Owen Sound Police Service Board

2nd Floor Board Room

Wednesday October 29, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

Members Present:	**J. Thomson (Chair), B. O'Leary (Vice-Chair), C. Merton, M. Koepke**
Management Present:	**Chief C. Ambrose, Deputy Chief D. Bishop, Inspector C. Matheson, and Inspector T. Doherty**
Guests Present:	**H. Zehr Police Service Advisor - Inspectorate of Policing, M. Gloade – Strategic Analyst**
Minutes:	**K. Wardell**

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1. Call to Order

Chair Thomson called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Let the minutes reflect that a quorum of three members is present.

2. Land Acknowledgment

Chair Thomson read the land acknowledgment.

Chair Thomson reported that prior to today's meeting, the Board met in closed session to review and discuss matters that in their opinion fell under Section 44 Item (6) and Item (2) (b) of the Community Safety and Police Act <u>and</u> Section 25 item b) of the OSPSB General Policy- 003 - Board Governance to discuss items related to:

a. Matters regarding staffing

b. Board Training

c. Labour relations

3. Approval of the Agenda

Chair Thomson noted that Item 17(b): The Fee Schedule By-Law was removed from the agenda pending further discussion with Dave Preston regarding whether it should proceed as a by-law or be addressed through policy. This item will return next month.

He also added Item 17(h): Bail Compliance and Warrant Apprehension was added under New Business. Member Merton added Ride Share for advocacy under new business.

Moved by M. Koepke, seconded by C. Merton,

> *"That the agenda with the removal of 17(b): The Fee Schedule By-Law, and the addition of item 17(h): Bail Compliance and Warrant Apprehension, and (I) Ride Share was added under New Business dated September 24, 2025, be approved."* ***CARRIED****.*

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest arising out of the Minutes and Matters Listed on the Agenda. HEARING NONE

5. Presentations, Deputations, and Public question period.

a) Promotion

To be added to the November agenda, as Sergeant Halovci was on course and unable to attend for recognition.

b) 2026 Budget - Influencing Factors

M. Gloade delivered a presentation to the Board outlining the key factors influencing the development of the 2026 budget, including:

1. CSPA – Modernizing Policing in Ontario
2. Demographics of Owen Sound
3. Increases in Calls for Service
4. Increases in Crime Volume and Severity
5. Staffing Levels Remaining Relatively Unchanged
6. Technology and Data Demands
7. Essential Community Partnerships
8. Limited Budget Increases in Recent Years

The presentation slideshow will be appended to these minutes.

6. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Public Session held September 24, 2025.

Moved by B. O'Leary, seconded by C. Merton.

"That the minutes dated September 24, 2025 be approved." ***CARRIED***

7. Business arising out of the Public Session Minutes of September 24, 2025. HEARING NONE.

8. Correspondence received

No correspondence received for the open session.

9. Chairman's Report

Chair Thomson noted that since the last meeting, he had the opportunity to attend the following events:

- September 29, 2025 – Swearing-in Ceremony for Constables Harjot and Reid.
- October 1, 2025 – OAPSB Board of Directors meeting.
- October 7, 2025 – OAPSB Zone 5 meeting in Guelph, attended by Members Koepke and O'Leary, Chief Ambrose, and Deputy Chief Bishop.
- October 23, 2025 – OAPSB Strategic Planning meeting. The 2026–2029 Strategic Plan was completed and will now be forwarded to the full OAPSB Board for final review and approval.

Chair Thomson further reported that the priorities outlined in the 2026–2029 Strategic Plan focused on the following:

- Mission: To equip police service boards, First Nation boards, and detachment boards with the tools required to govern effectively through education, advocacy, and expertise.
- Education: Provide ongoing training and development for members, in collaboration with stakeholders, for both municipal and OPP boards.
- Advocacy: Serve as the collective voice of members on issues impacting police governance, officer safety, and public safety.
- Expertise: Develop a repository of best practices and provide expert advice in areas of board responsibility.

10. Governance

Chair Thomson reported that he did not have anything under governance.

11. September Monthly Reports

a) Criminal Investigations Branch and Drug Enforcement/Criminal Intelligence Unit

b) Auxiliary Unit Report

c) Community Oriented Response & Enforcement Unit

d) Bail Compliance and Warrant Apprehension Unit

e) Front Line Patrol and Collision Statistics

f) Community Services Office

g) Lost Hours and Training

12. Reports from Director of Civilian Services K. Fluney

13. Report from Director of Corporate Services S. Bell-Matheson and Director of Information Technology Services C. Hill

14. Report from Manager of Human Resources W. Pratt

As there were no requests for action in the above report, they will be placed on file with these minutes for information purposes.

