



Amherst Board of Police Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
Agenda

Date: **Tuesday, April 25, 2023**  
Time: **3:00 pm**  
Location: **Council Chambers, Town Hall**

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Pages

**1. Call To Order**

**1.1 Territorial Acknowledgement**

“I would like to acknowledge that our gathering today is taking place in (MEEG-MA-GEE), the traditional, unceded and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaw people. I would also like to acknowledge that Nova Scotia has another unique people. These are the Indigenous Blacks of Nova Scotia whose legacy and contributions date back over 400 + years predating confederation of this land. We are all treaty people.”

**1.2 Amendments to Agenda**

**1.3 Approval of Agenda**

**1.4 Approval of Minutes**

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**2. Discussion / Information Items**

**2.1 Verbal Update on Strategic Planning**

**3. Reports**

**3.1 Chief's Report**

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**4. Next Meeting**

**5. In Camera**

**5.1 Approval of Agenda**

**5.2 Approval of Minutes**

**5.3 MGA 22(2)(h) - public security**

**5.4 MGA 22(2)(e) - contract negotiations**

**6. Adjournment**

**Town of Amherst  
Amherst Board of Police Commissioners  
Minutes**

**Date:** March 28, 2023  
**Time:** 3:00 pm  
**Location:** Council Chambers, Town Hall

**Members Present** Commissioner Paul Calder, Chair  
Commissioner Hal Davidson, Vice Chair  
Commissioner George Baker  
Commissioner Charlie Chambers  
Commissioner Sandy Fairbanks  
Commissioner Lloyd Bruce

**Members Absent** Commissioner Holly MacDonald

**Staff Present** Dwayne Pike, Chief of Police  
Tim Hunter, Deputy Chief of Police  
Sarah Wilson, Director of Finance  
Natalie LeBlanc, Municipal Clerk/Board Secretary  
Cindy Brown, Administrative Assistant

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**1. Call To Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**1.3 Amendments to Agenda**  
There were no amendments to the agenda.

**1.4 Approval of Agenda**  
**Moved By Commissioner Fairbanks**  
**Seconded By Commissioner Baker**  
That the agenda be approved as circulated.

**Motion Carried**

**1.5 Approval of Minutes - January 31, 2023**  
**Moved By Commissioner Davidson**  
**Seconded By Commissioner Fairbanks**  
That the minutes of the January 31, 2023 meeting be approved as circulated.

**Motion Carried**

**2. Discussion / Information Items**

**2.1 Operating Budget**  
Commissioner Bruce arrived at 3:18.  
**Moved By Commissioner Davidson**  
**Seconded By Commissioner Bruce**  
That the Amherst Board of Police Commissioners support and approve the request for additional positions for staffing in the Major Crime Unit and in Crime Prevention by adding 1 additional police position to the Amherst Police Department and permanently adding the civilian Crime Prevention position (Option 4) which will cost approximately \$203,000 annually. This will result in a 3-person team in the Major Crime Unit and a full-time permanent Civilian Crime Prevention Coordinator.

**Motion Carried**

Sarah Wilson left the meeting at this time.

**2.2 Strategic Planning**

Discussion ensued around the facilitation of a new APD Strategic Plan. The Board agreed this should be a fairly straight-forward process that someone in-house could facilitate. Chief Pike will look into options for a facilitator, as well as community engagement opportunities, and report back at the next meeting. Commissioner Davidson would like to include members of the Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Committee, the Poverty Reduction Advisory Committee and the Accessibility Advisory Committee as part of community engagement, the Board agreed.

**3. Reports**

**3.1 Chief's Report**

Chief Pike presented his report included as part of the agenda package. Information item only; no direction given.

**4. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

**5. In-Camera**

**Moved By Commissioner Davidson  
Seconded By Commissioner Fairbanks  
That the agenda be approved as circulated.**

**Motion Carried**

Before adjourning the meeting, the Board recognized a moment of silence for fallen officers Const. Travis Jordan, Const. Brett Ryan and Sgt. Maureen Breau all recently killed in the line of duty.

The Chair also took a moment to thank Commissioner Bruce for his time on the Board, which will expire March 31, 2023.

