



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, October 30, 2023

3:46 pm

Council Chambers, Langley City Hall
20399 Douglas Crescent

Present: Mayor Pachal
Councillor Albrecht
Councillor James
Councillor Mack
Councillor Solyom
Councillor Wallace
Councillor White

Staff Present: F. Cheung, Chief Administrative Officer
K. Hilton, Director of Recreation, Culture and Community Services
C. Johannsen, Director of Development Services
S. Kennedy, Fire Chief
K. Kenney, Corporate Officer
G. Flack, Deputy Director of Corporate Services
D. Pollock, Acting Director of Engineering, Parks and Environment
R. Beddow, Deputy Director of Development Services
B. Zeller, Manager of Human Resources

1. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Mayor Pachal acknowledged that the land on which we gather is on the traditional unceded territory of the Katzie, Kwantlen, Matsqui and Semiahmoo First Nations.

2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the October 30, 2023 special meeting agenda be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

3. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council commence Committee of the Whole.

CARRIED

a. RCMP Quarterly Update - 45 minutes

Superintendent Adrian Marsden
Chief Superintendent Duncan Pound

Superintendent Adrian Marsden, Officer in Charge, Langley RCMP, provided a PowerPoint presentation for the Langley RCMP Quarterly Report for the period July 1, 2023 – September 30, 2023, providing information on the following:

- Property Crime Trends - July to September 2023:
 - Theft From Vehicle and Mischief To Property are the top 'Property Crime' UCR Crime Type in both Langley City and Langley Township;
 - 99% (295 of 302 files) of Theft From Vehicle are Theft From MV Under \$5000;
 - Theft From MV Under \$5000 include catalytic converter thefts, which have been an ongoing issue across the LMD;
 - Maps showing all Property Crime (UCR Type1) crime files generated in Langley between 2023-07-01 through 2023-09-30;
- Business Crime Trends – July to September, 2023:
 - Cause Disturbance files are an ongoing issue in Langley City and Langley Township;
 - 51% (129 of 251 files) of Shoplifting files were generated at the same three addresses:
 - 19851 Willowbrook Dr. (Real Canadian Superstore) (81 files);
 - 19705 Fraser Hwy. (Willowbrook Shopping Centre) (24 files);
 - 20202 66th Ave. (London Drugs/Best Buy/Walmart/McDonald's) (24 files);
 - 46.78% increase in Shoplifting files;
 - 171 files (April to June 2023) vs. 251 files (July to September 2023);
 - False Alarms files continue to be generated. (*Both the City and Township have bylaws in place pertaining to fees involving false alarms*);

- Maps showing all files generated by businesses in Langley between 2023-07-01 through 2023-09-30;
- Maps showing all B&E – BUSINESS files generated in Langley between 2023-07-01 through 2023-09-30;
- Persons – Violent Crime Trends – July to September, 2023:
 - Assaults, Uttering Threats, and Sex Offences are the top three ‘Persons-Violent’ UCR Crime Type files in Langley City;
 - Assaults, Uttering Threats, and Harassment are the top three ‘Persons-Violent’ UCR Crime Type files in Langley Township;
 - Maps showing all Persons-Violent (UCR Type1) crime files generated in Langley between 2023-07-01 through 2023-09-30;
- RCMP Strategic Plan - Our Langley-Centred Goals at a glance:
 - Collaborate with partners to support persons experiencing homelessness and mental health issues
 - Calibrate our visibility to maintain a sense of safety in Langley neighbourhoods & public spaces
 - Strengthen our capacity to respond to Langley’s growth and diversity
 - Plan with cross-jurisdictional public safety partners
- Examples provided of recent initiatives undertaken for each goal.

Superintendent Marsden further spoke regarding the following:

- advised that the evening before the recent Langley Good Times Cruise-In event, numerous cars did burnouts at four locations, one of the locations being in Langley on Industrial Avenue; though not part of the cruise-in event, this unsanctioned activity drew approximately 1000 people which required a significant RCMP presence;
- advised that he spoke with staff at Stats Canada regarding their methodology in creating the most recent Serious Crime Index which Langley City scored high on, and they agreed to have a video conference meeting with Council to explain their methodology;
- the City of Langley wasn’t one of the municipalities chosen to have a mobile integrated crisis team in which a mental health nurse rides along with RCMP members to assist them when dealing with individuals in crisis; however, he is hopeful Langley will be included in the next phase of the car program;
- advised of the RCMP’s Langley Youth Volunteer Program for youth in grades 8-12 who can volunteer to be RCMP volunteers at local community events;
- advised of amendments the City of Surrey has made to its Scrap Metal Dealer Regulation Bylaw to require that catalytic converters be marked with the VIN in order to be accepted by Scrap Metal Dealers; there is no legislation requiring this; however, there is

requirement that scrap metal dealers register with the province and report purchases of catalytic converters to the RCMP.

