

Wolfeboro Police Commission Meeting Minutes September 28, 2017

Members present: Chairman Steve Wood, Ron Goodgame and Vice-Chair Joe Balboni Jr.

Staff present: Chief Rondeau and Recording Secretary Amelia Capone- Muccio.

Chairman Wood called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM and introduced the Commissioners, staff in attendance and noted a quorum was present.

➤ Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Wood entertained the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consideration of Minutes

- ***Public minutes of the August 31, 2017 regular meeting.***

Commissioner Joe Balboni Jr. moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to accept the public minutes of August 31, 2017 as submitted. Commissioner Ron Goodgame seconded. Members voted, Ron Goodgame-yes and being none opposed, the motion passed.

Activity Reports

Chief Rondeau reported on the following activity reports for the month:

Offenses (State Law) by month: He reported 133 offenses for the month a significant increase from last month.

Arrest status report: He reported 43 arrests for the month which 59% increase from the previous month.

Personnel Analysis report: The report is a synopsis of each officer's reporting for the month.

Accidents by street name: He reported 19 accidents last month, which is a 48% increase from the previous month.

School Resource Officer (SRO): The SRO provided his monthly report noting school is back in session and things are busy.

Motor Vehicle Traffic Report: He reported 395 stops last month at 58% increase, only 27 resulted in tickets. \$3,310.80 in fines, fees, and/or assessments were received by the State of NH.

Detectives Report: He reviewed the Detective's report, noting he took on 9 new cases for the month and carrying 4 over to the new month.

Chief's Items

Chief Rondeau reported the following:

- He noted that he and the Captain continue to receive many accolades about the officers all of the officers and stated he appreciates hearing the comments whether good or bad so he can reward good behavior and correct deficiencies.
- He and the Captain have completed the budget review with the Town Manager and scheduled to meet with the Board of Selectmen on Oct. 26th.
- He stated they have hired two new part time dispatchers in Central Dispatch, Maggie Frazier and Heather Kalligandes.
- Operational grants are winding down and are expecting about \$15,000 back from the Federal Government and the State of NH.
- He stated he was appointed by Governor Sununu to the Governor's Advisory Council that is looking to strengthen animal cruelty laws.
- The Prosecutor reports 28 defendants responding to 29 charges this past month.
- He and the Captain participated in LRHW Medicine collection this past month and reported the next collection will be the National Drug Take Back collection at the Wolfeboro Police Department on October 28th.
- He reported the Department is increasing in traffic enforcement with speed enforcement in the following areas: North Line Road, Beach Pond Road, Center Street, North Main Street and 109 East.
- He provided a brief update on the Great Dane Animal Cruelty case that is up much of the Prosecutor's time. The next trial date is scheduled for October 3rd.
- Operation Granite Hammer grant will run from October 2017 to September 2018.
- He and the Captain continue to speak on WCTV, attend the BOS meetings, attend the men's breakfast meetings and meet regular with the public, parents, children and any other concerned Citizen's regarding various topics of concern.

DISCUSSION:

Commissioner Goodgame noted that he would like to see a breakdown of drug arrests particularly to marijuana noting that there seems to be limited data on such arrests with the topic of legalization.

Chief Rondeau replied that he would get some data for review, what happens is once alcohol is determined from an arrest the testing stops since that completes the proof of a case. There is currently a lack of ability to prove drug impairment. He would be happy to get some data relative to marijuana arrests. He did note that currently marijuana summons are secret documents and deemed unconstitutional to share.

Captain's Items

Captain Livie provided his items for review as follows:

- He noted the business contact form used for the Department has been updated and available on the website.
- NHPS Council completed the yearly firearms training and four hours of use of force.
- The Department has obtained a hitch for the radar trailer to allow them to move it and noted it will be going into storage soon for the winter months.

Commissioner's Items

Commissioner Balboni questioned a grant for a second radar trailer.

Chief Rondeau replied that he would be happy to apply for one, the trailer is about \$22,000 and the current trailer has a waiting list for locations to clock speed.

