



Ward Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 14, 2023, 7:00 p.m.
Thunder Bay 55 Plus Centre
700 River Street

1. Red River Ward Meeting 02-2023

Chair: Councillor Michael Zussino

2. Resource Persons

Police Chief Darcy Fleury
Deputy Police Chief Ryan Hughes
Ian Spoljarich, Manager - Roads Division
Gordon Stover, Committee & Meeting Management System Coordinator

3. Attendance

Approximately 50 people were in attendance.

4. Welcome and Opening Remarks

The Chair called the meeting to order, welcomed Administration and those in attendance and provided introductory remarks.

5. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the 01-2023 Red River Ward meeting held on March 15, 2023, for information.

6. Crime & Community Safety Discussion

An open discussion/question and answer forum was held with Police Chief Darcy Fleury and Deputy Police Chief Ryan Hughes relative to the following items.

The Chair provided a brief overview of the persistent vandalism in the Red River Ward including the windows at bus stops and the Thunder Bay 55+ Centre.

Police Chief Darcy Fleury advised that the individual responsible has been identified as a minor.

Deputy Police Chief Ryan Hughes provided a brief overview of the number of recent property related mischief charges in the area over the course of the spring/summer months.

Concerns were raised relative to the following:

- lack of repercussions for youth under the age of 12
- stronger replacement glass for bus shelters
- additional provincial funding is needed
- implementing a neighbourhood policing model
- parents/caregivers taking responsibilities
- better street lighting/spot lights as a deterrent

Police Chief Darcy Fleury provided an overview relative to the difficulty in recruiting police officers, and this not being a unique issue to Thunder Bay but can be seen across the country.

A citizen raised a concern relative to after hours noise complaints regarding cars on the St. Bernard school grounds as well as the back-up of traffic created by the 'kiss and ride' program during rush hour.

A citizen raised a concern relative to the on-going opioid crisis in Thunder Bay and the continual need for further mental health programs, social agencies, safe supply and addictions sites.

Discussion was held relative to the tent encampments and associated costs, policing and housing options available.

7. Roads Maintenance (Fall & Winter)

Ian Spoljarich, Manager - Roads Division provided an overview relative to the following.

- Road Maintenance Objectives
- When do we street sweep/snowplow?
- What gets plowed and when?
- Calendar Parking
- Resources used
- Snow Removal process
- How to Report a Problem at 625-2195

Information was provided relative to snow-clearing and removal for priority routes, sidewalks, parking meters, bump-outs.

Icy conditions (roads, sidewalks) are dealt with immediately and may take priority over snow removal. Sand/salt will be used.

A citizen expressed a concern relative to the late street sweeping on Crescent Avenue. Ian Spoljarich advised a late start occurred in the fall due to equipment repair and delivery issues.

Concerns were raised relative to pothole repairs needed on Madeline Street as well as on Rockwood Avenue North between Tupper and Van Norman Streets.

Discussion was held relative to implementing a four-way stop at Dawson & Peter Streets.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.