15. Financial Update from the Chief of Police

Chief Ambrose provided a verbal update, noting that October includes three pay periods, and therefore the financial figures reported would not be fully accurate as one pay period was scheduled to occur after the report date. Update to be given next month.

16. Operating Reports from the Chief of Police

a) Chief's Activity Reports

Chief Ambrose noted that September, and October activity will be presented at the next meeting.

17. Other Items and New Business

a) Changing date of OSPSB December Meeting

The board agreed to move the meeting to December 16th. The website will reflect the new scheduled meeting date.

b) Fee Schedule By-Law

Item to be moved to November's meeting.

c) Building Comparison Review

Chair Thomson reported that in the board package was a comparison document. Kayla Wardell had created this comparison document for the board and had did an amazing job on it.
Chair Thomson and the Board reviewed the Building Comparison Report outlining outstanding facility issues identified in the April 2025 letter to the City. Several items, including exterior masonry repairs and roof replacement, remain unresolved or deferred in the City's capital plan. There was extensive Board discussion regarding the outstanding items, including whether it may be time to explore the need for a new police facility.

Chief Ambrose is meeting with the City Manager T. Simmonds on October 31st for Police Facility Discussion and Facility Service Level Agreement. Tim had cc'd the City Reps on the Board for that meeting. Chair Thomson stated he could not attend this meeting. Vice Chair O'Leary confirmed he could attend the meeting.

d) Community Safety and Policing Grants

Chief Ambrose reported the Owen Sound Police Service was awarded funding through the Community Safety and Policing (CSP) Grant Program for the 2025–26 fiscal year.

The first allotment, under the Local Priorities Funding Stream, provides $229,519 to support the continuation of the Part-Time Officer Enhancement Initiative. This initiative enables part-time officers to assist with traffic enforcement and respond to calls during periods of peak demand.

The second allotment, totaling $417,679 under the Provincial Priorities Funding Stream, will support the Community Oriented Response and Enforcement (CORE) Team. This grant will fund a team of two officers dedicated to proactive policing initiatives that address community safety priorities, including increased visibility in the River District and other areas of public concern.

e) PO-001OSPSB Public Order Units

Moved by M. Koepke, seconded by B. O'Leary,

"That policy PO-001OSPSB Public Order Units be approved with the amended changes." ***CARRIED***

f) New Auxiliary Members

Moved by C. Merton, seconded by M. Koepke,

"That the Board approve the appointment of the following individuals as new members of the Owen Sound Police Auxiliary Unit and that Certificates of Appointment be issued accordingly:

- *Trenten Both*
- *Grace Henderson*
- *Dan Hillier*
- *Samual Standoloft*
- *Andrew Staples*
- *Randy Ward*
- *Aidan Vigliotti."* ***CARRIED***

g) Owen Sound Police Service January 1st – September 30th Collision Statistics

It was requested that Deputy Chief Bishop share the above report be shared with the City of Owen Sound's Engineering Technician/Technologist – Traffic and Capital Construction.

h) Bail Compliance and Warrant Apprehension

Chief Ambrose reported that the Owen Sound Police Service received a three-year $900,000 Bail Compliance and Warrant Apprehension (BCWA) Grant from the Province to enhance enforcement of bail conditions and monitor high-risk offenders. The grant has funded two officers and a part-time civilian, resulting in significant increases in enforcement, arrests, and offender monitoring. Financial support from the Ontario Government's BCWA grant for additional officers to focus proactively on reoffenders and issues of non-compliance is short term. The grant funds are temporary and will end in March 2026. Transitioning these grant-funded positions to permanent full-time sworn positions will require additional financial support, as enforcing bail compliance is essential to mitigating community safety risk.

i) Ride Share

Member Merton inquired as to whether the Board could advocate for the establishment of provincial standards for ride-share services to help attract such businesses to Owen Sound. Chair Thomson noted that ride-share services are addressed under the Owen Sound Transportation By-law, and any related advocacy should come from the City of Owen Sound, the County municipality, AMO, or ROMA.

18. Termination of the Public Meeting

Having completed all of the business items listed on the agenda Chair Thomson terminated the closed meeting at 12:31 p.m.

Next Meeting: November 27th, 2025