sale.

13. The Chair noted the Ministry correspondence on the annual reporting requirements for the Violent Crime Linkage Analysis System and Major Case Management. Chief McNeely explained that regulations under the *Police Services Act* required annual reports to be filed with the Ministry and confirmed that the reports would be filed by the required deadline of February 28, 2021.

14. With respect to the Ministry memorandum on the Declaration of a Provincial Emergency under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*, Chief McNeely noted that the Province had not only made the declaration in response to rising COVID-19 cases but had also issued a new order under the act effective January 12, 2021, to allow enforcement officers to order individuals at an organized public event or other gathering prohibited under the act to disperse; to order that premises be temporarily closed if there were reasonable grounds to believe that an organized event or public gathering exceeded the number permitted; and to require an

individual believed to have committed an offence under the act to provide identifying information. She relayed that fines included \$750 for failing to comply with an order; \$1,000 for obstructing any person exercising a power in accordance with an order; and \$1,000 for obstructing any person performing a duty in accordance with an order.

15. The Chair noted the Ministry correspondence outlining additional new orders under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* and revised orders under the *Reopening Ontario Act, 2020*. Chief McNeely noted that this memorandum outlined new and revised orders, including the Stay-at-Home Order that restricted outings to certain purposes as outlined in the order. She explained that this order did not apply to homeless individuals and did not provide authority to enter dwellings or to stop a vehicle or pedestrian for the singular purpose of checking compliance with the order. She explained that individuals were not compelled to explain why they were out of their residence and that workers were not required to have proof from their employer regarding travel to or from work. Chief McNeely pointed out that there was no definition of “essential travel” but rather the order outlined what people were allowed to do. She noted that residential eviction orders were not allowed under the time-frame other than for stated exemptions and that there were other provisos regarding remote work, limits on outdoor gatherings, operating hours on businesses allowed to be open, and masking and distancing requirements (as well as tickets for non-compliance). Chief McNeely relayed that the Province had made a 1-800 line and e-mail resource available for guidance to enforcement agencies. She noted that staff had been working closely with the City, By-Law, and Public Health to communicate all of the fast-moving information but pointed out that there had not been a significant number of complaints. Deputy Chief Scott noted that, between December 26, 2020, and the issuance of the lockdown order, between the Kingston Police and City By-Law there had been 33 calls, 17 of which were unfounded and the remainder not egregious and thus dealt with by way of a warning. He pointed out that this reflected the cooperation being received from across the city and which had resulted in the gradual decrease in active cases.

16. The Chair noted the letter from the Deputy Solicitor General, Community Safety, thanking the Board for its leadership in ensuring community safety during the pandemic.

17. With respect to the e-mail from the Canadian Association of Police Governance on the 2021 Webinar Series, the Chair noted that the Secretary could register for any Board member wishing to participate.

18. The Chair noted the e-mail from the Police Association of Ontario on registration for the 2021 Employment Conference being held virtually. The Secretary confirmed that some Board members had attended conferences in the past and found them very beneficial and pointed out that, with the virtual conference, a number could be registered for one fee. It was agreed that the Secretary would register for members to attend and follow up with any required link.

## **DELEGATIONS**

19. Nil.

## REPORTS

20. **Annual Report on O.Reg. 58/16.** Staff Sergeant Murdock was invited to speak to the report on O.Reg. 58/16, Collection of Identifying Information in Certain Circumstances—Prohibition and Duties. Staff Sergeant Murdock provided background on this regulation under the *Police Services Act* that had come into effect across Ontario on January 1, 2017. She explained that the regulation outlined duties and prohibitions imposed on officers when identifying information from the public was collected or attempted to be collected and prescribed when the collection or attempted collection of identifying information would become a regulated interaction. She relayed that, to ensure compliance with the regulation, all regulated interactions were reviewed by the Kingston Police Regulated Interaction Verifier, which duty in 2020 had been covered by Sergeant Melanie Jefferies. Staff Sergeant Murdock confirmed that Sergeant Jefferies reviewed the electronic database on a frequent basis for compliance and was able to confirm that there had been no collections or attempted collections of identifying information that triggered the legislation within 2020.

