



**Attendance:**

**Policing Committee Members**

Perry Brooks, Chairperson  
Stewart Begg, Vice Chairperson  
Councillor Jibs Abitoye  
Steven Hull, Public Complaints Director  
Gloria Brathwaite

**Administration Representatives**

Coreen Rayner, Director of Protective Services  
Insp. Mike McCauley, Officer in Charge RCMP  
Tannis Robertson, Recording Secretary  
Sgt. Lee Hardman, MES Supervisor

**Absent:**

Christine Beveridge  
Sean Clements

**Absent:**

Heather Cowie, General Manager of Community &  
Protective Services

**Administration Guests**

None

**Public Guests:**

Jennifer HOYER- City of Fort  
Saskatchewan

**1. Welcome and Call to Order**

- a. Meeting called to order at 5:01 pm by Perry Brooks.

**2. Consent Agenda Approval (Agenda & Minutes)**

- a. Stewart Begg moved to accept the consent agenda, seconded by Steven Hull, carried.

**3. RCMP Officer in Charge Report – Inspector Mike McCauley**

- a. Staffing: 2 experienced members have arrived, currently fully staffed.
- b. New Programs underway- The Crime Reduction of Habitual Offenders is a new program CPL. KENNY is working to build and is in the very early stages and will be working with the Crime Reduction Unit to build. Updates to follow when the program is up and running.
- c. Cpl. BROWN is working on a new Un-named partnership- the RCMP will receive frequent calls regarding the same person where no true crime is being committed. The goal for the program is to act as a partnership between the willing participant and services/ resources available to assist them. Possible connections would be with Alberta Health Services, Families First & FSCC and so on. This program is in its early stages and will be discussed further at the next meeting.
- d. Mike McCauley reports the RCMP report had a glitch & wasn't clear. The comparative stats are January and February of this year vs the last 5 years. This is why the homicides that were public and you may recall were not in the report as they were not committed in January or February. Apologies on the glitch.
- e. New RCMP Quarterly report is being generated by K division, will be finalized shortly and will be presented on next meeting.



**4. Public Guests- Jennifer Hoyer**

- a. Conversion Therapy- Jennifer Hoyer attended to discuss and educate about the Inclusion Bylaw that will be presented to Council. This bylaw will cover Conversion Therapy which aims to change an individual's sexuality to heterosexual through counselling or religious teachings. This form of therapy has lifelong effects and can result in depression/suicide. Jennifer has put the invitation to all churches in the community and reports a positive response from all and also asks for anyone on the committee to reach out if they have any further questions.
- b. There have been no specific incidents of this therapy being offered or used in the City of Fort Saskatchewan that have been reported in the past but the bylaw would be considered symbolic and also carry a \$10,000.00 fine.
- c. Perry Brooks asks if any other Municipalities have adopted the same bylaw. Jennifer confirms Strathcona County, St. Albert, Beaumont, Edmonton, Calgary and others have already put it in place.
- d. Counsellor Jibs Abitoye – agrees with comments. Motion was brought forward and it was unanimously voted for.
- e. Coreen acknowledges that the City of Fort Saskatchewan focuses on educating employees by offering frequent courses promoting inclusion. Big thank you to Jennifer for all of the work she does.
- f. Stewart Beg requesting Jennifer come back and report to the committee how this all works out and expresses there is a great need for this.

**5. Director Report- Coreen Rayner**

- a. Kalie Andersons last day is tomorrow and she will be moving onto Edmonton Police Service as the Manager of Emergency Communications. We wish her well on this exciting opportunity.
- b. Staffing Updates- Three vacation positions on the administration side. Lee Conforti is retiring this month after 30 years with the City. We will be hiring for a coordinator, front counter and one additional admin spot in Municipal Enforcement. Vacancies will likely be filled internally, then vacancies to be backfilled.
- c. Commercial Vehicle Update- Presented to council a Commercial Vehicle Report on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Council wants to look further into Commercial Vehicle Enforcement- who provides the training and how to build upon the current program, safety aspects and infrastructure. Looking into an additional Community Peace Officer focusing only on CVE. This to be presented to Council in the budget process.
- d. Residential Speed Reduction- Grant Schaffer will be presenting to council to change residential speed limits in Fort Saskatchewan to 40 km/hr. Some arterial roads to stay at 50km/hr. Grant and Coreen will be collecting data from the community, doing community engagements to provide information/education while gathering data. Information to also be provided via Fortsask.ca. Once complete they will go back to council with a recommendation.
- e. Annual Police Priorities- May 25<sup>th</sup> Mike McCauley will be going to council to present the Annual Police Priorities, a year-end report for the last year and also introduce the priorities for the next



year. The RCMP calendar year runs April until March 31<sup>st</sup> whereas the City's regular calendar making things challenging at times.

- f. Expected complaint increases- it is common during the summer months for complaints to increase with the weather changing & more residents being outside. Some of the increased complaints are regarding vehicle noise and additional traffic concerns. Sgt. Lee Hardman and Coreen plan to do targeted enforcement to recognize these concerns. Complaint process for reference- Municipal Enforcement receives a complaint, a file is generated, targeted enforcement in the designated area for approx. 2 weeks. Discussion and reevaluation at the 2-week mark to deem if they need to continue to remain present in that area or continue to focus on other spots.
- g. Sgt. Lee Hardman referencing excessive vehicle noise complaints to be challenging, as we do not have this issue fall under any of the City Bylaws. Other Municipalities with these bylaws in effect have specific devices to record decibel levels. Conviction on these types of offences are very challenging to convict. Enforcement generally focusing on the size of the mufflers- again, this is not an easy conviction and is normally withdrawn. A common issue every Municipality is having at this time.
- h. Budget Planning- Reminder to the committee there are funds in the 2021 budget available.

