



LETHBRIDGE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 26, 2025
Council Chamber, City Hall
4:00 p.m.

In Attendance:

Commission Members:

Members Brett Carlson, Clement Esene, Matthew McHugh, Jenn Schmidt-Rempel, Douglas Thornton, Jen Visser Absent: Noella Piquette, Hunter Heggie, Nick Paladino

Lethbridge Police Service Executive:

Chief Mehdizadeh, Deputy Chief Grobmeier, Inspector Lawrence, Inspector Dobirstein, Inspector Walper

Other:

Legal Counsel to Lethbridge Police Service Lee Cutforth, Finance Manager Kim Ordway, LPS Strategic Communications Manager Kristen Saturley, Executive Assistant to the Chief Carmen Hellowell, Commission Clerk Elizabeth Thompson

1. Meeting Called to Order

Vice Chair McHugh opened the meeting of the Lethbridge Police Commission on January 29, 2025, the time being 3:59 p.m.

2. Acknowledgment Statement

Vice Chair McHugh read the Acknowledgement Statement.

3. Approval of Agenda

- a. Moved by Jen Visser BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the February 26, 2025 Lethbridge Police Commission Meeting be adopted as presented/amended.

CARRIED

4. Consent Agenda

The minutes of the January 29, 2025, Lethbridge Police Commission Meeting were circulated for approval in the consent agenda.

Moved by Brett Carlson, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lethbridge Police Commission adopt the Consent Agenda as presented.

CARRIED

5. Recognitions

Inspector Dobirstein was recognized for nearly 35 years of service to the city of Lethbridge and congratulated on his new position as Chief of the Lacombe Police Service.

6. Inquiries from the Public

None

7. Presentations

- a. COMPSTAT Performance Metrics - Data Analyst Sam Croft
- b. 2024 Annual Professional Standards Unit Report - Sergeant Basso and Sergeant Vanhala

Moved by Clement Esene, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lethbridge Police Commission receive as information the presentation on COMPSTAT Performance Metrics.

CARRIED

Moved by Jen Visser, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission receive as information the presentation on Annual Professional Standards Unit Report.

CARRIED

8. Standing Items

- a. Lethbridge Police Service Report – Chief Mehdizadeh
- b. Monthly Compliments - Chief Mehdizadeh
- c. Lethbridge Police Service Crime Report – Deputy Chief Grobmeier

Moved by Doug Thornton, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lethbridge Police Commission receive as information the following reports:

- Lethbridge Police Service Report,
- Monthly Compliments, and
- Lethbridge Police Service Crime Report.

CARRIED

9. New Business

- a. Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services

Moved by Brett Carlson, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lethbridge Police Commission receive the letters regarding the Community Peace Officer Program.

CARRIED

10. Closed Session

Moved by Jenn Schmidt-Rempel, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission enter into a closed meeting at 4:51p.m. to discuss confidential matters as per sections 17 (Harmful to Personal Privacy), 20 (Harmful to Law Enforcement), 23 (Local Public Body Confidences), and 24 (Advice from Officials).

CARRIED

Vice Chair Visser assumed the Chair

*The Commission and the Commission Clerk attended
the entirety of the closed session meeting
Due to his position as the Presiding Officer of the LERB
required Hearing
Commissioner Carlson recused himself for item 6,
5:21pm to 5:47pm
The LPS executive exited the closed session at
5:21 p.m.
The Chief of Police exited at 5:47pm*

Vice Chair McHugh assumed the Chair

Moved by Commissioner Esene, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission adjourn the closed meeting at 6:41 p.m.

CARRIED

11. Reports

a. Finance Committee Report

Moved by Jenn Schmidt-Rempel, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the closed session meeting discussions, reports, and documents relating to:

Finance Committee Report
2024 Lethbridge Police Service Annual Report
2025 Lethbridge Police Service Annual Policing Plan
Chief Report

remain confidential, pursuant to Sections 23 (Local Public Body Confidences), and 24 (Advice from Officials) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Police Commission proceed with the confidential direction provided during the Commission with Lethbridge Police Service Closed Session.

CARRIED

b. Policy and Governance Report

c. Lethbridge Police Commission Bylaw

Moved by Doug Thornton, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the 2024 Lethbridge Police Service Annual Report be accepted as information.

CARRIED

Moved by Brett Carlson BE IT RESOLVED THAT the closed session meeting discussions, reports, and documents relating to:

Professional Standards
Lethbridge Police Commission Self Evaluation
Human Resources
Lethbridge Police Commission Bylaw
Code of Conduct Review
LERB Investigation

remain confidential, pursuant to Sections 17 (Harmful to Personal Privacy), 20 (Harmful to Law Enforcement), 23 (Local Public Body Confidences), and 24 (Advice from Officials) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Police Commission proceed with the confidential direction provided during the Commission Only Closed Session.

CARRIED

Moved by Jen Visser, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lethbridge Police Commission accept the Finance Committee Report as information, and

FURTHER THAT the following recommendations be approved:

1. Use up to \$541,000 of Technology Fund in the 2024 fiscal year and accept Appendix 1 – Technology Fund Forecast - 10 Year Plan.
2. Use up to \$1,280,000 of Lifecycle reserve funding in the 2024 fiscal year.
3. Use \$39,000 of Budget Appropriated Unexpended reserve fund for Term Positions in the 2024 fiscal year.
4. That the 2025 Lethbridge Police Commission Budget be adopted.
5. That the Lethbridge Police Commission decline from contributing \$10,000 to the Southern Alberta Crime Stoppers.

CARRIED

12. Upcoming Events and Meetings

The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 26, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

Regular Committee Meetings are scheduled as follows:

- Human Resources Committee (Policy and Governance Subcommittee) –
March 17, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.

- Finance Committee - March 18, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

13. Meeting Adjournment

Vice Chair McHugh adjourned the meeting, the time being 6:46 p.m.

CARRIED

Matthew McHugh, Second Vice Chair

Elizabeth Thompson, Clerk