

**PUBLIC MEETING
28 OCTOBER 1998
THE VERDI CLUB - AMHERSTBURG**

PRESENT: Members of The Amherstburg Police Services Board
Members of Council for the Town of Amherstburg
Eva Quittenden - Recording Secretary
Chief Fryer/Chief Mansell

Ministry representatives: Bud Brennan
Moe Hodgson

ABSENT: Rob Bullock

Approximately 150-200 people attended this meeting.

The Mayor opened the meeting and gave a brief introduction on the purpose of the meeting. He said it was a fact finding exercise to determine what kind of services the citizens would like to see delivered.

Chiefs Fryer and Mansell made a presentation on the draft Mission Statement for the Town of Amherstburg.

The floor was opened for questions.

Fran Pearman

Who are we dealing with council or the police services board?

The Mayor advised Ms. Pearman this meeting had nothing to do with costing or OPP. The decision has been made to go with the municipal force. No costing was done on a decision made by council.

Ms. Pearman then asked: Do you have costing? What services will be provided for this cost?

Chief provided figures as outlined in Mission Statement.

Frank Gorham

The two chiefs have been offered a buy out. Will taxes be affected by this buy out and what is the exact figure for the buy out?

Mayor advised exact figures not available. A copy will be made available at the municipal building when completed. Taxes will not be affected.

Gord Freeman

His question dealt with the quality review. There are still some outstanding issues that he hopes will be cleared up.

John Fox

Why is \$12,00 U.S. being spent for one officer to obtain a degree. We should hire officers who are already qualified.

Motion was passed and supported by all Board members. This course not offered locally, by correspondence. Cost is incorrect, \$4,000 U.S.

Linda Saxon

Can you ensure that no one else in this room or community will be subjected to an investigation as a result of exercising freedom of expression.

Mayor advised everyone has right to speak.

John Dow

Citizens of the community think that the Mayor does not have enough time to sit as Chair of the Police Services Board. He should step down.

Mayor advised everyone is working together as a team. He knows he can't please everybody but feels most citizens will be supportive.

He makes time and finds time to sit as Chair of the APSB.

Tom Hamilton

Hopes the new chief will provide the same leadership as has been provided by Chiefs Fryer and Mansell.

Diane Pouget

Is it true that the APSB agreed to Clause 33, ref OPP, 3 months severance.
Who signed the contract. Why would police services agree to such a clause. How does Lynne Fox feel about this clause. Why has APSB chosen to delay OCCOPS hearing.

Did the APSB give permission to operate outside of the Police Services Act.

Moe Hodgson advised that the police services are not operating outside of the Police Services

Act. There are no provisions for a hybrid force.
Diane Pouget

Quality Review is a joke. There have been problems for 20 years. Officers have seized property for their own personal use.

Mr. Fiorino took exception to this remark and asked Ms. Pouget to prove her accusation. She referred to the Quality Review.

Moe Hodgson advised that nowhere in the Quality Review does it state that any member of the police service is putting property to personal use. Nowhere in the quality review was there any evidence of improper use of property.

Ms. Pouget referred to the 1995 review which stated there was improper use of money and property. She apologized and asked: Why is a policy needed if there is no abuse?

Mr. Hodgson advised the quality review was developed totally independent of inspection process. It was to examine high risk areas only.

Mike Foreman

Commented on the excellent police officers in this community.

Garnet Knight

We are fortunate to have the present police department. Lets move on from 1995. If Mrs. Pouget had concerns she should have looked into them then. Hopes we hire someone good for Chief of Police.

Don Brown

The Association has no involvement with police auctions or with the money coming in. The Association is working the APSB on amalgamation and looking forward to working with new Chief.

Debbie Pajot

Concerns with kids hanging out in the street and Navy Yard Park. No police officers around after 6 p.m. Would like teen centre.

John D'Amore

Expressed concern with the traffic situation at Fryer and Alma. There has been increased traffic at this corner since the opening of the Bingo palace. Feels this is a dangerous situation.

Joe Deslippe

Lives at the corner of Howard and Pike Road. Whose responsibility will it be to police this area?

He was told the Amherstburg Police Service.

Who is responsible for the storm lights at Howard and Pike Roads.

He was told the county was responsible.

Drew Clarke

Concerned with number of officers policing in each of the 2 zones.

He was told 5 officers per shift.

Tracy Matte

Any problems where streets are named the same.?

This issue is being addressed with the solicitor.

Education of police officer - why are we going to the U.S.?

The Officer is taking a home study course, available only from the U.S.

Wayne Grenok

Vandalism in Navy Yard Park?

Need volunteers to help police. Started with approximately 20 people, now down to about 3-4. Urges people to get involved.

Diane Pouget

Will we advertize for a deputy chief?

The new chief will decide if a deputy chief is needed and will decide how the selection will be made.

Diane Pouget

It is imperative that a deputy chief have more qualifications than constables.

Who negotiated the buy out for Chief Fryer? Why give him a cash out when he was eligible for retirement? Disappointed that buy out figures are not available.

Ms. Pouget was advised buy out figures would be made available when confirmed.

Don Robitaille

Would like to commend the police department on the handling of the serious accident that occurred in front of his home.

David Fox

Advised everyone that the Amherstburg Community Based Policing Committee meets every second Tuesday of each month at General Amherst High School. Volunteers are needed.

Larry Richter

The Malden Community Based Policing Committee is having a workshop on 04 November at General Amherst High School, gym 3 - "Driving Safely". All are welcome.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45.

Mayor responded that it was unknowingly signed and the Board is looking to have it removed. Mayor advised he signed the contract. Further he stated it is inappropriate to discuss a collective agreement in a public meeting.