21. **Administration of Public Complaints.** Staff Sergeant Murdock reviewed her report on the administration of public complaints, January–December 2020. She noted that 26 complaints had been received in 2020, which was an increase of 8 for the same period in 2019 but more reflective of numbers received in previous years (29 in 2018 and 32 in 2017). She relayed that there was one complaint that had been received in December that was still under investigation. With respect to local inquiries, Staff Sergeant Murdock relayed that 9 had been filed in 2020, a slight decrease from 12 filed in 2019. With respect to the disposition of complaints, she noted that 13 of the 26 had been screened out by the Office of the Independent Police Review Director for a number of reasons, e.g., not in the public interest to investigate. Staff Sergeant Murdock relayed that, of the 26 complaints, 5 had been classified under discreditable conduct, 5 were regarding unnecessary exercise of authority or use of force, 9 related to neglect of duty (e.g., not following a general order, and 6 had no conduct offence or service issue identified (and which had been included in the 13 screened out). With respect to the source of complaints, Staff Sergeant Murdock concurred that most complaints would stem from a call for service or interaction with a member of the public. With respect to the number of calls received by the police service, Chief McNeely confirmed that 46,720 calls had been received in 2020, with calls actually attended by front-line officers being between 25,000 and 30,000. The Chair noted that 26 complaints received out of 26,000 calls represented a very low percentage.

### Statistical Report

22. Chief McNeely noted that the Year-end Statistical Report for January to December 2020 compared statistics with other years and that the overall calls for service in 2020 had totalled 46,720. She provided the following summaries for 2020 trends.

- a. From the broader categories, one can see that the Crimes Against Persons category has increased from 2019, with the driver being an increase in assaults. In the past few months our officers have seen an increase in assaults involving knives; most recently, a male committed two separate knife attacks, one at a local motel and another on a city bus. Another example involved a male wielding a machete and acting irrationally and weaving in and out of traffic, who then

removed a hacksaw from his backpack and made his way to a nearby gas station. Officers responded, de-escalated the situation, and arrested the accused, who was wearing only a T-shirt in frigid weather. This demonstrates the volatility and unpredictable behaviours that our officers frequently have to confront.

- b. We have also seen an increase in robberies compared to 2019. As an example, there have been a number involving the drug subculture, as well as a number of convenience store robberies during the summer months (which have been solved). One example was captured in the headline “Six Arrested in Kidnapping and Robbery”; in this incident, a victim was forcibly held against his will, assaulted, and threatened with weapons, including a firearm. He was then forced to take part in a robbery. Later, while with the accused persons in a mall, he caught the attention of a store clerk and was able to avoid the accused persons until police arrived. A coordinated effort by the Criminal Investigations Unit quickly identified six involved individuals, who were arrested in a timely manner, preventing any further harm to the victim or the public. Another example involved two victims at Megaffin Park, where the accused approached them from behind and struck them with a blunt-edged weapon over the head numerous times, causing serious injuries. The accused fled the park with bags stolen from each. After investigation by the Major Crime Unit, an Ottawa man was charged with two counts of aggravated assault and two counts of robbery.
- c. Property crimes are down compared to last year, but within that category one can see that break and enters have increased. Our Property Crimes Unit has been busy, including the solving of a rash of break-ins in the west end involving thefts of bicycles and other items from garages and sheds. In November, Patrol officers arrested a male breaking into an area in an apartment complex downtown; they found him in possession of break-in tools and stolen cheques and identification. Upon arrest, the male attempted to use bear spray on the officers and had a knife concealed in his clothing, as well as a crowbar inside the sleeve of his jacket. This male was also wanted by the Kingston Police for outstanding break-ins. This was another example of good work that resulted in the clearance of a number of break-ins throughout the city. Another example was a nine-month shooting investigation that began in June 2019 and involved the Major Crime, Forensic Identification, Drug and Street Crime, and Emergency Response units, as well as Uniformed Patrol. It also involved cooperative efforts with the Toronto Police, York Regional Police, and Correctional Service Canada, with three persons ultimately arrested in June 2020 and charged jointly with attempted murder, break and enter, and numerous firearm-related offences.
- d. We have also seen an increase in the number of drug offences. Our Drug Unit has had successful projects over the year resulting in 201 arrests, 352 charges, and the seizure of 19 guns. In addition, the street value of drugs seized in 2020 was \$1,004,590; just under \$68,000 of cash was seized; and eight vehicles were seized, for a total value of just over \$1.3 million.

