

Wolfeboro Police Commission Meeting Minutes January 21, 2016

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

Staff present: Chief Stu Chase, Captain Rondeau and Recording Secretary Amelia Capone-Muccio.

Chairman Goodgame 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 Goodgame entertained the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consideration of Minutes

- ***Public minutes of December 17, 2015***

Commissioner Steve Wood moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to accept the public minutes of December 17, 2015 as submitted. Commissioner Job Balboni Jr. seconded. Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.

Activity Reports

Chief Chase reported on the following activity reports for last month:

Offenses (State Law) by month: He reported 88 offenses for the month which is a 76% increase from the previous month.

Arrest status report: He reported 32 arrests for last month, which is an 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 11 accidents for last month which is an increase from the previous month.

Prosecutor's report: He reported 11 defendants answering to 14 offenses; 9 arraignments, 4 pleas, 2 pretrial conferences and \$8,871 was received in fines, fees or restitution.

School Resource Officer (SRO): He reported 21 investigations at the High School and 3 at the Middle School.

Motor Vehicle Traffic Report: He reported 135 stops last month and only a handful of those resulted in summons. He noted the goal is to educate the public.

Detectives Report: He provided the Detectives reporting for the month showing 4 new cases.

Geographical Analysis: He provided this report that shows the activity in specific areas.

Central Dispatch report: N/A.

Chief's Items

Chief Chase reviewed the report as follows:

- The Department provided police coverage for the fireworks display on New Year's Eve.
- The Department is working on a new approach to in-service training whereby they will have quarterly programs "in-house" rather than sending personnel off to other locations throughout the year. In addition to tailoring training needs to the Department, they feel this will also allow them to gather as a group to enhance communication and to share issues and concerns.
- The State has approved a grant request for \$10,000.00 for DWI enforcement and he thanked the Captain for his work on these programs.
- He conducted a command-staff meeting this month with the Captain, the three division sergeants and the dispatch supervisor.
- He and Dispatch Supervisor Lyons met with Barry Muccio, Municipal Electric Department Director, to go over the outage reporting and on-call protocol for linemen.
- K9 "Riggs" received his body armor thanks to a charitable donation from the non-profit organization, "Vested Interest in K9's", Inc., of Taunton MA. The vest is embroidered with the sentiment, "Be safe as you go into service." The Vested Interest in K9's mission is to provide bullet and stab-protective vests to working dogs. The program has provided 1,700 vests in 49 states through private and corporate donations of over 1.6 million dollars. The vests are custom made by Armor Express in Central Lake, Michigan. One vest costs \$1,795 to \$2,234 and comes with a five year warranty. He thanked the anonymous benefactor and the program for providing "Riggs" with this measure of protection.
- The Children's Christmas Fund helped thirty eight families and 78 children this year. As most know, this is a truly grass-roots endeavor that is sustained through the generosity of many local people. He thanked Mia Lyons the dedicated "manager" of this charity and thanked to all those who support it.
- He also stated for the second year in a row, an anonymous source provided ten, \$100.00 bills to be distributed by patrol officers by random motor vehicle stops or through other field contacts.
- The Department wishes Parks and Recreation Director Ethan Hipple well as he takes on a new position with the City of Portland, ME. They have worked closely with the former recreation director over the years. His enthusiasm and positive outlook have always been contagious and we know he will be successful in this new job.
- He noted there was a considerable police presence in Wolfeboro yesterday morning as we searched for a suspect involved in a domestic assault that occurred earlier in the morning in Wakefield. The suspect, identified as Scott Lane, age 35, of Wakefield, had appeared at Huggins Hospital, presumably to make contact with the victim who had been brought to the hospital for treatment. Officers Pat Spera and Shane Emerson spotted Lane in a hallway near the emergency area and when they went to question him, Lane ran from the building and fled on foot onto Christian Ridge Road and then onto Crescent Lake. For nearly two hours and in blustery, 11 degree weather, Lane was tracked in the general area between the Smith River, Crescent Lake, Center Street, River Street, Pine Street and Millwood Road. He was eventually taken into custody after he attempted to use a telephone at a residence on River

Street. In addition to Wakefield complaints of Domestic Assault, the Wolfeboro police charged Lane with Resisting Arrest, Criminal Trespass, and Acts Prohibited and lodged him at the county jail on three outstanding arrest warrants from prior investigations. All on-duty officers in Wolfeboro were assisted by personnel from the State Police, Sheriff's Department, and Tuftonboro Police.

- He stated the next DEA drug take back day will be on April 30th. Those with unwanted or expired pharmaceuticals may dispose of them by simply dropping them in a receptacle in the lobby of the public safety building.
- He reviewed the annual reports for 2015.

Chairman Goodgame asked for a heroin update.

Captain Rondeau replied that their initiative is off to a good start working with Melissa Ferland d/b/a Safe Surroundings and the Department continues to refer clients to her.

Chairman Goodgame noted the training the Department will be receive will help with this ongoing issue.

Chief Chase replied yes as the Department's primary goal is protection of life.

Elissa Paquette of the Granite State News stated with regards to overdoses and if someone should leave someone at the hospital or have fear of calling 911 are they protected from being charged.

Captain Rondeau replied there is no blanket immunity and the courts do not charge people inappropriately. He stated that the primary goal is protect the citizens and those in this circumstance should do the right thing and call for help.

Chairman Goodgame questioned with regards to the recent apprehension of a wanted subject and the use of the State Police K9, would this had been a circumstance K9 Riggs would have been used.

Chief Chase replied yes, it just so happened that the State Police K9 was in the area during this call.

Steve Wood questioned that if in the meeting with Barry Muccio of the Municipal Electric Department if the issue of large scale outages was discussed and they would continue to maintain their line during those times.

Chief Chase replied yes the process is the same, the meeting was to update the call information for the Town Lineman. He expects to have the same good response time as in the past.

Steve Wood stated the Town has always had a fast response time and the Municipal crew is very capable of continuing to provide that service. He credited Mr. Muccio on how the Department turned out as he was involved in the early stages of the change.

Chairman Goodgame noted that some concern of clarity of speak from the Dispatchers has been forwarded to the Chief for review as some of the population is elderly and has trouble hearing.

New Business

Chairman Goodgame noted it has been a couple years since they held an open house at the Public Safety Building and thought since new cruisers will arrive this year it would be a good time to do it

again. He suggested they do a simpler event without the added cost of music and food provided by the Commissioner's personally last time. He noted that the Town would also have a new Fire Chief and new Town Manager by the time they do the event.

Captain Rondeau suggested he work with the Secretary to come up with an event and update the Commission at the next meeting.

Board of Selectmen's Representative

N/A

Being no further business before the Commission, Chairman Goodgame entertained a motion to enter non-public session to discuss personnel.

Commissioner Steve Wood moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission enter non-public session RSA 91 A: 3 a & c to discuss personnel at 4:53 PM. Joe Balboni Jr. seconded. Roll call vote: Ron Goodgame- yes, Joe Balboni Jr.-yes and Steve Wood-yes, the motion passed.

The Commission re-entered public session at 5:08 PM.

It was moved by Steve Wood and seconded by Joe Balboni Jr. to seal the minutes of January 21, 2016. Members voted and being all in favor, the motion passed.

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

Commissioner Steve Wood moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to adjourn at 5:10 PM. Commissioner Joe Balboni Jr. seconded. Being none opposed, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Amelia Capone-Muccio