In response to questions from Committee members, Supt. Marsden advised that:

- the increase in shoplifting incidents is related to socio-economic problems, for example, food items are being stolen from the Real Canadian Superstore;
- the provincial Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions is responsible for choosing which municipalities get mobile integrated crisis teams; currently, on occasion, the Langley RCMP are able to have a nurse from the hospital ride along with them;
- the detachment received five new positions, four of which are assigned to the vulnerable persons unit; it is recognized that a separate domestic violence team is needed, and one will hopefully be in place within the next 6 months.

In response to the discussion regarding the potential sale of stolen catalytic converters to scrap metal dealers and recyclers, Francis Cheung, Chief Administrative Officer advised that:

- the City used to have a scrap metal dealers bylaw that is no longer in effect;
- he had spoken with staff at the City of Surrey about their updated bylaw and had suggested that it would be helpful if the dealer/recycler was required to retain the catalytic converter for a period of 72 hours before disposing of it; this requirement would be included in a bylaw if the City wanted to adopt this approach.

Supt. Marsden further responded to questions from Committee members, advising that:

- the organizers of the Langley Good Times Cruise-In event requested to meet with the Township of Langley and RCMP; he will report back to the City on this meeting;
- there is only one scrap metal dealer in Langley City; whereas, the City of Surrey has three; he has a copy of the City of Surrey's updated Scrap Metal Dealer Bylaw and due to the requirement to have catalytic converters marked with the VIN, they have seen a reduction in catalytic converter theft;
- cars burning rubber the evening before the Cruise-in event committed a traffic violation referred to as stunting;
- in prosecuting individuals who are charged with shoplifting food items etc. due socio-economic issues, the RCMP typically partners with prosecutors and some other jurisdictions to make

the sentences light, such as probation; individuals with lengthy infractions would likely get a few days in jail;

- there are several areas in the City that, due to various traffic factors, are a concern; for example, at the recent neighbourhood meetings, approximately 25 percent of people he spoke with expressed concern with speeding on 208 Street;
- when looking at the number of mental health issues and number of homeless in the City of Langley on a per capita basis, it would seem to demonstrate the need for a mobile integrated crisis team.

Committee members spoke regarding:

- issues related to the unsanctioned gathering of vehicles to do burn outs in Langley City the night before the Cruise-in event and how to best address the issues given the cruise-in event does bring economic benefits to the region;
- having Supt. Marsden's PowerPoint circulated to Council.

Superintendent Pound spoke regarding the following:

- is looking forward to working with Superintendent Marsden and the detachment;
- the province is divided into four RCMP districts, the Lower Mainland district being the largest;
- he has great working relationships with municipal partners;
- there is a Lower Mainland district team and there are issues that spread across the district and even across the province;
- the Lower Mainland district team's objective is to support municipalities through creation of best practices to improve efficiencies;
- believes there is documentation with respect to how the province determined which municipalities would get a mobile integrated crisis team which he will provide to Superintendent Marsden.

Mayor Pachal advised that he would like to have Chief Superintendent Pound and Superintendent Marsden back to provide Council with their findings with respect to the mobile integrated crisis teams.

4. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - RISE AND REPORT

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Committee of the Whole rise and report.

CARRIED

5. **RATIFICATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

None

6. **MOTION TO HOLD A CLOSED MEETING**

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Council Meeting immediately following this meeting be closed to the public as the subject matter being considered relates to items which comply with the following closed meeting criteria specified in Section 90 of the Community Charter:

1 (a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the municipality;

(c) labour relations or other employee relations;

(k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public;

(m) a matter that, under another enactment, is such that the public may be excluded from the meeting;

(2)(b) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party.

CARRIED

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the meeting adjourn at 4:33 pm.

CARRIED

Signed:

MAYOR

Certified Correct:

CORPORATE OFFICER