23. With respect to any impact of the pressures of the pandemic and lockdowns on families and any increase on domestic violence, Chief McNeely relayed that there had been an increase over the summer but total reported incidents had remained comparable to other years. She acknowledged that this was an area of concern and that Interval House continued to receive lots of calls for assistance. She pointed out that the Stay-at-Home Order allowed those who needed to seek legal advice or safe shelter to leave their homes. Chief McNeely confirmed that this message could be spread by social media and relayed that any media release related to an incident of domestic violence or sexual assault always carried a list of community resources for victim assistance.

24. With respect to statistics on youth crime, Chief McNeely relayed that the report did not contain specific statistics in that area. Deputy Chief Scott noted that a program had been launched in September 2020 with Youth Diversion to enable the public and parents to access the Intersections Program for youth who were making poor choices. He explained that parents could file an online report and the Youth Diversion workers placed within police headquarters and working with the CORE Unit officers could make a quick intervention to assist the youth or child. Deputy Chief Scott noted that this initiative was another way for outreach and to use community partners so that parents could access resources during these difficult times.

## **MOTIONS**

25. Chief McNeely explained that the funding agreement before the Board was to enable the Kingston Police to participate in a provincial human trafficking joint forces strategy. She relayed that Constable Jesse Braun had been seconded for this purpose. It was moved by Councillor McLaren and seconded by Dr Leuprecht that the Board approve the funding agreement with the Ministry of the Solicitor General operating as the Ontario Provincial Police for the Kingston Police to participate in the Provincial Human Trafficking Intelligence-Led Joint Forces Strategy and delegate signing authority to the Chief of Police and Deputy Chief for this agreement and renewal agreements under this provincial strategy.

Carried. (21-10)

26. Chief McNeely and Deputy Chief Scott provided the following brief biographies on the recent promotion of Staff Sergeant Matthew Funnell to the rank of inspector; of Sergeant Stephanie Morgan to the rank of staff sergeant; and of Constables Clement Nesanayagam, Scott Huffman, and Harry Brewer to the rank of sergeant.

- a. Matt started his policing career in August 1996 with the Carleton Place Police after graduating from the Law and Security Administration Program at Sir Sandford Fleming College. Upon joining the Kingston Police in May 2001, Matt was assigned to Uniformed Patrol. Less than three weeks later, at great personal risk to himself, Matt wrestled to safety a suicidal person who had been intent on jumping from a tall structure. Matt is a highly respected investigator and was selected as one of the two officers who formed a new Cold Case Unit in 2005. Known for his outstanding initiative and investigative tenacity, he has received numerous accolades, including a Chief's Commendation and praise from the Crown Attorney's Office for his excellent work on a particularly complex

homicide investigation. In 2016 he was selected to receive the Award of Merit from the Ontario Homicide Investigators Association for his dedication and service, having made a lasting contribution to the profession of homicide investigation in the province of Ontario and to homicide training and education. Matt was promoted to sergeant in January 2010 and to the rank of staff sergeant in January 2014. As a staff sergeant he was assigned as a Platoon Commander in Uniformed Patrol as well as the Staff Sergeant in charge of the Court Services Unit. Matt has also been one of our Incident Commanders who are called out to provide qualified and knowledgeable on-scene leadership at major incidents, emergencies, and serious incidents. In 2017 Matt was awarded the Police Exemplary Service Medal in recognition of 20 years of loyal and exemplary service to public safety in Canada, and in June 2020 he received his Bachelor of Applied Arts from the University of Guelph–Humber. As the inspector for the Operational Support Division, Matt will be in charge of the Community-Oriented Response and Engagement Unit.

