

**Springfield Police Board Meeting
Wednesday, June 8, 2022**

WITHOUT PREJUDICE (E&OE)

NOTE: I will be unable to provide readers with this Police Board meeting, it would appear, until September when the next Police Board meeting is held, as the Chair, Ms. Wowchuk, has refused my request to post the audio file. As of July 13, 2022, I have not as yet received a reply to my June 13th. email to Ms. Wowchuk (Anne) (SEE BELOW).

In the meantime, while scrutinizing the List of Accounts published monthly in Council Meeting agenda, I noted a cheque to Prairie Mountain Health which I questioned. I was told it was a 911 response required by Springfield Police Service and that the Provincial Courts required an audio transcript, the cost of which was \$63. 911 calls go to a call centre in Brandon who forwards them, when required, to D Division of the RCMP in Winnipeg who then dispatches the call to the nearest RCMP Detachment, probably in this case Oakbank. MY QUESTION HAS ALWAYS BEEN, WHY IS THE SPRINGFIELD POLICE SERVICE BEING SENT ON CALLS MADE TO THE R.C.M.P.? Unfortunately I have an idea what the answer is. The RCMP are understaffed and are therefore using the Springfield Police Service as auxiliary members of their force. The RCMP are paid for by Federal income taxes while the Springfield Police Service is funded directly by Springfield taxpayers. The Springfield Police Service should be dedicated to doing the enforcement of our municipal by-laws as well as general policing duties required by our ratepayers. IT SHOULD NOT BE BEING USED TO AUGMENT THE SERVICES OF THE R.C.M.P. See attached article from the WFP regarding the shortage of "Mounties". However, our Mayor, presumably with the consent of Council, entered into an agreement with the R.C.M.P. Oakbank Detachment, either the Staff Sergeant or senior officer, which allows them to dispatch our Springfield Police Service to their calls while at the same time I was told by a former member that the R.C.M.P. would never reciprocate by attending to by-law infraction calls.

Heather Erickson <heatheranderickson@gmail.com> Mon, 13 Jun, 13:32 (7 days ago)

to Anne

Since I do not see the audio file of your meeting from last Wednesday posted on the web site, I will do my own notes regarding your refusal to post the audio file so that ratepayers, those paying for the SPS and the Police Board, if they so wished, could listen to the meeting instead of transcribing the meeting as I have done in the past. By the way, I searched my records and cannot locate the policy which you sent to me and would appreciate another copy. I am sure the idea that ratepayers would have to wait until September to access the minutes/audio file will not sit well with some.

On Sun, 12 Jun 2022 at 14:33, Heather Erickson <heatheranderickson@gmail.com> wrote:
I don't believe I need to remind you that both the Springfield Police Service and the Police Board are paid for by Springfield ratepayers through the RM of Springfield budget. I look forward to seeing the audio file of your recent meeting posted on the R.M web site Monday.

On Sat, Jun 11, 2022, 12:58 PM Anne Wowchuk, <annewowchuk@gmail.com> wrote:
Heather, the Police Board has its own policy, which I have previously sent to you, regarding communication and the upload of materials. We have not gone through the RM staff to do this for some time. And to make it clear, I did not tell you to contact the RM for Police Board related information.

Anne Wowchuk
Chair of Springfield Police Board

On Fri, Jun 10, 2022 at 5:47 PM Heather Erickson <heatheranderickson@gmail.com> wrote:
Ok. We both copied it to Anne and Mayor Fell made a commitment that 48 hours was the limit before things are posted. I sincerely hope Ms. Wowchuk will comply as it seems to me the last time I asked for the March ones, she told me to contact you guys.

On Fri, 10 Jun 2022 at 15:36, Erica Wood <EWood@rmofspringfield.ca> wrote:

Hi Heather,

This will be up to the Police Board to post it as we at the Admin building never receive the Police Board items.

Thanks and have a great weekend!

From: Heather Erickson <heatheranderickson@gmail.com>
Sent: June 10, 2022 3:25 PM
To: Erica Wood <EWood@rmofspringfield.ca>

Cc: Anne Wowchuk <annewowchuk@gmail.com>
Subject: Audio File

Any chance the audio file for the Police Board meeting held Wednesday could be posted. I missed the meeting and would like to listen [to it](#).