



Owen Sound Police Service Board

2nd Floor Board Room

Wednesday September 23, 2026

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

Members Present:	J. Thomson (Chair), C. Merton, M. Dickson, B. O'Leary
Absent with Regrets:	M. Koepke (Vice Chair)
Management Present:	Chief C. Ambrose, Deputy Chief D. Bishop, Inspector C. Matheson
Guests Attending:	H. Zehr- Police Service Advisor - Inspectorate of Policing
Minutes:	K. Wardell

1. Call to Order

Chair Thomson called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

2. Land Acknowledgment

Chair Thomson gave the land acknowledgment.

3. Approval of the Agenda

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

"That the agenda dated September 23, 2026 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.

There were no presentations or deputations or public questions.

6. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Public Session held June 24, 2026.

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

“That the minutes dated June 24, 2026 be approved.” **CARRIED**

7. Business arising out of the Public Session Minutes of June 24, 2026. HEARING NONE

8. Correspondence received

- a) Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce Coordinator Report April – June 2026
- b) Inspection General Memo # 12 Release of the Inspector General of Policing 2025 Annual Report
- c) Opioid Situation Report April to June 2026
- d) Women & Youth Crisis Centre Grey Bruce Community Bulletin and Annual Report
- e) Drug problems email

9. Chairman’s Report

Chair Thomson reported he will be attending the PGO Board meeting on October 1, 2026. He noted that the Owen Sound Police Service Board will be hosting the Zone 5 meeting at the Sydenham Campus on Tuesday, October 6, 2026.

Chair Thomson also reported that the Service had submitted its response to the Inspectorate of Policing’s (IoP) province-wide inspection and request for information. The submission was led by Deputy Chief Bishop, with support from several individuals and departments, and was provided to the IoP office before the September 8, 2026, deadline.

10. Governance

Chair Thomson had no new governance to report. H. Zehr referenced Inspector General Memo #11, issued in July and titled Increase in Antisemitism and Hate-Motivated Incidents. He noted that the memo outlines seven action items and advised that he would forward it to the Board for review.

11. Operational Reports June, July and August

- a) Criminal Investigations Branch and Drug Enforcement/Criminal Intelligence Unit (CIB), Community Oriented Response & Enforcement Unit (CORE) and Bail Compliance and Warrant Apprehension Unit (BCWA)
- b) Auxiliary Unit Report
- c) Front Line Patrol and Collision Statistics
- d) Community Services Office
- e) Training

12. Administrative Reports June, July and August

- a) Records, Courts and Bylaw
- b) OSECC and IT
- c) Human Resources
- d) Lost Hours

13. Building and Facility Update

Inspector C. Matheson provided a Facilities update on outstanding and completed maintenance items. Exterior brickwork repairs remain outstanding and are not scheduled for 2026. The current cleaning provider continues to perform well, with a tendering process anticipated. On-site Facilities support has improved routine maintenance and repairs, and the elevator lockout process has been resolved. Replacement of the front lobby washroom lock remains pending locksmith availability. Future assessments will be required to address AODA compliance, with no capital funding currently allocated. HVAC work, including ceiling tile replacement and system balancing, has been completed, although some issues remain. Main floor staff washroom renovations are complete. Tendering processes are underway for a major electrical upgrade and snow removal services. Parking lot lines have been repainted, and a designated no-parking area has been established to maintain garbage truck access.

Chair Thomson noted that there were no further updates regarding the Owen Sound Police Service Facility Needs Assessment. On July 27, 2026, Jason Hoffman, Manager of Corporate Services, presented the assessment request to Council. The request was defeated, and City staff were subsequently directed to explore the process for obtaining a cost estimate from the Ontario Provincial Police (O.P.P.). A report outlining staff's

findings was presented to Council on September 14, 2026. Council has not directed staff to proceed with an OPP costing assessment but has requested information regarding the process, requirements, timelines, and considerations should a future Council wish to explore this option.

Moved by B. O’Leary, seconded by M. Dickson

*“That the Chair contact Jason Hoffman, Manager of Corporate Services, to request that the Owen Sound Police Service Facility Needs Assessment be brought forward for consideration by the newly elected Council in January 2027.” **CARRIED***

14. Financial Update from the Chief of Police

Chief Ambrose reported that, as of the September 20 pay period, the projected deficit was \$143,850. He noted that the City had included a \$400,000 contingency in the budget. Due to current vacancies, the Service anticipates remaining under budget, with the \$9.4 million budget projected to result in an approximate surplus of \$255,000.

15. Operating Reports from the Chief of Police

- a) Chief’s Activity Reports June, July and August

16. Other Items and New Business

- a) 2023-2026 Operations Plan Progress Update
- b) Police Resources in Canada and Owen Sound 2025
- c) OSPSB GP-009 Financial Management Policy

Chair Thomson reported that the procurement amounts set by the city have increased and have been updated in the OSPSB GP-009 Financial Management Policy.

Moved by B. O’Leary, seconded by M. Dickson

*“That the OSPSB approve the updated OSPSB GP-009 Financial Management Policy.” **CARRIED***

17. Motion to move into Closed and Confidential Closed Session

Moved by B. O’Leary and seconded Mary Dickson.

“That the board move into closed session and upon termination of the closed session the board move into confidential closed session. These meetings are to review and discuss matters that fall under Section 44 item (2) of the Community Safety and Police Act and Section 25 item b) of the OSPSB General Policy 003- Board Governance to consider:

- a. A position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the board;*
- b. personal matters about an identifiable individual, including members of the police service or any other employees of the board;*
- c. labour relations or employee negotiations;” CARRIED*

18. Reporting out of Closed Session

In accordance with Section 44 of the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 and Section 25 item b) of the OSPSB General Policy 003- Board Governance to consider: the Owen Sound Police Service Board met in a closed session following the public meeting to discuss items pertaining to:

- a. Approval of minutes of the Closed Session of the Owen Sound Police Service Board meeting held on June 24, 2026
- b. Matters regarding Board Training.
- c. Review of Draft 2026 OSPS Community Survey
- d. Review of Draft 2026 OSPS Focus Group Questionnaire

The Chair confirmed that no other matters were discussed.

19. Reporting out of Confidential Closed Session

In accordance with Section 44 of the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 and Section 25 item b) of the OSPSB General Policy 003- Board Governance to consider: the Owen Sound Police Service Board met in a confidential closed session following the closed meeting to discuss items pertaining to:

- a. Approval of minutes of the Confidential Closed Session of the Owen Sound Police Service Board meeting held on June 24, 2026
- b. Matters related to Staffing and labour relations

c. Matters related to SIU investigations

The Chair confirmed that no other matters were discussed.

20. Termination of the Public Meeting

Having completed all of the business items listed on the agenda Chair Thomson terminated the open meeting at 12:48 p.m.

Next Meeting: October 20th, 2026