- b. Stephanie started her policing career in 1996 with the Lunenburg–Mahone Bay Police Service after graduating from the Atlantic Police Academy and after earning a Bachelor of Arts degree from the Memorial University of Newfoundland. She joined the Kingston Police in May 2000 and was assigned to Criminal Investigations in January 2002, ultimately working with the Provincial Strategy to Protect Children from Sexual Abuse and Exploitation on the Internet. In 2005 she was commended for her initiative and thoroughness in an investigation that resulted in the successful indictment and prosecution of an international sexual predator. In fact, her work on this case earned her the praise of the assigned United States Attorney for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. Stephanie was awarded the 2009 Kingston Police Teamwork Award by her peers for how she had been a main contributor to the sense of teamwork within Criminal Investigations, particularly with her assumption of the Internet Child Exploitation or “ICE” program, a task that she volunteered to take on in addition to her many responsibilities in the Sexual Assault Unit at the time. Thanks to her hard work, the success of the ICE program became so evident that a full-time position was ultimately dedicated to this task. Stephanie was promoted to sergeant in January 2015 and has held the position of a Platoon Supervisor in Uniformed Patrol, as well as one of the two sergeant positions in the Court Services Unit. Stephanie takes great pride in her chosen profession and promotes a strong commitment to the core values of the Kingston Police. She has also been awarded the Police Exemplary Service Medal. Upon her promotion to staff sergeant, Stephanie returned to Uniformed Patrol as a Watch Commander in charge of a platoon, where she will continue to share her wealth of experience with others.
- c. Clem commenced his policing career with the Kingston Police in 2006 after graduating from the University of Ottawa with a Bachelor of Science in Criminology in 2005. Clem spent the first seven years of his career in Uniformed Patrol. In 2013 he was transferred to Street Crime (plain-clothes) for four years. In the last four years, Clem has worked in Drug Enforcement, working tirelessly

to stem the poisoned drug supply that has fuelled the opioid crisis. Clem has been the recipient of numerous recognition awards, including a Chief's Commendation in 2017 and commendations from several partnering police agencies for his work in the area of drug enforcement. Clem has also been very involved in the area of drug education, including partnering with Queen's University Counselling Services, speaking to senior faculty members of the Limestone District School Board, and providing input to the Community Drug Action Plan. With his promotion, Clem will be working in our Community-Oriented Response and Engagement Unit.

- d. Scott began his policing career with the Kingston Police in 2009, coming to Kingston with four years of policing experience obtained with York Regional Police and the Toronto Police. Prior to policing Scott obtained a diploma in Business Administration. Scott worked in Uniformed Patrol for three years before being transferred to the Criminal Investigations Unit. Since 2012, Scott has worked in the General Assignment Section (primarily on property crimes) and in the Major Crimes Unit, which handles everything from robberies, missing persons, stabbings, and homicides. Scott has been the recipient of numerous positive accolades for his investigative work. In 2018, he received a Kingston Police Commendation of Merit for his efforts in a complex investigation involving the administration of a biological toxin.
- e. Harry began his career with the Kingston Police in April 2001. Prior to joining the Kingston Police, Harry obtained a diploma in Law and Security Administration from Mohawk College. He then worked for five years as a correctional officer. Harry spent his first three years in Uniformed Patrol, at which point he was transferred to the Emergency Response Unit. Leadership came easy to Harry; he quickly distinguished himself amongst his peers and became a Team Leader, a position he held from 2006 to 2014. In 2014 he returned to Uniformed Patrol. In 2017 Harry moved to the Training Unit, where he was able to leverage his passion for self-improvement and training in championing scenario-based de-escalation training. During his career Harry has received numerous positive accolades, including a Kingston Police Commendation of Merit in 2003 for his efforts in saving a suicidal male who was threatening to jump off a bridge.

The Chair commented on the many years of valuable experience held by these officers.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

27. **2021 Budget.** Chief McNeely noted that she had been invited to attend the Council meeting of January 19, 2021, to brief Council on how the Kingston Police budget was constructed to deal with concerns raised by Black, Indigenous, and people of colour and by Black Lives Matter and as to how those elements were related to other priorities in the budget. She reported that, in her presentation to Council, she tried to cover all of the various initiatives being done by the Kingston Police in the community, including the use of several government grants to help support the community such as in the area of the Community Risk Watch and the

