A. Call to Order

Chair Jim Oliver called the meeting to order with all Board Members present.

Also in attendance Detachment Commander Mary Shannon, Staff Sergeant Chris Maecker, Sergeant Kevin Cornell and Chief Administrative Officer Shawn Everitt.

Chair Jim Oliver welcomed everyone to our first Virtual Meeting since COVID-19. Chair Jim Oliver expressed thanks on behalf of The Blue Mountains Police Services Board to the Town of The Blue Mountains Staff and the Ontario Provincial Police in functioning effectively under these difficult conditions during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Gail Ardiel Seconded by: Alar Soever

THAT the Agenda of May 26, 2020 be approved as circulated, including any items added to the Agenda, Carried.

- Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and general nature thereof

None

- Previous Minutes

Moved by: Gail Ardiel Seconded by: Jim Oliver

THAT the Police Services Board minutes of February 20, 2020 be adopted as circulated, including any revisions to be made, Carried.
B. Public Meetings/Deputations/Presentations

Under the authority of the Municipal Act, 2001 and in accordance with Ontario’s Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA), The Corporation of the Town of The Blue Mountains wishes to inform the public that all information including opinions, presentations, reports and documentation provided for or at a Public Meeting, Public Consultation, or other Public Process are considered part of the public record. This information may be posted on the Town’s website and or/ made available to the public upon request.

None

C. Staff Reports

C.1 Detachment Commander’s Report (verbal)

Detachment Commander Mary Shannon noted the overall engagement and response of officers during this COVID-19 pandemic have been exceptional and Staff continue to conduct complex ongoing investigations in the midst of everything that is transpiring with two successful resolutions in the past month, being theft in the community and recovery of property as a result and another being the largest drug seizure of the detachment which resulted in 1.4 kgs taken off of the streets as well as two hand guns. Detachment Commander Mary Shannon further noted that officers are reporting to work without hesitation, conducting nightshifts that are seeing directed patrols looking after businesses and assets in the community. Detachment Commander Mary Shannon noted the pride she has for the great job being done by officers.

Detachment Commander Mary Shannon noted that the dedicated traffic enforcement officer role conducted by Constable Brad Pritchard’s term will end the last week in May. Mary further noted with a recent competitive process, Constable Jaymi Pyatt was the successful applicant and his duties as the dedicated traffic enforcement role will start on June 2, 2020.

Chair Jim Oliver questioned if the role of Constable Jaymi Pyatt’s position is dedicated to enhancement of traffic enforcement and how long has the position been in place. Detachment Commander Mary Shannon replied noting the position has been around at least four years and that Constable Jaymi Pyatt’s duties will only have the responsibility of traffic enhancement.

Mayor Soever thanked the OPP in their efforts during COVID 19 and the extra presence in ATV patrolling, which was well-received by the public and a good reminder to people for observing the rules.
Sergeant Kevin Cornell reviewed the Detachment Commander’s Report providing detailed statistics for the first quarter, January February and March 2020. The report provided an update on crime, patrols, mental health response unit, criminal record checks, RIDE initiatives, impaired driving, an update on detachment staffing and COVID-19 responses for social distancing with warnings being given out, along with five charges being laid under the Trespass to Property Act on Grey Sauble Conservation Authority properties.

Board Member Gail Ardiel noted that people are not social distancing, complaints are being noted on Facebook with 4 people to a canoe, overcrowding on the Beaver River and questioned if there is police presence in the area. Sergeant Kevin Cornell advised that all officers out on general patrol are monitoring the areas in question, such as Clendenan Dam and Slabtown.

Sergeant Kevin Cornell then reviewed the Motor Vehicle Collisions, Violent, Property and Drug Crimes and Criminal Record and Vulnerable Sector Screening Checks completed in the first quarter for January, February and March 2020.

Chair Jim Oliver questioned if there has been an increase in Violent Crimes in particular, domestic disputes during the COVID-19, as it has been noted in other areas by the media. Staff Sergeant Chris Maecker noted that The Blue Mountains has experienced a slight rise in domestic disputes, but they are not violent in nature, more arguments categorized as a domestic dispute, which is expected with people being in the same residence for extended periods of time.

Chair Jim Oliver questioned if there has been an increase in highway traffic act violations, specifically speeding during COVID-19. Detachment Commander Mary Shannon noted a reduction in traffic volume during the pandemic isolation which has progressed to pre COVID-19 volumes and enforcement efforts are being made by the officers on patrol.

Mayor Alar Soever questioned if it is possible to receive the Calls for Service Report outlining the details of by-law calls and false alarms reports. Detachment Commander Mary Shannon noted that staff will circulate to the Board Members, a detailed report prior to the next quarterly meeting.

Moved by: Alar Soever Seconded by: Gail Ardiel

THAT the Detachment Commander’s Report be received as presented this 26th day of May 2020, Carried.
D. Correspondence

Moved by: Alar Soever  Seconded by: Gail Ardiel

THAT this Board does hereby receive the Correspondence D.1 of May 26, 2020 and further does support the Staff Recommendation made with regard to Correspondence items, including any additional direction given to Staff through discussion, with an appropriate Staff action or response awaited for report back to the Board, a Committee or Council where indicated, Carried.

