

POLICING COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Wednesday, January 7, 2026

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

400 Main Street SE

PRESENT

Citizen Member M. Shaukat (Chair) (Voting)

Citizen Member K. Bott (Voting)

Deputy Mayor R. Chapman (Voting)

Councillor C. Kolson (Voting)

Citizen Member S. Shaukat (Voting)

GUESTS

Kevin Halwa, Prairie Region Director, National Police Federation

Maryanne King, Advisor Government Relations, National Police Federation

Jeff McGowan, Prairie Region Director, National Police Federation

RCMP/MUNICIPAL ENFORCEMENT

Insp. L. Weare, RCMP Airdrie Detachment

S/Sgt. C. Zanidean, Airdrie RCMP Detachment

L. Mackenzie, Manager ME and RCMP Support Services

STAFF

K. Weinberger, Director of Community Safety & Social Services

K. Morrison, Legislative Services Officer II/Committee Clerk

N. Parkinson, Legislative Services Officer I/Council Technician

K. Rushford, Recording Technician

1. CALL TO ORDER

Citizen Member M. Shaukat called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and confirmed that quorum has been met for this meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2026-PCM-001

Moved By Deputy Mayor Chapman

That the Policing Committee adopts the January 7, 2026 Policing Committee Agenda, as presented.

Carried

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the regular meeting of July 9, 2025

2026-PCM-002

Moved By Councillor Kolson

That the Policing Committee approves the minutes of the regular meeting of July 9, 2025, as presented.

Carried

4. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS AND QUESTIONS

4.1 National Police Federation Presentation (Kevin Halwa, Prairie Region Director, Jeff McGowan, Prairie Region Director, and Maryanne King, Advisor Government Relations)

Kevin Halwa, Prairie Region Director, Jeff McGowan, Prairie Region Director, and Maryanne King, Advisor Government Relations, provided a presentation on the National Police Federation and the proposed Alberta Next Sheriffs Police Service.

A question was asked about the polling that National Police Federation conducted regarding the Alberta Provincial Police. K. Halwa advised that he is happy to share that information with this committee. The Alberta Next Panel did their own professional polling.

It was asked whether Airdrie would still maintain the RCMP if the Province cancels the Provincial Policing Agreement. J. McGowan advised that the only thing that would be covered by the RCMP would be federal matters. Airdrie would be required to have their own municipal police force or to contract the Sheriffs Police Service through the Province.

M. King advised that the Alberta Next Panel suggested that Airdrie, amongst other municipalities, would get a new municipal Police service, but no costing was provided with those options. If Airdrie was required to create their own Police service, it would lead to very large tax increases. RCMP remains the lower cost option due to federal input of funds and a larger scale of economy. The Province could make upgrades to the justice system in other ways without a wholesale replacement of the Police system.

Councillor Kolson clarified that the National Police Federation is an advocacy body that advocates on behalf of the RCMP and their Police members.

A comment was made that the Province has stated that the RCMP wants to pull out of Provincial policing. K. Halwa advised that the federal Commissioner and the Public Safety Ministers across Canada have confirmed that the RCMP are not getting out of contract policing and are commencing negotiations on renewal agreements. When the contract expires in 2032, the RCMP anticipates being in a position to renew the agreements. The National Police Federation has requested a letter from the federal Public Safety Minister to the provincial Public Safety Ministers confirming this. M. King will provide information to the Committee Clerk after this meeting.

Deputy Mayor Chapman commented that there was no interest at AB Munis to get out of contract policing with the RCMP. However, it takes two willing parties to negotiate a contract and one party in Alberta may not be willing to proceed.

It was asked whether the Alberta Sheriffs agree with the numbers being reported. J. McGowan advised that he has not been able to get confirmation of these numbers. Other Police services provide reporting through annual reports but the Alberta Sheriffs have not done that.

2026-PCM-003

Moved By Citizen Member K. Bott

That the Policing Committee accepts the National Police Federation presentation for information.

Carried

5. CONSENT AGENDA

There are no items.

6. AGENDA REPORTS

6.1 2025 Policing Report for Q1 and Q2 (Lynn Mackenzie, Manager ME and RCMP Support, Health, Safety, Security and Transportation and Training)

2026-PCM-004

Moved By Citizen Member S. Shaukat

The Policing Committee accepts the RCMP Q1 and Q2 presentation for information.

Carried

6.2 2026 RCMP Support Services Update (Lynn Mackenzie, Manager ME and RCMP Support, Health Safety, Security and Transportation and Training)

2026-PCM-005

Moved By Deputy Mayor Chapman

The Policing Committee accepts the update from RCMP Support Services for information

Carried

7. CLOSED SESSION

There are no items.

8. ITEMS REFERRED FROM COUNCIL

There are no items.

9. UPDATE ON COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS

There are no items.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Citizen Member M. Shaukat adjourned the meeting at 10:46 a.m.

Committee Chair

Committee Clerk

DRAFT