MCRRT model. She noted that the MCRRT Program helped to reduce wait time at the hospital and also helped to improve connectivity for persons in crisis with wraparound services. She relayed that she had spoken about the service's work with the Health Unit and with the Community Drug Strategy in its four-pillar approach, as well as the service's support of the overdose prevention site, consumption treatment services site, and integrated care hub. Chief McNeely reported that she had also outlined enhancements planned for 2021 in terms of an equity, diversion, and inclusion strategy. She noted that there had been lots of dialogue following her presentation. Councillor Doherty stressed the importance of communication and relayed that the presentation had been well received. She noted that councillors had been sent hundreds of e-mails asking Council to defund the police and that it was important to have these public conversations. She added that Chief McNeely had acknowledged the existence of racism, not just in a police force but in society at large, which was a tough conversation but one important for people to have.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

28. **Ontario Regulation 421/97.** The Chair noted that the review of O.Reg 421/97, Members of Police Services Boards—Code of Conduct, was for new and existing members with respect to conduct expectations for board members.

29. **Staffing Update.** Chief McNeely relayed that Sergeant Darren Keuhl and civilian employee Jacqueline Kennedy would be retiring at the end of the month. Deputy Chief Scott provided the following summaries of their careers.

- a. Darren started out as a cadet with the Kingston Police in December 1988 and soon amassed several commendations for his response to serious incidents. In 1998 he and his canine partner, Razor, formed the very first Kingston Police Canine Unit, which was a great hit with school kids and the general public at special events but not so much with suspects. Darren responded to several high-risk incidents as a tactical officer in the Emergency Response Unit for several years and more than once put his life on the line to help ensure the safety and security of our community. During the 2003 Awards Ceremony he was recognized for his part in preventing a suicidal man from jumping from an overpass and taking Darren and another officer with him. Darren was promoted to his current rank in November 2003, with assignments following in Policy and Planning and the Emergency Response, Training, and Community-Oriented Response and Engagement units. In addition to meeting a demanding workload in these areas, Darren readily accepted major special assignments. He assisted with several aspects of the move to our new headquarters in October 2007, and, during our preparations for our 175th anniversary year in 2016, he researched the process for us to obtain armorial bearings from the Canadian Heraldic Authority and also designed and procured for the Kingston Police a very unique tipstaff, which is used as a symbolic transfer of leadership during change of command ceremonies. Since January 2016 Darren has been the Sergeant in charge of Traffic Safety, and he has spearheaded the implementation of such advanced technologies as the automated licence plate recognition system and the remotely piloted aircraft system. Darren has become a particular specialist on the latter system and has

been an integral contributor to the formulation of a training package for our agency and other police agencies. Darren has been awarded the Police Exemplary Service Medal and first bar, in recognition of 30 years of loyal and exemplary service to public safety in Canada. He is well known for his energy and positive enthusiasm.

- b. Jacqueline has been one of our communications operators since March 1989. Although television programs and movies with a police theme often concentrate on a story line involving police officers, any response to an emergency usually starts out in the 9-1-1 emergency communications centre. Jacqueline has been the reassuring voice on the other end of the line for countless victims in need of help and has been praised for her calm demeanour, patience, compassion, and professionalism. In 2013, there was a large fire on Princess Street that displaced numerous people and trapped a crane operator within the fire. The crane operator was rescued by a helicopter, and throughout this Jacqueline was part of the Communications team that calmly and effectively handled this very demanding situation. She has been described by her supervisors as “a mature, intelligent woman who excels in people skills,” “a pleasure to work with,” and a team player with an excellent sense of humour.” We thank Jacqueline for her many years of service to the Kingston Police as an integral member of the Communications Unit and for the many times that she has been the reassuring and helpful voice on the other end of the line.

The Chair asked that congratulatory letters be prepared from the Board.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Continued)**

### **Mounted Unit**

30. Chief McNeely noted that the Mounted Unit (Murney) had unfortunately been retired from the 2020 Kingston Police budget, in part to be able to hire 10 additional officers to backfill those on long-term absences, but, as a result of a lot of community support, the Mounted Unit was requested to continue in 2020 with the assistance of fundraising. She pointed out that the pandemic had made fundraising difficult for everyone and thus for 2020 only \$5,000 had been raised. Chief McNeely reported that, to resume fundraising, a meeting had been held with representatives from the Downtown Kingston! Business Improvement Area to discuss further fundraising outside the police budget and the commitment of the Kingston Police to continue with the Mounted Unit as part of the downtown beat for 2021.

