



Community Safety Committee

Date: Tuesday, March 12th, 2002
Place: Anderson Room
Richmond City Hall
Present: Councillor Linda Barnes, Chair
Councillor Bill McNulty, Vice-Chair
Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt
Councillor Sue Halsey-Brandt
Councillor Rob Howard
Councillor Harold Steves
Mayor Malcolm D. Brodie
Also Present: Councillor Lyn Greenhill
Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

1. It was moved and seconded
That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Safety Committee held on Tuesday, February 12th, 2002, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

2. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Tuesday, April 9th, 2002 at 4:00 p.m. in the Anderson Room.

It was moved and seconded
That the order of the agenda be varied to deal with Item Nos. 6 and 5, in that order, at this time.

CARRIED

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6. **APPOINTMENT OF BYLAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

(Report: Feb. 26/02, File No.: 0172-03) (REDMS No. 647807)

It was moved and seconded

That Cameron Robertson be appointed as a Bylaw Enforcement Officer in accordance with Section 36 of the Police Act, and that such appointment be for the term of his employment as Bylaw Enforcement Officer with the City.

CARRIED

5. **FORCED CLEAN UP OF AN UNSIGHTLY PREMISES AT 8080 ALANMORE PLACE**

(Report: Feb. 21/02, File No.: 8080-05) (REDMS No. 644591)

The Manager, Community Bylaws, Sandra Tokarczyk, briefly reviewed the report with the Committee.

Mrs. Maggie Righton, accompanied by Mr. Marielle Demorest, advised that until recently she had not had anyone to assist with the clean up of her property, and she asked that she be given additional time to complete the work.

In response to questions and concerns expressed by members of the Committee, Mrs. Righton stated that she would appreciate being given as much time as could be permitted. She also stated that a good part of the material on her property was not garbage, but rather items which she had accumulated during her 36 years of residence in the home and which required sorting to determine if these items should be saved or discarded. Mrs. Righton expressed concern that City crews would remove everything, including those possessions which she would like to keep.

Discussion continued, during which concern was expressed not only for the safety of Mrs. Righton but also her ability to do the work because of the large amount and types of material being stored on the property. Mrs. Demorest also spoke, noting that many of the items on Mrs. Righton's property should be thrown out, and suggesting that Mrs. Righton did not realize the seriousness of the situation with respect to her personal safety.

In response to questions from the Chair, Bylaw Liaison Officer Ron Graham advised that the only area of improvement had been the removal of materials from the swimming pool, and that he was concerned with the two motor vehicles which were buried under items stored in the carport. Mr. Graham also stated, in answer to further questions, that Mrs. Righton could pay more to have the materials removed by a private contractor rather than a City crew.

Discussion then ensued among Committee members and staff on (i) the anticipated timing of the clean-up by a City crew following adoption by Council of the proposed recommendation, and (ii) what an appropriate amount of time might be which would allow Mrs. Righton to sort through her possessions. As a result of the discussion, the following **amended** motion was introduced:

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It was moved and seconded

That the City be given approval to proceed with the clean up of an unsightly property in accordance with Section 725 (2) of the Local Government Act at 8080 Alanmore Place, as outlined in the 'Order to Comply' of January 25, 2002 under Unsightly Premises Regulation Bylaw No. 7162, on the understanding that the owner would be given a period of one month commencing March 12th, 2002, to sort through her possessions.

CARRIED

The Chair explained to Mrs. Righton that the recommendation adopted by Committee would be considered by Council at its March 25th, 2002 regular meeting, and that if adopted, approximately one week would pass before a City crew would be sent to clean up her property. The Chair indicated, that based on the recommendation passed by the Committee, Mrs. Righton had been given 4 weeks to sort through her possessions.

Discussion continued briefly, during which staff were directed to provide an update to Council just prior to the next Council Meeting, including photographs, on the condition of the property.

COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

3. **DRAFT EMERGENCY SOCIAL SERVICES PLAN**

(Report: Mar. 1/02, File No.: 5125-03-02) (REDMS No. 602048)

The Manager, Emergency & Environmental Programs, Suzanne Bycraft, and Chair of the Emergency Planning Committee, accompanied by Mrs. Wendy Mah, Project Leader, gave a PowerPoint presentation to fully explain the proposed Emergency Social Services Plan to the Committee. Following the conclusion of the presentation, discussion ensued among Committee members and staff on:

- the feasibility of including within the public discussion, an evaluation process to ensure that the proposed program met the needs of Richmond residents
- the Provincial Government's mandate on the preparation of emergency plans, and the role of the City in this regard
- the process followed by the City in the event of an emergency situation occurring
- the current staff complement within the "Emergency and Environmental Programs" section of the Division as it related to the Emergency Program
- the current level of service provided by the overall Emergency Plan

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- the feasibility of using existing members of the Fire-Rescue Department and the RCMP to act as co-ordinators during emergency situations
- the level of staffing provided in surrounding cities and municipalities for their respective emergency plans
- whether the City's Emergency Plan could be sold to other municipalities as a revenue generator for Richmond
- the use of volunteers and the services they provide in emergency situations.

During the overall discussion, an in-depth discussion ensued among Committee members and staff on (i) the need for the "Emergency Social Services Co-ordinator" position; (ii) the impact which a decision not to fill the position in 2002, if made, could have on the City's Emergency Plan, including the proposed supporting plans; and (iii) whether the Emergency Plan could continue to function for the remainder of the year with only one staff position in the hope that the City's financial situation would improve in the future. Advice was given during the discussion on the decision of The Administrator's Group (TAG) to recommend to the General Purposes Committee on Monday, March 18th, 2002, that the 'Emergency Social Services Co-ordinator' position be eliminated for 2002. Further advice was given that staff would be reporting to the March 18th meeting on how the Emergency Plan section could continue to function without the said position.

Information was provided during the discussion on: the creation of the emergency program; how funding had been obtained to complete the plan now being considered by the Committee; the status of employees following the conclusion of the project; and the 'Emergency Program' Co-ordinator position.

The request was made by the General Manager, Community Safety, Chuck Gale, during the discussion, that if the Committee was not prepared to support the creation of the "Emergency Social Services Co-ordinator" position, that he be given time to meet with the affected members of his department to (i) determine if there was a way to use the existing funding to keep the Emergency Plan functioning; and (ii) review in greater detail, the suggestion made that members of the Fire-Rescue Department and RCMP act as co-ordinators at emergency situations.

The request was made during the discussion that staff provide at the March 18th General Purposes Committee meeting, information on (within the Emergency Plan Overview) (i) potential areas which could continue to be worked on, i.e. Business Continuity, (ii) the departments which would assume responsibility for maintenance of these projects following completion, and (iii) the work required to be done within each of these projects.

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Staff were also requested to provide at the March 18th meeting, an analysis on whether the RCMP should be used as co-ordinators at emergency situations, and the impact which this use could have on the Fire-Rescue Department.

It was moved and seconded

- (1) *That Resolution No. CW96/1-15, (adopted January 8th, 1996), which adopted the Emergency Services Plan dated December 11, 1995, be rescinded.*
- (2) *That the draft Emergency Social Services Plan (dated March 1, 2002) be referred to the public for review.*
- (3) *That staff employ the draft Emergency Social Services Plan (dated March 1, 2002) to address the needs of individuals in emergency situations until such time as the final plan is approved.*

The question on the motion was not called, as discussion continued on the "Emergency Social Services Co-ordinator" position, during which it was pointed out that approval of the recommendations would not result in the filling of this position. As a result of the discussion, the following **amendment** was introduced:

It was moved and seconded

That the main motion be amended by adding the following as Part (4), "That funding for the aforementioned project be from previously approved sources, and not additional funding to the 2002 budget."

CARRIED

The question on the main motion, as amended, was not called, as discussion ensued on such matters as (i) the continued operation and maintenance of the Emergency Plan and the Emergency Social Services Plan to ensure that the City was fulfilling its mandate, and (ii) the use of volunteers.

In concluding the discussion, the Chair congratulated staff on the preparation of the plan and for their efforts in maintaining services.

The question on the main motion, as amended, was then called, and it was **CARRIED**.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGY – PROPOSED FRAMEWORK

(Report: Feb. 25/02, File No.: 6125-01) (REDMS No. 646928)

Mrs. Margot Daykin, M.R.M., Environmental Co-ordinator, reviewed the proposed framework for the Environmental Management Strategy with the Committee. During the discussion which ensued, the following areas were addressed:

- the financial impact of implementing the strategy

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- the use of consultants to prepare the report – Committee members stressed that the work should be completed in-house and that staff should make every attempt to keep consulting costs to a minimum
- whether the proposed strategies would conflict with Provincial regulations, and how any conflict might be addressed
- how the proposed plan would be implemented, and the direction it would take.

