

1907-1967

64 cm. textual records

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At the first town council meeting held on July 18th, 1892, a committee of License, Relief and Police was established to oversee the affairs of the two-man police department. The year 1907 is a significant year because it marked the year in which the police governing authority was officially passed from a committee of council to a newly formed Board of Commissioners of Police. The Board members included District Court Judge Hugh O'Leary, Mayor James Murphy and William Palling, Police Magistrate of the City of Fort William. The first meeting of the board was held on October 7, 1907.

District Court Judge Hugh O'Leary was chairman of both the Port Arthur and Fort William Police Departments. This assisted in the development of uniform standards of conduct, common by-laws and policy between the two Police Departments. Alexander McNaughton was appointed Clerk.

The Board was responsible for control of the Police Department and general management. That included the preparation and passing of by-laws for licensing, regulating and governing a variety of things such as the purchase of a seven passenger vehicle for the purpose of transporting prisoners and enacting rules and regulations relating to the City of Fort William Police Force. The Police Commission oversaw the appointing of members to the Police Force and approving their respective salaries as well as authorizing the purchase of clothing, sundry expenditures and estimated increase expenditures.

This series consists of meeting minutes relating to the Board's management of the Police Department. Five bound handwritten volumes exist for minutes dated October 7, 1907-January 21, 1963. One bound typewritten volume exists for minutes dated January 8, 1963 – December 13, 1967. No bound volumes exist for 1968 and 1969 but typewritten copies for each year are in a separate folder. An index consisting of four bound handwritten volumes for 1947, 1951, 1958 and 1963 are included with this series.

Minutes for the Board of Police Commission for the City of Fort William conclude with the formal amalgamation with the City of Port Arthur in 1970.

Handwritten, Typescript.

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Further accruals are not anticipated.