31. Chief McNeely relayed that the continuation of this initiative was supported by the Chief's Office and the CORE Unit in light of support from the community and downtown businesses. She pointed out that Constable Groenewegen and Murney were much more than ambassadors for the Kingston Police, since they also performed enforcement duties and were present in areas that required extra patrol: downtown, the outdoor K&P trail, waterfront areas, the University District, and any protest sites. She noted that the service was also exploring the possibility for the Mounted Unit to build bridges by promoting an additional connection with those most vulnerable in the downtown areas and at the Integrated Care Hub. Chief McNeely

advised that fundraising would be undertaken by the Downtown Kingston! BIA from January to the end of March to support the program for 2021 and for additional years if fundraising was successful. She reported that the BIA had set up with City Finance three ways for the public to donate funds towards the continuation of the unit.

32. Chief McNeely reviewed Constable Groenewegen's schedule, being 10-hour shifts from Tuesday to Friday and Wednesday to Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and noted that Constable Groenewegen started training in March for four to five hours a week (half a day training and half on the beat), followed by one training day per month. She pointed out that this training time was very similar to that required by any other specialized units and that the Mounted Unit was active from April to November. Chief McNeely relayed that training was included in the fees for the boarding of the horses (Donovan was also available in case of Murney being unavailable due to injury or illness).

33. Chief McNeely reported that the lease agreement for 2020 amounted to \$34,958, leaving \$29,958 after the donation of \$5,000. She noted that additional expenses included \$1,620 for vehicle insurance; \$859 for vehicle repairs; \$683 for fuel; and \$265 for licence renewal, for a total of \$3,427. She explained that this resulted in a net cost of \$33,385 for 2020 and that, as a result of the impact of the pandemic on fundraising efforts, she would be requesting permission from the Board as per its policy pertaining to police auctions that the proceeds from the 2020 auction be utilized to help fund the Mounted Unit shortfall. She relayed that auction proceeds had amounted to approximately \$22,300 and, with the \$5,000 in donations, approximately 70 percent of the costs would be covered and the remaining \$11,084 could be absorbed in the 2020 budget.

34. With respect to prior notice to the Board as to the continuation of the Mounted Unit, Chief McNeely pointed out that the Board had been advised at the May 2020 meeting that the pandemic had become an impediment to fundraising. She noted that this was unfortunate but was similar to extra unforeseen expenses being incurred for masks, etc., due to the pandemic. Chief McNeely acknowledged that the costs for the horse had not been budgeted and were to be covered by sponsorships but that did not happen due to the pandemic. She relayed that the City had been approached for assistance in fundraising and funds had been donated by anonymous donors but, when the pandemic hit and people started to work remotely, the funding was not there. Chief McNeely noted that, as things started to improve, the BIA and downtown businesses, which were very supportive of the Mounted Unit, approached the Kingston Police about renewed efforts to continue the Mounted Unit in 2021. She relayed that the initiative would be promoted in the coming months, whether for corporate sponsorship or individual donations.

35. With respect to any potential impact on the 2021 budget, Chief McNeely predicted that the status of fundraising success would be known by the end of March. She noted that the contract for the horses was until the end of the year and that fundraising was meant to cover this year's expenses, with a review later in the year as to the viability of continuing this program.

36. Chief McNeely explained that auction proceeds included found bicycles sold at twice-yearly auctions and that auction proceeds were deposited to a revenue line in the budget. She relayed that some auction proceeds were used to support activities of the Kingston Police

Community Volunteers and requested that some be used to cover the 2020 costs for the Mounted Unit. Chief McNeely confirmed that this would be a one-time request, with the intention that 2021 costs would be covered by fundraising.

37. It was moved by Councillor McLaren and seconded by Councillor Doherty that, pursuant to section 3.5(c) of the Board Policy Respecting the Disposition of Unclaimed Property in the Possession of the Kingston Police, the Board authorize proceeds from the 2020 auction to be allocated as required to fund the 2020 costs of the Mounted Unit in light of the unforeseen detrimental impact on fundraising due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Carried. (21-11)

**MOVE TO IN-CAMERA SESSION**

38. It was moved by Dr Leuprecht and seconded by Councillor McLaren that the Board move in camera at 1:02 p.m. Carried.

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Chair

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Secretary