

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF CENTRAL SAANICH

Minutes of the **JOINT COUNCIL/POLICE BOARD** Meeting
Monday, October 25, 2004 at 6:00 p.m.
Central Saanich Municipal Council Chamber

PRESENT: Mayor Allison Habkirk
Councillors: Graham, Haddon, King, Korol, Mason and Thompson
Chief Constable Paul Hames, Central Saanich Police Service
Deputy Chief Constable Clayton Pecknold, Central Saanich Police Service
John Currie, Central Saanich Police Board
Cathie Ounsted, Central Saanich Police Board
Bruce Underwood, Central Saanich Police Board
Cst. Greg Johnson, Central Saanich Police Service
Gary C. Nason, Administrator
Trish Flanders, Municipal Clerk
Ed Sykora, Director of Financial Services

INTRODUCTIONS:

A brief introduction of the various members of Council, Central Saanich Police Board, Central Saanich Police Service and Municipal Staff was made.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The Administrator, Mr. Gary C. Nason, noted the addition to the agenda of the following late item:

- News Release dated October 22, 2004 from the Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services Re: Traffic Fine Revenues, to be included with Item 1;

1218.04 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MASON
 SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR GRAHAM
 That the Agenda for the Joint Council/Police Board Meeting held on October 25, 2004 be approved as circulated.
 CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing

Mayor Habkirk referred to the News Release dated October 1, 2004 issued by the Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services which advised of Premier Campbell's announcement and commitment that 100% of net traffic fine revenues would be given back to over 70 municipalities in the Province.

The Director of Financial Services, Mr. Ed Sykora, advised that the District would soon be in receipt of a total of \$199,999 and confirmed that there are no imposed restrictions to govern how the municipality can spend this revenue. In this regard, Mr. Sykora suggested that Council give consideration to the following outstanding issues:

- For 2004: Upgrading of Municipal Telephone/911 System;
 Liabilities associated with the accrual of benefits; and
 The establishment of a "Major Crime" Reserve Fund.
- For 2005: Salary increase for Police Service;
 Increased costs for CREST; and
 The provision of additional Emergency Measures training.

During a brief discussion around the table, Ms. Cathie Ounsted questioned if the Police Board would be permitted to provide input as to proposed allocation of the traffic fine revenues. Mayor Habkirk encouraged the members of the Central Saanich Police Board to collectively present their suggestions to the Municipal Council in this regard.

2. Community Survey

Chief Constable Hames advised that at the last Police Board Meeting, the Board Members came up with the idea of developing a “community survey” as a means of collecting information from the general public with respect to policing issues and community satisfaction, and suggested that the Municipality consider developing a “joint survey”.

The Administrator noted that a “joint survey” is not outlined in Staff’s current workplan, and advised that committing to this proposal would be dependent on external resources and time requirements. Mr. Nason questioned the suitability of undertaking a community survey during the last year of the current Council’s term, and recalled that a survey was similarly undertaken in 1995/96.

A brief discussion took place around the table, during which time Chief Constable Hames advised that the cost associated with conducting a telephone survey with approximately 300 people could be in the range of \$5,000 to \$8,000.

3. “Ride-alongs”

Chief Constable Hames encouraged members of Council to participate in the “Ride-Along” Program with a member of the Police Service for a first-hand experience of monitoring the community from a policing perspective. He advised that “ride-alongs”, ranging from a ½ hour ride to an entire day/evening shift, can be arranged through the Deputy Chief Constable or himself.

Mr. John Currie described his recent experience with the “Ride-Along Program” as being very positive, and encouraged Council to participate in this initiative.

4. Speed Watch Video

Chief Constable Hames gave an overview of the ICBC Speed Watch Program, which included a news bulletin video featuring the District’s Speed Watch Volunteers and a member of the Central Saanich Police Service. He described the program as a non-enforcement educational program aimed at reducing speeding in the community, which is operated in partnership with local volunteers and ICBC. Chief Constable Hames advised that through the use of portable radar equipment and a speed-reader board, volunteers can easily monitor speeds in neighbourhoods and in school/playground zones, thereby raising public awareness of actual driver/vehicle speeds in various locations throughout the community. He further advised that although the volunteers cannot issue speeding tickets, approximately 122 warning letters have been issued to date as a result of this Program.

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion, the Joint Council/Police Board Meeting held on October 25, 2004 adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Allison Habkirk
Mayor

Trish Flanders
Municipal Clerk

Recorded By: Trish Flanders
Municipal Clerk