

Wolfeboro Police Commission Meeting Minutes January 17, 2019

Members present: Chairman Steve Wood, Joe Balboni Jr. (via phone) and Ron Goodgame.

Staff present: Chief Rondeau, Captain Livie, and Amelia Capone-Muccio Recording Secretary

Chairman Wood called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM and introduced the Commissioners, staff in attendance and noted a quorum was present.

➤ ***Pledge of Allegiance***

Chairman Wood entertained the Pledge of Allegiance.

➤ ***Public minutes of the December 20, 2018 regular meeting.***

Commissioner Goodgame questioned page one and that he did not get clarity on if medical marijuana is legal or not.

Chief Rondeau provided an explanation on the ability to have a note from your doctor to obtain medical marijuana from a clinic, but noted you cannot cross state lines. He noted that he plans to speak more in depth on this topic to WCTV and invite Tuftonboro Police Chief Shagory to join him as well.

Commissioner Ron Goodgame moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to accept the public minutes of December 20, 2018 as submitted. Commissioner Joe Balboni seconded. Members voted, all others in favor, the motion passed.

Activity Reports

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

Incidents: He reported 42 incidents, a 20% increase from last month.

Offenses by month: He reported 80 offenses for the month, which is an increase.

Arrest status report: He reported 30 arrests for the month, which is an 87% increase from previous month.

Collisions YTD and Accidents by street name: He reported 13 accidents last month, which is the same as the previous month.

Traffic stops YTD and location breakdown report: He reported 184 traffic stops last month a 10% increase from the previous month. He reported only 8 tickets were issued out of those stops.

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

School Resource Officer (SRO): He provided the SRO report for the month, showing 5 arrests last month.

Detectives Report: He provided the Detective's report for review.

DISCUSSION:

Chief Rondeau explained that this month he also provided two additional reports that show crime comparisons from the year noting they are up in DWI, drugs and fraud particularly towards the elderly.

Chief's Items

Chief Rondeau reported the Chief's items from the attached memo.

Captain's Items

Captain Livie reported that the Department held a tabletop exercise at the Junior High and will be working with Carpenter school on the same.

Questions from the Press

None

Commissioner's Items

Chairman Wood noted that the 2019 Budgets have been completed and entertained a motion to accept those budgets.

Commissioner Ron Goodgame moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to accept the 2019 Budgets of the Wolfeboro Police Department, Central Dispatch and Animal Control as submitted to the Budget Committee. Joe Balboni Jr. seconded. Members voted and all in favor, the motion passed.

Chairman Wood noted that the Wolfeboro Police Department and Central Dispatch have several Warrant Articles on the 2019 Warrant and entertained a motion to recommend or not recommend those articles. He read for the public's information Warrant Article 21, 28 and 29. (See attached)

Commissioner Ron Goodgame moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to recommend Warrant Article 21 to Establish Dispatch Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for the 2019 Town Warrant. Joe Balboni Jr. seconded. Members voted and all in favor, the motion passed.

Commissioner Ron Goodgame moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to recommend Warrant Article 28 the New England Police Benevolent Association Union Contract for the 2019 Town Warrant. Joe Balboni Jr. seconded. Members voted and all in favor, the motion passed.

Commissioner Ron Goodgame moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to recommend Warrant Article 29 Special Detail Fund for the 2019 Town Warrant. Joe Balboni Jr. seconded. Members voted and all in favor, the motion passed.

Board of Selectmen's Representative

Paul O'Brien thanked the Commission for their support on the Warrant Articles and the budget process is now complete. The staff is preparing presentations on the Warrant Articles and voting is March 12th.

Public Comment

None.

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

Commissioner Steve Wood moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to adjourn at 4:50 PM.
Commissioner Ron Goodgame seconded. Being none opposed, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Amelia Capone-Muccio

TO: Wolfeboro Police Commission

FROM: Dean J. Rondeau
Chief of Police

SUBJ: Chief's Items (December 2018) for 17 January 2019 Commission Meeting

DATE: 03 January 2019

Non- Public: I have several items for Non-public Session under Personnel.

BUDGET:

The Command Staff conducted four (4) internal FY 18 budget reviews this past month for December. The good news is that we are landing the helicopter square on the deck for the second year in a row for all three budgets-which is better than anticipated! My executive team delivered our FY 19 Budget to the Budget Committee on 28 November and 11 December 2018 to the Budget Committee. The Captain and I attended the 27 Dec and 3 January Budget Committee meetings relative to the Town's warrant articles and Town proposed budget respectively. So far, all is moving ahead as scheduled, and I am anticipating no issues. The next hard dates for the FY 19 Budget will be at 1500 hours on 15 January at the Arts Center for the taping of the Town's Warrant, I will be there. The next hard date is for the Town Deliberative Session scheduled for 6 Feb 2019 at the Great Hall at 1900 hours, with a snow date of 7 Feb at 1900 (Great Hall). The Town vote will be on 12 March 2019, normal times. As an aside, SAU 49's School Deliberative Session will be held at the Arts Center on Saturday, 2 February 2019.

