A meeting of the Police Advisory Board (PAB) was held in person on Tuesday, November 17, 2026, starting at 6:00pm.

PRESENT

Chairing the meeting: Janet Davis, Mayor Gail Smith, Councillors Jonathan Archibald and Bernadette Knapp, S/Sgt. Jim Gilmour, Cpl. Pascal Boudreau, RCMP; Citizens-at-large, Jo-Ann Hightower, Brenda Ford, Chief Administrative Officer Waye Mason, and Recording Secretary, Sara Marceau.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 5:59pm.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

261117.01 It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda as circulated. **Motion carried.**

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

3.1. Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes

September 29, 2026

No errors or omissions were noted, and the minutes were considered approved.

Councillor Knapp asked for someone to follow up on Dane Berringer as NS Justice representative.

ACTION: Staff to follow up with email to Dane Berringer.

Chair Davis and Mayor Smith met with the Department of Justice (DOJ) to discuss joining the Commissionaires and Police Advisory Boards (PABs). They noted that Middleton is doing an excellent job of making information available on its website.

4. NEW BUSINESS

CPL Boudreau provided a brief overview of statistics and activities from the past seven weeks.

- Another individual was taken into custody over the weekend.
- On October 14, the SKU Unit executed a search warrant related to a prohibited firearm and seized a large quantity of ammunition.
- On October 13, another search warrant was executed within town limits.

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- There was a good turnout for the Remembrance Day ceremonies.
- Project Red Ribbon: The Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) campaign will continue until January.
- Cram the Cruisers: The initiative will take place in partnership with Independent and Foodland.

4.1. Review Visitors

Chair Davis asked members to share their opinions on allowing members of the public to attend and speak at Police Advisory Board (PAB) meetings.
The following comments and suggestions were shared:

- **Brenda:** Had no concerns with allowing members of the public to attend and speak.
- **Jo-Ann:** Was undecided but suggested that anyone wishing to speak should provide advance notice or submit a request to be invited.
- **CAO Mason:** Felt that the public cannot be excluded and suggested making a motion to request a staff report on the matter.
- **Councillor Archibald:** Supported opening meetings to the public but recommended establishing clear restrictions and guidelines. He felt the public should have the opportunity to speak and noted that restricting access could create further issues or give the impression that the Board has something to hide.
- **Councillor Knapp:** Supported allowing the public to attend and listen. If someone has a question, the Board could determine how best to address it.
- **Mayor Smith:** Mentioned attending a conference on public safety and was unsure of the proper procedure. However, she felt the public should be able to attend.
- **S/Sgt. Gilmour:** Agreed that the public should be allowed to attend.

The Mayor suggested contacting someone from the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) to see if a member of the Military Police could attend the next PAB meeting as a guest.

Jo-ann suggested that anyone wishing to speak should submit a request in advance and asked whether a sign-in process or advance notice would be appropriate.

Recording Secretary Marceau suggested that any comments or questions from citizens be added to the meeting agenda.

ACTION ITEM:

- Recording Secretary Marceau will begin adding a section Anything by Citizens to the PAB meeting agenda.

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4.2. Policing Priorities

The question was raised as to whether more time should be spent discussing the matter.
Consensus: No.

4.3. November 24, In Camera Session

The Board will meet with Chris McNeil to review the audit. The discussion will take place during an in-camera session.

- CAO Mason advised that the meeting must be advertised as a regular meeting, with a motion made at the meeting to move into an in-camera session.

ACTION ITEM:

- Prepare the agenda for the November 24 meeting.

5. ANYTHING BY MEMBERS

Councillor Archibald noted that community engagement had previously been discussed as a training opportunity. Should this be something the committee revisits? Specifically, should there be opportunities for the public to engage directly with the Police Advisory Board (PAB)

Councillor Knapp raised concerns that public engagement could create the impression that the public can direct police operations, which is not within the committee's authority.

Recording Secretary Marceau suggested exploring the possibility of holding a Conversations with Committees, rather than Conversations with Council, as an opportunity to encourage public engagement and discussion.

Brenda brought up a concern that has been raised about a homeless encampment along the Harvest Moon Trail, off the old railway tracks. There are reportedly three tents, with garbage accumulating throughout the area. Residents have expressed concerns about the conditions and say they are afraid to use the trail because of the encampment. This is raising safety concerns and affecting residents' ability to comfortably enjoy the trail.

- Mayor Smith is awaiting a response from the Recreation Coordinator, who is scheduled to return from vacation on November 19.

Mayor Smith stated she heard from the women at Subway, and they wanted to express their thanks to the police officers for going into Subway at that time of night. They truly appreciated the officers' presence.

6. NEXT MEETING DATE

Tentative January 12th at 6:00pm.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Davis declared the meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.

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CHAIR RECORDING SECRETARY

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