Commissioner Balboni also questioned the cross walk at Kingswood Golf?

Chief Rondeau replied that road is a state road and the Board of Selectmen have petition the state to reduce the speed limit from 40 mph there, once that happens they will be able to petition for a crosswalk. He explained that you can't have a crosswalk on a roadway of over 30 mph, there is not enough time to stop.

Board of Selectmen's Representative

Commissioner Goodgame requested the Secretary check to see if Luke Freudenberg is still the liaison as he hasn't been to any meetings in a while.

Questions from the Press

Elissa Paquette of the Granite State News questioned Tina Fay's court process.

Chief Rondeau explained the process of the court and that Ms. Fay's attorneys' filed the motion as the dogs are Ms. Fay's property, they are, but the dogs were seized as evidence of a crime because they were not in good health. He explained that the court has determined they need to get through the criminal process first and on September 6th the Judge will set the rules on how the case will go before the court in October. He explained that this case is in the district court because the charges are misdemeanors, not felonies.

Public Comment

Kevin Llewelyn requested time to speak with the Commission about a recent incident involving his wife at the Smith River Bridge on Whitten Neck Road and some concerns he has about youths jumping off that Bridge. Please see Lt. Commander Llewelyn's attached statement he read for the record.

Chairman Wood thanked him for speaking to them about his concerns and noted that he is behind him 110% and they will do what they can to keep the area safe, including enforcing the fines and even increasing the fine for jumping from the Bridge. He also has seen the photos and videos of those jumping from the Bridge and if the problem persists they may even need to add a fence.

Wendy Hatton resident, also noted that when that bridge was updated, the channel went through some changes it is very narrow and dangerous.

Ron Goodgame questioned if he plans to file a lawsuit against the parents of the children.

Lt. Commander Llewelyn replied that he does not have any proof of the exact youths who did it even though everyone including the police are pretty sure they know who they are.

Chief Rondeau s

Chief Rondeau stated with regards to collecting unwanted/expired medicines at the police station, they department stopped doing it about 5 years ago due to some concerns with the laws that govern such and funding availability for a collection bin. Currently they have encouraged the public to use the LRHHW site for disposing of the meds, but it has become obvious due to citizen request they need to add a collection box to the lobby of the Public Safety Building. They will be doing this and Rite Aid will be helping with a grant for a collection box.

Chairman Wood stated this will be a good thing, this will provide a box in the lobby to dispose of any meds no questions asked.

Commissioner Joe Balboni Jr. moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission direct the Chief and Captain to move forward with adding an unwanted drugs or medication collection box to the Public Safety Building lobby and to collect such unwanted drugs and/or medications in accordance to the Attorney Generals rules and regulations. Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.

➤ **2018 Proposed Budget Review**

Chief Rondeau reviewed the Wolfeboro Police Department's 2018 budget noting an increase at 2/45% or \$45,525 over last year. He briefed some of the increases as cost of living increase in Overtime and increase for laundering of uniforms. He noted the Communication Budget will increase 1.97% or \$9,811. And the Animal Control Budget will increase by 4383% or \$1,091.

➤ **Warrant Article 23**

Chief Rondeau gave a brief overview of Warrant Article 23 that will allow the Police Department to use the surplus of funds from details to purchase department equipment. The language has been reviewed by Town Counsel and this article will move to the Warrant for 2018.

Commissioner Goodgame shared is displeased of how additional requests are not included within the presented budget and by doing that it appears they don't request them at the start of the process and although both the Administrative Assistant to the Chief and the Prosecutor need to be moved to full time, he is concerned they will lose Tim Morgan if his hours are not increase.

Chief Rondeau explained any additional requests to the budget are submitted separately for review and such is the process the Town uses, he has no control over that process and does how he is directed to.

Being no further business before the Commission, Chairman Wood entertained a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Joe Balboni Jr. moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to adjourn at 5:49 PM. Commissioner Ron Goodgame seconded. Being none opposed, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Amelia Capone-Muccio