**6. Adjournment**

**Moved By Commissioner Bruce  
Seconded By Commissioner Fairbanks  
To adjourn the meeting.**

**Motion Carried**

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Natalie LeBlanc  
Municipal Clerk / Board Secretary

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Paul Calder  
Chair

**Chief's Report**  
**Amherst Board of Police Commissioners**  
**April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

This report covers the month of March 2023



**TRAINING**

**EMO/ICS 300:** Five APD staff were scheduled for ICS ECC training on March 9<sup>th</sup>; however, it was cancelled as a result of instructor illness. Several members were also initially scheduled to complete ICS 300 in March, but this course was also postponed.

**Firearms/Carbine Training:** Firearms and Carbine Training for APD members has been scheduled for May 2023. Deputy Chief Hunter is working with our two Firearms/Carbine instructors to prepare the training syllabus and materials required. This is a slight change from our normal routine of doing all firearms training in September. May is a better month as it is normally cooler and not as busy as September tends to be.

**First Responders Terrorism Awareness Program:** Chief Dwayne Pike attended the Halifax Regional Police training facility along with other FRTAP Facilitators and conducted a training session with the HRP Police Cadets on March 8<sup>th</sup>. The FRTAP training session covered various topics including Right-Wing Extremism, Critical Infrastructure, Radicalization & Mobilization, Women and Extremism and went over several cases studies including an overview and presentation of the Halifax Shopping Centre Mass Shooting plot that was foiled in 2015.

**OPERATIONAL**

**Arrest – Multiple charges:** On March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Amherst Police arrested a 28-year-old Amherst man in relation to a break and enter, failing to comply with release conditions, possession of break-in tools and possession of property obtained by crime. The male, Bradley Richard Hicks was the subject of a previous arrest on February 27<sup>th</sup>, on more than 30 charges which included multiple counts of possession of property obtained by crime, theft, break and enter, breach of an undertaking, identity fraud, fraud, theft of a credit card, mischief and other related charges. He had been released on those charges after appearing in court on the matters. Hicks is currently in custody in relation to the numerous charges against him and is scheduled to next appear on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**Major Crime Unit:** The Major Crime Unit continues to be busy with an assortment of responsibilities and tasks assigned to complete. One of the items that they completed this past month was full audit of the APD Exhibit room with the assistance of a Platoon member. The Audit took 2 days and went through all the exhibits in APD custody. The audit was very successful and exhibits were accounted for.

**Homelessness:** We have started to see a rise in regard to complaints associated to homelessness. In February 2023, there were 11 files that were considered to have a nexus to the homelessness issue. This increased to 47 during the month of March with the majority of these complaints being generated by 2 or 3 people in which police often have multiple contacts with each day.

**Complaints of thefts:** Complaints of theft dropped off during the month of March 2023. In February, APD opened 49 files regarding theft under \$5000 which dropped to 29 in March. In March, there were 2 complaints received of theft from vehicles as compared to 21 in February. We have continued to see a

general rise in these kinds of complaints over the last few months with some complaints (such as thefts from vehicles) often being impacted by the activities of 1 or 2 people.

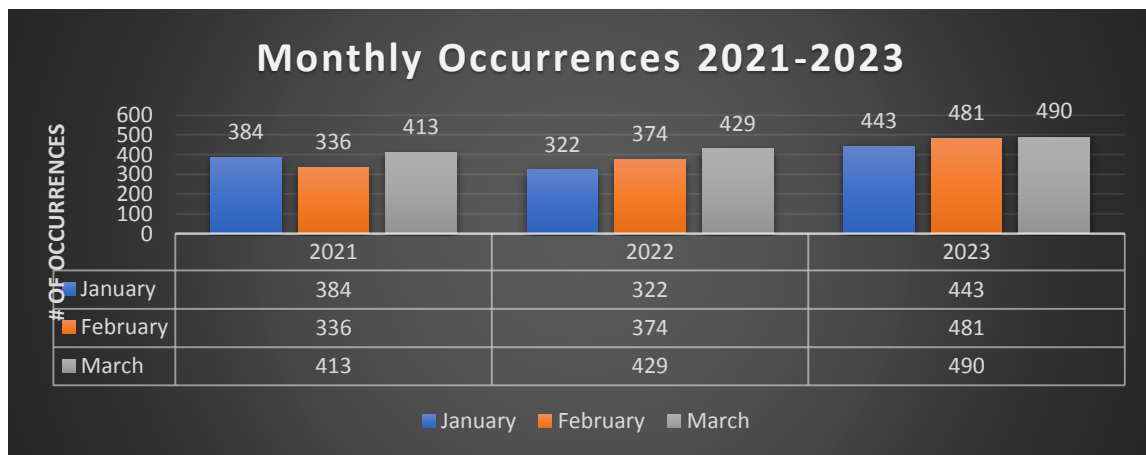
**Monthly Focused Enforcement:** Patrols focused their attention on Child safety seats/seatbelts for the month of March. This initiative resulted in over 24 hours dedicated to these issues and 11 tickets issued by patrol members. February focused on ‘distracted driving and resulted in 8 tickets and 4 warnings. April’s focused enforcement will be dedicated to speeding.