It was moved and seconded

That the Environmental Management Strategy framework, (as outlined in the report dated February 25, 2002, from the Environmental Co-ordinator), be endorsed as the basis for development of an Environmental Management Strategy for Richmond.

CARRIED

5. **FORCED CLEAN UP OF AN UNSIGHTLY PREMISES AT 8080 ALANMORE PLACE**

(Report: Feb. 21/02, File No.: 8080-05) (REDMS No. 644591)

Please see Page 2 of these minutes for action taken on this matter.

6. **APPOINTMENT OF BYLAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

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7. **YOUTH INTERVENTION PROGRAM REVIEW**

(Oral Report)

S/Sgt. Colin Abel, accompanied by Ruth Hahn, the Youth Intervention Program Co-ordinator, reviewed with the Committee, the Youth Intervention Program. During the discussion which ensued, information was provided on the following matters:

- the new Federal legislation recently enacted, “*Youth Criminal Justice Act*”
- the ‘Restorative Justice’ program and how it would function
- the positions currently within the Youth Intervention Program and the funding which was available for these positions
- the Youth Intervention Program process and how it functioned as opposed to putting a young offender through the judicial system
- the number of youth participating in the program on an annual basis and the case load of Ms. Hahn at any one time.

In concluding the discussion, the Chair thanked S/Sgt. Abel and Ms. Hahn for their hard work.

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8. **INTERNATIONAL IDENTIFICATION OF RICHMOND AS A MODEL FOR COMMUNITY POLICING**
(Oral Report)

Cpl. Davis Wendell reported to the Committee on the 'international identification of Richmond as a model for community policing'. A copy of his report is attached as Schedule A and forms part of these minutes.

The Chair asked that congratulations of the Committee be passed on to the Community Policing officers for their hard work and dedication in making the program a success. Discussion then ensued among Committee members and Cpl. Wendell on:

- the proposed trip to Eastern Europe and responsibility for funding
- the feasibility of charging participants of workshops facilitated by the RCMP and City staff to present the Richmond 'Model of Community Policing', such as was currently in place with the Richmond Public Library, to provide additional revenue to the department.

In concluding the discussion, the Chair thanked Cpl. Wendell for his presentation.

It was agreed at this time that the Committee meeting would recess for approximately 15 minutes and reconvene at 7:00 p.m., to review the levels of service provided by the RCMP.

The Community Safety Committee meeting reconvened at 7:03 p.m., with all members of the Committee, Mayor Brodie, and Councillor Greenhill present.

The General Manager, Community Safety, Chuck Gale, accompanied by Superintendent Ward Clapham, Officer in Charge, Richmond Detachment of the RCMP, responded to questions from Committee members on:

- the costs associated with the YVR contract
- the feasibility of reducing the RCMP budget by \$500,000 and how this reduction could be accomplished
- whether the City fully recovered the policing costs related to the YVR
- the length of time which the Richmond Detachment had been fully staffed, and whether the City had any legal obligation to fill vacant positions within the Detachment as they arose
- the rationale for the payment of overtime to civilian RCMP staff
- the RCMP "Green" Team and whether officers were assigned specifically to this unit
- the possible impact to the Detachment, if any, in the event that slot machines were permitted in Richmond.

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Discussion centred around the implications of reducing the RCMP budget by a specific amount, and whether programs could be reduced without being entirely eliminated. Supt. Clapham made a number of suggestions about possible programs which could be terminated, including YIP and Blockwatch, and reductions in staffing at the Front Counter. However, there was general agreement from the Committee and those present that the 'shopping list' of programs proposed for elimination was unacceptable because of the role which these programs filled in the community.

Reference was made by Supt. Clapham to the "G7 Assembly" being held in Alberta this summer and to the deployment of Richmond officers to that event. Advice was given that that would result in approximately \$100,000 additional revenue to the Detachment which had not been included in the current proposed budget.

Discussion continued on the feasibility of (i) reducing the "Blockwatch" program and Front Counter by one-half a person, rather than eliminating the entire position, and (ii) eliminating officers through transfer to other detachments, and the impact which this could have on the level of service currently provided by the Richmond Detachment. As well, discussion also took place on other possible reductions to the budget which did not have an impact on programs or personnel; and potential revenue generation.