#### **6. Municipal Enforcement Services Report – Sgt. Lee Hardman**

- a. March Stats- 155 files for investigation for this month, 477 tickets laid which includes verbal and written warnings. Community Standards complaints are going up and we are expecting & ready for a busy summer.
- b. Staffing Update- Currently we are down 2 admin staff. Posting goes out on Monday for full time and part time MES admin.
- c. Planned Operations- Two joint force ops a month have been planned- targeting anything from seatbelt violations to stop sign violation ect. Last operation focused on seatbelts, officers noted a 95% compliance rate. A media release was sent out to the community regarding the success. Next operation planned to target vehicle noise and speeding.
- d. Commercial Vehicle Operation-Scheduling looking like June 23rd to include many external organizations from RCMP/EPS/Sheriffs Dangerous Goods.
- e. E ticketing- is now a required for all enforcement agencies by December, we have already started the process for this year. Training has been completed and we are awaiting printer applications for vehicles.
- f. Safe Roads Alberta- the administrative adjudication branch of Alberta Transportation where Albertan's who have been issued a violation can dispute a ticket via telephone or Webex. This will greatly free up the court system and find a resolution within 30 days instead of 2-3 years down the road.
- g. Vehicles – Continued vehicle issue for MES. 3 new vehicles slated for this year that were purchased in the previous year. Due to COVID there are delay on vehicle production taking longer to build and once they are here will require more time to be decaled and outfitted with required systems.



- h. LEBRA Training- 2 officers will take bike training this year focusing on more tactical bike operations. For example- going up and down stairs on a bike. This training will be next month and more officers will be patrolling on the trail system to increase visibility.
- i. Bike Rodeo- With COVID restrictions in place MES is working on a solution to still engage the Community in a COVID friendly manner. Many helmets available from previous years that need to be given out due to expiry. Some ideas being brought forward- scavenger hunt, providing helmets to youth seen riding without. Discussion is ongoing.
- j. Traffic Safety-We are working with the Communications Department to develop some child friendly traffic safety messaging. One idea is using the City Mascot Auggie on signs on trails/crosswalks to encourage safety from the public. on this as well.
- k. Counselor Jibs Abitoye asks if MES is monitoring traffic/vehicle noise on Woodbridge Link as it is a common area of concern for residents. Lee advises the area is already being addressed by officers by daily patrols as well as an Operation that took place today as well. The expectation is for MES presence to be there once a day.
- l. Coreen notes what a fantastic job Sgt Hardman has been doing in leading his team which shows in the performance that has been happening thanks to his leadership.

#### **7. New Business – Perry Brooks**

- a. Committee Vacancy- Christine beverage has resigned. Replacement options discussed. The position is a 1-year term that expires in January. If replaced now the term would expire then. Vote called, tie broken by Perry Brooks. Position to be posted and filled this year.
- b. Group to seek strong candidates and encourage them to apply.
- c. Traffic Safety Working Group- Coreen brings forward that this is a inter-departmental group of people coming together to discuss traffic concerns. Groups such as: Elk Island School Transportation, MES Sgt, RCMP, City Engineering Department, Roads department, NRCAR Representative and Fire Department employees ect – all gather to discuss concerns and innovated ways to obtain our Vision Zero goal within the City. She is looking for someone from the Policing Committee to also attend.
- d. Stewart Begg expressed interest and will attend the April 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting.

#### **8. Council Update – Councillor Jibs Abitoye**

- a. Council will meet next week to discuss reducing residential speed limits as previously mentioned.
- b. Low Density Residential parking study- U of A is collaborating with the City to do a study on the parking issues that exist in low density areas. Calvert Wynd, Galloway Wynd and Cranston Place areas of review, trying to develop a holistic approach. This to come forward Tuesday to educate residents.



- c. Council will be looking at an alternative local transit model outside of the bus system currently operating. Possible alternatives like an on demand model like UBER/LEAP ordered online, but instead a bus. This will be coming forward to council next week.

**9. Public Complaints Director Report – Steven Hull**

- a. No complaints at this time.

**10. AAPG Representative Update – Perry Brooks**

- a. The conference is to begin virtually next week- which is the bulk of what Perry has been dealing with.

**Round Table**

- a. Stewart Beg – questions about media resources to get messaging out regarding Bylaws. Coreen notes Lee Hardman does radio and internet communication with “M.E. and You” each week to engage and educate the community and has had a great response.
- b. Coreen Rayner- Wanted to mention Cst. BIGELOW has developed an online educational presentation covering online sexual offences such as child luring, child pornography, internet safety tips, and real life stories of victims of online crimes. This video can be found on the City’s of Fort Saskatchewan’s YouTube Channel-[City of Fort Saskatchewan’s YouTube channel](#).
- c. Lee Hardman – Wanted to make the Committee aware of an association he was previously apart of in the past. The Alberta Community Crime Prevention Association- a means to discuss mutual crime related issues within the communities/police/government. Something to think about possibly for a guest speaker in the future.

**11. Adjournment**

- a. Councillor Abitoye moved to adjourn, seconded by Steven Hull. Meeting adjourned at 6:31 pm.