D.1 OPP Golden Helmets Response Letter
Re: Invitation Letter to the OPP Golden Helmets to The 150th Anniversary of the Beaver Valley Fall Fair Receive for Information

Board members noted that due to the COVID-19 the upcoming Beaver Valley Fall Fair has been cancelled but are hopeful to having the presence of the OPP Golden Helmets at next year’s event.

Moved by: Gail Ardiel  Seconded by: Alar Soever

THAT The Blue Mountains Police Services Board receive for information the correspondence dated March 26, 2020 from the Ontario Provincial Police Golden Helmets Precision Motorcycle Team, Carried.

E. Other Business

E.1 Community Improvement and Well-Being Plan Update (verbal)

CAO Shawn Everitt updated the PSB members with the status of the Community Improvement and Well-Being Plan, and noted the December 2020 deadline for completion of the Community Improvement and Well-Being Plan has now been extended with details of the revised deadline to be provided. CAO Shawn Everitt noted the significant portion of the plan is public consultation and the extension provided by the Solicitor General is welcomed.

CAO Shawn Everitt further noted that the Task Force will reconvene in June virtually to get an update on what the public consultation looks like moving forward.

CAO Shawn Everitt advised the PSB members of the survey circulated electronically and noted he is looking forward to the update in June on how the Committee is going to proceed. Shawn further advised many of the other municipalities are utilizing Grey County as their representative. To ensure the effort is not just a Bruce Grey focus, in particular, The Blue Mountains will have their own schedule attached to the plan which will include consultation with the Town of Collingwood. CAO Shawn Everitt noted the Committee is hopeful that The Blue Mountains will be consulted for the Town of Collingwood’s plan as they moved forward with a large regional plan and review in Simcoe County.
CAO Shawn Everitt thanked the OPP Detachment Commander Mary Shannon, Sergeant Kevin Cornell and Staff Sergeant Chris Maecker to their response and commitment during the COVID-19 pandemic which truly shows the benefit of having a detachment in The Blue Mountains and how lucky the Town is to have local commitment to get through these difficult times and further thanked Sergeant Kevin Cornell in playing an active role in providing updates to The Blue Mountains Emergency Control Group.

Staff Sergeant Chris Maecker noted the officers and detachment in watching The Blue Mountains’ response to COVID-19 crisis are pleased with the efforts from CAO Shawn Everitt, Mayor Alar Soever and the administration team along with three tier response from the Health Unit, By-law staff and the OPP. Chris further noted his pride in the citizens in the community with their compliance.

Moved by: Gail Ardiel Seconded by: Alar Soever

THAT The Blue Mountains Police Services Board appoint Sergeant Kevin Cornell as the Ontario Provincial Police delegate on the Advisory Committee for the Bruce Grey Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, Carried.

E.2 Ontario Association of Police Services Board - All Boards and Chief Memos (verbal)

Recording Secretary Krista Royal noted the All Boards and Chief Memos previously circulated via email to both the PSB members and OPP Staff prior to the quarterly meetings, will now only be added to any upcoming PSB meeting agenda at the request of a PSB member.

Chair Jim Oliver advised that he will be in attendance to the upcoming Virtual Annual General meeting of the Police Services Board being held Friday May 29th at 2pm. Board Member Gail Ardiel and Mayor Alar Soever also noted that they too will be in attendance to the upcoming meeting.

Board Member Gail Ardiel advised that she recently participated in the voting of the Board of Directors for Section 10 for Zone 4, 5, and 6 which includes The Blue Mountains district. Gail further advised that the successful candidate, Jim Maudsley was elected as a Board of Director for this area.

Chair Jim Oliver advised that he had participated in the voting and knows Jim Maudsley very well in his days as County Councillor in Norfolk with Jim Maudsley being a representative of the South Central Ontario Regional Economic Development Group noting Jim is well verse with OAPSB matters and will represent our area very well.

E.3 Nomination of Collingwood/Blue Mountains OPP Street Crime Unit

Chair Jim Oliver advised the PSB members that he recently provided a letter of support for nomination of the Collingwood/Blue Mountains OPP Street Crime Unit for the Provincial Accolade Award for Team Enforcement. Detachment Commander Mary Shannon noted Chair Jim Oliver’s letter of support was received and that she also supplied a letter of support.
E.4 Marine Unit – Operation

Chair Jim Oliver questioned if Marine Unit will have a normal operating schedule in 2020. Detachment Commander Mary Shannon replied that the marine unit has been out in force already with a full summer schedule in place. Mary noted the benefit of the Regional Safe Team conducting patrols and noted enforcement is well under way on waterways.

Chair Jim Oliver questioned if the detachment has replaced the Marine Unit Constable that has moved on to a new position in Orillia. Detachment Commander Mary Shannon replied yes, Constable Leer has moved on to the Regional Safe Team and his replacement, Constable Kyle Arnold as the marine lead, will take over the duties with a clear Marine Unit presence out on the waterways.

F. Adjournment

Detachment Commander Mary Shannon suggested prior to adjournment, if the next meeting scheduled for June 10th, could be rescheduled at a later time, in order to have enough time to complete the second quarterly report. Board members reviewed the upcoming schedule and agreed to defer the June 10th meeting. Recording Secretary Krista Royal advised members that she will send some suggested dates in July that will work for everyone.

Moved by: Alar Soever Seconded by: Gail Ardiel

THAT this Police Services Board Meeting does now adjourn at 2:00 p.m. to meet again in July 2020 at 8:30 a.m., Town Hall Council Chambers, or at the call of the Chair, Carried.