PERSONNEL: We are pleased to announce that Senior Patrolman Michael Strauch was promoted to the rank of SGT today (17 January at 1430 hours) by selection and order and of the Wolfeboro Police Commission. Six Officers attended and took the SGT's exam last December and attended the SGT's promotional process-it was indeed daunting-just ask them. The competition was fierce and tiring! It is meant to be!!! My thanks and kudo's go out to all the Officers who submitted themselves to the process-the selection procedure is designed to make good Officers better-and that is the reason it is both demanding and competitive. All the Officers who competed did very well, and I commend them for a job well done!

Operations:

In terms of Police prosecution, it was a short month this month with the holiday season upon us, just sixteen (16) defendants this month responded to seventeen (17) charges. Of those seventeen charges, (17) charges, seven (7) individuals, were found or plead guilty; and ten (10) were Placed on File (POF) pending good behavior for six months or

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attachment

more, with diversion, education, and restitution component(s) added to their sentences; The conviction rate this month is: 100% with approximately \$4650.00 dollars in fines, penalties and restitution meted out.

Speed issues continue to be a problem in our community. Please pay attention to the posted speed limits on our Town roads-speed complaints represent some of the most common quality of life issues we receive at the PD. Please be courteous of your friends and neighbors and don't speed. We will be monitoring our roads very carefully-if you are speeding-please slow down, the life you save may be your own-thank-you!

That being said: The Department is continuing its enhanced speed enforcement operations in the following areas: Forrest Road, Cotton Valley and College Road areas, Beach Pond Road with a focus on the area between Pine Hill Road and North Line Road, Center Street, North Main Street, 109 East and Sewell Road. The reason for these speed enforcement operations is due to citizen complaints and data collected and analyzed by our radar trailer We will continue our efforts in these areas until we are sure that the speeds have come down. If you travel these roads, please be mindful of the speed limits.

End of year data:

It is that time of year that I brief some sobering statistics. I do so to advise and inform the greater Wolfeboro Community of the trends that we are seeing in law enforcement.

Dispatch:

This year was a particularly busy year for Wolfeboro Central Dispatch with just over 48,000 calls for service being received. Of those 1239 were 911 Emergency Calls for someone or persons in distress or in-need of Police Assistance. Additionally, 3843 persons came into the station as "walk-in's for various reasons including but not simply limited to Police or fire department assistance.

Police:

This past year we saw 318 arrests, 569 criminal incidents consisting of 939 criminal offenses. The Town realized 168 reportable traffic crashes, with 173 traffic tickets being meted out.

In a more in-depth look and analysis we noted a two (2%) percent decline from 2017 (this follows a zero percent increase from 2016) in Group A "Crimes Against Persons", with a total of eighty-three (83) crimes against persons (all categories) being perpetrated in 2018. Group A crimes consist of such offenses as Simple Assault, Intimidation, Aggravated Assault, and Domestic Violence. The most common of these were in the Misdemeanor category where the offender is known to the victim.

In the "Crimes Against Property" category, we saw a twenty-four percent (24%) drop in 2018. But what is troubling is that several specific crimes with this subcategory are indeed increasing at an alarming rate. Also, deeply troubling is that we realized a seventy-five (75%) percent spike in Fraud related crimes, such as identity theft, swindling, credit card/ bank fraud, and other such complex violations. Spikes in the various types of Fraud, including swindling and "confidence" schemes are constantly bilking unsuspecting citizens out of thousands of dollars annually. Due to the internet and the ready availability of technology, many of the bad actors associated with these crimes hail from jurisdictions outside of New Hampshire and sometimes even the United States. Often, these cases must be transferred to the Homeland Security Police or the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) since they fall outside the territorial jurisdiction of the Wolfeboro Police Department.

Group A and B Crimes, in the subcategory of "Crimes Against Society" were mixed this year. Category A crimes in "Crimes against Society" were up this year by a modest two (2%) percent, where as in category B, they were down by seven (7%) percent. Drug and Alcohol related offenses are what has accounted for the rise in Group A incidents. In Group B offenses, crimes such as "runaway (juvenile) and Criminal Trespass, were down significantly, and this has continued as a decline from years past. It is however important to note that in some subcategories such as DWI (up 6%) and Disorderly Conduct (up 21%) certain offenses are continuing to rise. This is indicative of larger societal issues, most normally associated with substance abuse.

In terms of Traffic Operations this year, the Department saw an increase from 157 traffic crashes in 2017 to 168 in 2018. This represents a 3.9 percent increase over last year's 7.534 percent surge, and of course we saw a traffic fatality this year as well. Though this is a smaller rise from last year-the increase is still concerning. Most crashes are caused by distracted driving, or over input of a control such as breaking, acceleration, or steering that is often not prudent for the conditions present.