**Taxi By-Law File:** Our bylaw officer has been processing licenses under the Taxi by-law in preparation for the April 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for applications and inspections. Applications for Taxi Licenses and Owners licenses have been approved and numerous taxis for both Bakers’ Taxi and Amherst Taxi have been inspected and approved. Taxis companies that are not in compliance are aware of the requirements and these issues will be the focus of enforcement initiatives over the next few weeks.

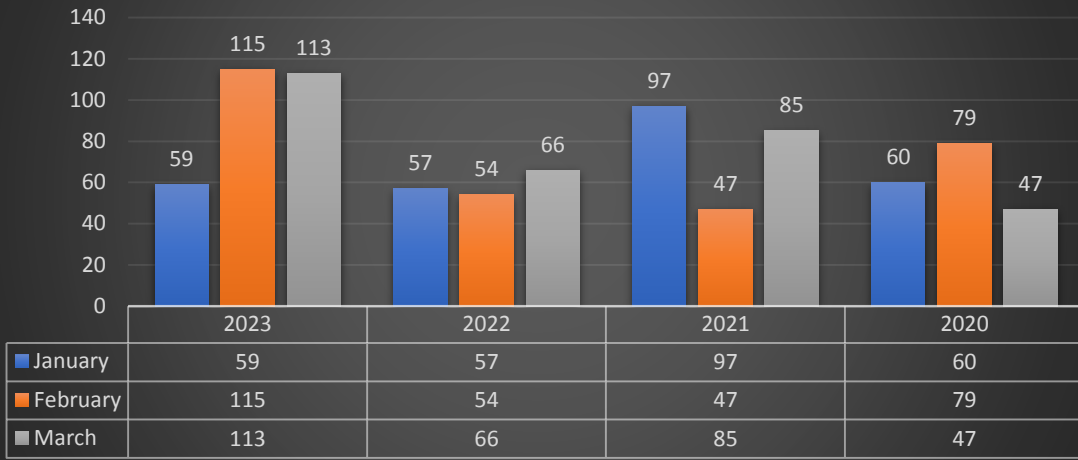
**Mass Casualty Commission - Final Report:** The Mass Casualty Commission Final report was released to the public on March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Entitled “Turning the Tide Together” the report provides detailed information as a result of the 2 ½ year investigation into the incident and makes recommendations in regards to changes within RCMP oversight, processes and culture, a rethinking of the structure of policing in Nova Scotia and police practices across Canada, a national review of public alerting, greater focus on root causes of violence, especially gender-based violence and domestic violence and models to expand community safety and well-being. The report, which is contained in 7 volumes is over 3,000 pages and can be downloaded from the link at <https://masscasualtycommission.ca/final-report/>. It will have an impact on policing and police agencies, both RCMP and municipal, in the near future.

**OPERATIONAL STATS – MARCH 2023**

Occurrences:	490	Criminal Code Charges:	113
Impaired by Alcohol:	1	CDSA:	2
Impaired by Drug:	0	CBCA:	1
Traffic Tickets:	44	PPA:	10
Traffic Written Warnings:	10	Vehicle Checks:	90
LCA:	0	Foot Patrol Hours:	42 hrs 34 min
Bike Patrol Hours:	0	Parking Tickets:	2
Parking Warnings:	7		



## Criminal Charges - January, February, March 2020-2023



■ January 
 ■ February 
 ■ March