(Mayor Brodie left the meeting at 8:00 p.m., and did not return.)

During the discussion, staff were requested to provide at the March 18th, 2002 General Purposes Committee meeting, written information on:

- (1) the ratio of police officers to Richmond residents;
- (2) the impact of losing one General Duty Officer, one Investigation Officer, one Traffic officer, and one Drug Squad officer on the provision of overall policing services; and
- (3) population projections for the next five years, and the number of officers which would be proposed based on those projections, and the impact which these projections would have on the ratio of officers to residents.

Discussion continued, during which suggestions were made that the RCMP budget could be reduced by:

- including the anticipated \$100,000 revenue resulting from the "G7 Assembly", in the proposed budget;
- including the salary from the vacant 'YIP' position;
- denying the additional level request for the installation of mobile workstations in RCMP vehicles; and
- transferring one police officer to another detachment.

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The comment was also made that consideration should be given to charging for the workshops held by the Detachment on the 'Community Policing Model', as a means of generating additional revenue.

In response to the suggestions made, Mr. Gale advised that staff would review the proposals and report with options to the March 18th General Purposes Committee meeting.

Discussion ensued briefly on the question of whether the proposed reductions would be only for the 2002 budget or would be permanent for all future budgets.

(Councillor Sue Halsey-Brandt left the meeting at 8:29 p.m., and did not return.)

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

That the meeting adjourn (8:30 p.m.).

CARRIED

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Safety Committee of the Council of the City of Richmond held on Tuesday, March 12th, 2002.

Councillor Linda Barnes
Chair

Fran J. Ashton
Executive Assistant

Madam Chair, Members of Council I have come before you today to update you relative to the current state of community policing in our community. For those of you who I have not had the pleasure of meeting, I am Cpl. Davis WENDELL.

As an RCMP Member that has served the Community of Richmond in several capacities, Including as a Community Officer , during my Seven year tenour here in Richmond I am proud to share the following with you.

As you all are aware the Richmond RCMP identified Community based policing as our model for service delivery in 1994.

In consultation with the City of Richmond and with the visionary support of the City Council in 1995, the Richmond RCMP adopted the decentralized service delivery strategy for Community Based policing in place today.

During the first years of the Community Police Stations operation the RCMP was faced with several internal and external challenges that forced us to temporally deviate from the original plan.

We recognized the need to return to the spirit of the original plan and as such re-organized the command structure of the section, fully staffed the allocated positions and appointed S/Sgt. Colin ABELE to the Sections NCO i/c position.

In Richmond, we apply a fully decentralized Community Police Station Model where the Members assigned to the South Arm and Steveston neighborhoods are mandated with the handling of walk in calls for service and with working with their respective communities to identify systemic community concerns and to work with the community to come up with integrated solutions to the challenges before them.

These officers are our best problem solvers. They are our “Root Problem Solvers”. They are the Officers that specialize in the operational application of the RCMP’s CAPRA problem model to address our community problems.

Today I am proud to inform you that Richmond Detachment is viewed Nationally and Internationally as a quintessential example of the modern application of community based Policing.

In June of 2001 S/Sgt. Eric BOWER of the RCMP's International Training section visited Richmond with a contingent of delegates from the Check Republic. They toured the South Arm and Steveston Stations where they witnessed first hand the work being done by your Community Police Station Members.

S/Sgt. BOWER choose to show case Richmond model of Community policing to the visiting delegates due to Richmond's reputation within the policing community as a progressive fully integrated model.

In February of 2002 head of the RCMP's International Training Section, S/Sgt. JOLIURE, travailed to Richmond to personably observe how the CAPRA problems solving model is being applied in our Community.

S/Sgt. JOLIURE was so impressed with the Richmond Model that he has requested that myself and potentially other Richmond Community policing officers be temporally released to travail with him to Eastern Europe to facilitate a series of International workshops presenting our Community Based Poling model to Police Executives from across Eastern Europe.

Next week the Inter-American Commission Against Drug Abuse (CICAD) will be hosting an International Conference on Community Policing. The Workshop is being held in Greater Vancouver. Supt. CLAPHAM, Cpl. BRAMHILL, Mr. GALE and myself will be facilitating this three day Conference where the Richmond Model of Community Policing will be shared with senior Police executives from Fourteen (14) Central American Countries.