As well as can be imagined, in rural Towns such as Wolfeboro, NH traffic enforcement is one of the core tasks of any local Police Department. Other core tasks included but are not limited to: traffic crash investigation/reduction, crime prevention, physical security, as well as proactive policing and general law enforcement operations. With this in mind, this past year the Wolfeboro Police Department conducted approximately 3047 traffic stops for various moving vehicle infractions. This is up from last year's 2676 traffic stops; and represents an increase of 13.86% percent from last year and is reflective of just how busy and proactive the Officers are in attempting to prevent traffic collisions and crime or are engaged in proactive enforcement. A clear majority of those stops resulted in warnings and reflects the Department's education minded philosophy regarding traffic administration. Additionally, the Department continues its partnership with both the New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency (State) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Institute (Federal). In taking advantage of State and Federal traffic safety grants, the Wolfeboro Police Department adds both equipment and traffic safety patrols each year at little or no cost to the Town. Patrols such as "Safe Commute", "DWI Interdiction", "Speed Enforcement" and "Pedestrian and Crosswalk Safety" just to name

a few, coupled with the various equipment grants made available to the Department, serve as one of the Department's cornerstones for community policing and proactive enforcement. (Please refer to your end of year charts in your commission parkettes.)

TRAINING: None

BUDGET:

The next FY 19 review will be at the 21 February 2019 Police Commission meeting The Town Budget Committee on 3 January. Everything is set now for the Town's Deliberative session schedule for 6 February at 1900 hours at the Great hall. Both the Captain and I will be in attendance.

OUTREACH AND MATTERS OF INTEREST:

The Captain, and I spoke on Wolfeboro Community TV this past month.

The Captain and I continue to be regulars at the Men's Breakfast meetings each month.

Both the Captain and I continue to be a presence at the BOS meetings, the CIP Meetings and other Town committees as requested.

I continue to serve on both the Gov's committee for the Humane and Ethical treatment of Animals and serve on Senator Bradley's legislative committee seeking to strengthen the State's Animal Cruelty Laws.

The Captain continues to be part of the Master Planning process and the Technical Review and Joint loss committees; I continue to serve on the Emergency Preparedness Committee and I am happy to report the plan has been updated and is now "on line."

Lastly, please be our guest on Coffee and Connections with the Chief. This Wolfeboro TV Community show entails the Captain, I and other members of our department meeting and speaking with various groups or individuals on Wolfeboro Community TV at local area venues while discussing various topics of interest. If you would like to be on TV or want to have us come down to your group or area to talk, simply contact Peter or Tim at Wolfeboro Community TV and be part of Coffee and Connections with the Chief.

Please turn into our very own WASR 1420 on your AM dial for our monthly POD casts to catch up on topics of interest and matters of importance. Soon, the public will be able to call in and take part of the Radio show-that should be very exciting.

Safety Tip of the Month: Winter Driving. This time of year, presents challenges to us all-especially when driving on slippery roads. First, during inclement weather, if you don't have to go out-don't. Secondly, if you have all wheel drive, or four-

wheel drive, go ahead and use it. Just remember that though your traction will improve while in 4x4, your stopping ability will not!

Captain's Items

ARTICLE 21: ESTABLISH DISPATCH EQUIPMENT CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Issue: The current Dispatch (radio) Console in Wolfeboro Central Dispatch is antiquated and in need of replacement by 2022.

Discussion: Acting on advice from our dispatch service provider, 2-Way-Communications, we are planning for a full replacement of the Dispatch Console in 2022. In 2017 we made the last repairs and updates possible on this system. As this system is no longer manufactured or supported, there are no replacement parts available. If this system fails now, a new system would have to be purchased, forcing the Town to bond the item as no CIP presently exists. Though this replacement is tentatively planned to coincide with the construction of the new Public Safety Building, the two are not connected. If the Dispatch Console were to fail after the CIP but before 2022, any monies set aside in the Capital Reserve Account could be used to help defray the cost of that purchase. It is estimated that the outlay for a replacement console is at or just over \$350,000.00 dollars.

Solution: Raise \$102,000.00 dollars each year for four (4) years (assuming for inflation and cost increases) to cover the replacement cost of a Dispatch Console and its ancillary equipment, antennae's, connections, de-installation, installation labor, and wiring and other electric/mechanical equipment required.

ARTICLE 28: POLICE UNION CONTRACT AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)

2021	Wages	\$49,654
	Benefits	\$15,333
	Total 2021	\$64,987
2022	Wages	\$47,173
	Benefits	\$14,418
	Total 2022	\$61,590

And further to raise and appropriate the **sum of Fifty-five thousand eight hundred sixty dollars (\$55,860)** for the upcoming fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in wages and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year.

Estimated Tax Rate Impact: 2019--\$0.028 per thousand of Assessed Valuation

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 5-0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 4-3)

Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 29: SPECIAL DETAIL FUND

Issue: Replacement Cruiser

Discussion: Last summer (2018) the Police Department had two cruisers placed “out of service” due to extreme rust and other mechanical issues which were deemed uneconomical to repair. Both cruisers are approximately ten (10) years old and have well over 100,000 miles each.

Solution: In 2006, Warrant 23 was established to fund Police Special Details. It is a revolving fund. Presently, there is approximately \$60,000 dollars surplus (monies not committed and readily available) in that fund. Article 29 proposes that the Town use approximately \$52,721.00 dollars to fund the replacement and upfit of a new police cruisers for the PD. Since this money is already existing as a surplus, it has **NO IMPACT** on the tax base or rate.