



**SAINT JOHN BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
OPEN SESSION – MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 1, 2022 – 5:00 P.M.  
MEETING CONDUCTED BY ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION**

**PRESENT**

**Commissioners**

Douglas Jones  
Michael Costello  
Greg Norton  
Maïke White  
Katelin Dean  
Tamara Kelly

**Staff**

Chief Robert Bruce  
Deputy Chief Tony Hayes  
Doug Evans, Legal Counsel  
Craig Lavigne, Asst. Comptroller Finance, CSJ  
Daphne Wayne, Recording Secretary

**Media**

Michael Landry, Brunswick News  
Timothy Herd, CHSJ / Wave News

**Absent**

Joanna Killen

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Jones called the February 1, 2022, Saint John Board of Police Commissioners meeting to order and mentioned that the MS Teams meeting was being recorded.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

**2.01 Minutes of January 4, 2022**

On motion of Secretary Dean  
Seconded by Commissioner Costello

**SAINT JOHN BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
OPEN SESSION – MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 1, 2022 - 5:00 P.M.  
MEETING CONDUCTED BY ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION**

***RESOLVED, that the January 4, 2022, Open Session minutes be approved.  
(O2202-01)***

Question being taken, the motion was carried.

**3. Adoption of Agenda**

On motion of Commissioner Norton  
Seconded by Vice Chair Kelly

***RESOLVED, that February 1, 2022, agenda, be adopted. (O2202-02)***

Question being taken, the motion was carried.

**4. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest**

**5. Consent Agenda**

**6. Delegations and Presentations**

**7. Consideration of Issues Separated from Consent Agenda**

**8. General Correspondence**

**8.1 Internal Monthly Report / December 2021**

Chief Bruce reported that during the month of December there were zero (0) complaints, two (2) complimentary correspondences and zero (0) grievances.

On motion of Commissioner Norton  
Seconded by Secretary Dean

***RESOLVED, that the Internal Monthly Report / December 2021 be received and  
filed. (O2202-03)***

Question being taken, the motion was carried.

**8.2 Highlights of Monthly Activity Report – December 2021**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>December</b>	<b>YTD – 2021</b>	<b>YTD - 2020</b>
Calls for Service – PSCC ( <i>processed by the PSCC for the SJPF only</i> )	4012	55,243	52,685

**SAINT JOHN BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**  
**OPEN SESSION – MINUTES**  
**FEBRUARY 1, 2022 - 5:00 P.M.**  
**MEETING CONDUCTED BY ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>December</b>	<b>YTD – 2021</b>	<b>YTD - 2020</b>
Incident Reports ( <i>police files generated</i> )	645	9,093	8,659
Violent Crimes ( <i>Assault, Robbery, Weapons Offences, Threats</i> )	58	843	825
Property Crimes ( <i>Thefts, Break &amp; Enter, Possession of Stolen Property, Mischief</i> )	150	2,298	1,790
Mental Health Act	35	401	415
Mental Health <i>RELATED</i> Calls for Service	133	1,758	1,629
Arrests ( <i>Data not available for December</i> )		1,476	1,437
Impaired Driving	16	102	72
Motor Vehicle Accidents	219	1,927	1,718
Tickets Issued (POPA)	77	1,083	1,353
Training	345.75	Not available	Not available
Auxiliary	28	722.5	748.5

Chief Bruce went through the report and stated that there was a total of 55,243 calls for service last year, compared to 52,685 the previous year. Officers generated nearly 9,100 incident reports and he highlighted where the force is seeing some of those increases. He mentioned that property crimes — including thefts, break and enters and mischief — jumped by 30 per cent to 2,298, while calls involving violent crime were up by about two per cent to 843. There were also 1,758 calls relating to mental health, an increase of nearly eight per cent from the previous year and he mentioned that some of the increases relate to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. There were 102 files involving impaired driving which is up from 72 the year before, and the total number of tickets issued dropped by nearly 20 per cent to 1,083.

On motion of Vice Chair Kelly  
 Seconded by Secretary Dean

***RESOLVED, that the Highlights of Monthly Activity Report: December 2021, be received and filed. (O2202-04)***

## **9. New Business**

### *Parking Ban Towing with By-Law Enforcement Officers*

Chair Jones thanked Chief Bruce for their involvement regarding the Amendment to the Traffic By-law Number MV-10.1 as the Saint John Police Force has played an integral role during both North-East-West (NEW) and the South-Central Peninsula (SCP) overnight parking bans.

**SAINT JOHN BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
OPEN SESSION – MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 1, 2022 - 5:00 P.M.  
MEETING CONDUCTED BY ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION**

Chief Bruce stated that historically, only the Saint John Police Force has had authority to permit a vehicle to be towed. Given the Police Force's need to balance attention to exercising their authority during called bans versus their responsibility for overall public safety, their resources are sometimes a limitation to how many vehicles can be towed during a called parking ban.

The Saint John Police Force, City Staff in Public Works, Parking, and the General Counsel's Office have collaborated in developing an alternative approach. With the endorsement of Common Council of the by-law amendment, and future designations of by-law enforcement officers, Traffic By-Law Enforcement Officers would be granted authority to cause vehicles to be towed during called SCP and NEW overnight parking bans. This would increase the resources available to authorize towing and allow the Saint John Police Force to focus on other public safety matters.

*Strategic Plan*

Mr. Jones stated that the board has been reviewing the final draft of the Strategic Plan and there is still some fine-tuning, but it is roughly 90-95 percent complete. They are working on a communications plan and will be releasing more details in the coming weeks.

*At this time the media were invited to ask questions of the board.*

**10. Adjournment**

On motion of Secretary Dean  
Seconded by Vice Chair Kelly

***RESOLVED, that the Saint John Board of Police Commissioners February 1, 2022,  
Open Session meeting be adjourned at 5:26 pm. (O2202-05)***

Question being taken, the motion was carried.

Chair Douglas Jones

Vice Chair Tamara Kelly