

**Wolfeboro Police Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
COVID-19 Meeting - GoToMeeting  
July 16, 2020**

**Members present:** Chairman Steve Wood, Bob O'Brien, and Vice-Chair Joe Balboni Jr.

**Staff present:** Chief Dean Rondeau, Captain Mark Livie, and Recording Secretary Sherri Moore

Chairman Wood called the GoToMeeting to order at 4:08 PM.

Chairman Wood read the following Preamble into the record:

**MEETING PREAMBLE DURING COVID-19 EMERGENCY**

*Good Evening, as Chairman of the Wolfeboro Police Commission, I am declaring that an emergency exists and I am invoking the provisions of RSA 91-A:2, III (b). Federal, state, and local officials have determined that gatherings of 10 or more people pose a substantial risk to our community in its continuing efforts to combat the spread of COVID- 19. In concurring with their determination, I also find that this meeting is imperative to the continued operation of town government and services, which are vital to public safety and confidence during this emergency. As such, this meeting will be conducted without a quorum of this body physically present in the same location.*

*At this time, I also welcome members of the public accessing this meeting remotely. Even though this meeting is being conducted in a unique manner under unusual circumstances, the usual rules of conduct and decorum apply. Any person found to be disrupting this meeting will be asked to cease the disruption. Should the disruptive behavior continue thereafter, that person will be removed from this meeting.*

*Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by Roll Call vote.*

*Let 's start the meeting by taking a Roll Call attendance. When each member states their name please state whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-to-Know law.*

**The Commission Members gave a Roll Call vote, Chairman Steve Wood – present in his camper (his wife will be in and out), Commissioner Bob O'Brien – present and alone in a room in his house, Commissioner Joe Balboni, Jr. – present and alone in a room in his house, Chief Dean Rondeau – present and alone in a room in his house, Captain Mark Livie – present and alone at his house, Sherri Moore – present and alone in her office at the Police Department.**

**Consideration of Minutes**

**Commissioner Bob O'Brien moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to approve the public minutes from June 25, 2020. Chairman Steve Wood seconded. Roll call vote: Joe Balboni Jr. – yes, Bob O'Brien – yes, and Steve Wood – yes, Members voted, the motion passed.**

## Activity Reports

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

**Incidents:** He reported 39 incidents.

**Offenses by month:** He reported 43 offenses last month.

**Arrest status report:** He reported a total of 16 arrests.

**Collisions YTD and Accidents by street name:** He reported 18 accidents during the month of June.

**Traffic stops YTD and location breakdown report:** He reported 125 traffic stops and 21 tickets were issued out of those stops. The increase from May to June was due to being back to "business as usual".

**Personnel Analysis report:** The report is a synopsis of each officer's reporting for the month. Noted this report includes the Animal Control officer and you will note we track his activity.

**Detectives Report:** Chief read the report. Please see attached. He noted that Detective Emerson has been instrumental in helping with the officer shortage by filling shifts.

**School Resource Officer (SRO):** Nothing to report school closed for the summer.

## Chief's Items

Chief Rondeau read his report. Please see attached.

## Captain's Items

None

## Questions from the Press

None

## Commissioner's Items

None

## DISCUSSION

Commissioner O'Brien shared that he had observed Sgt. Strauch helping two kids on bikes by giving them helmets. He also observed Sgt. Strauch helping to fit the helmets properly for the kids to. Commissioner O'Brien commends the department for having those kinds of items available and be able to give them out.

Commissioner Balboni stated that there is a problem with people Jay Walking.

Chief Rondeau responded that the Department has a Pedestrian Grant and it can be used to address Pedestrian type issues.

Chief Rondeau shared that three of the cruiser mobile radios have failed this year. It is necessary for them to work effectively so the Officers can do their job effectively. He added that a lot of our radios are over 20 years old.

Commissioner O'Brien asked about revenue that the Police Department brings in.

Chief Rondeau stated that that is a great question. We do have items that bring in revenue. However, there are some areas we will be a little short. He added that we do not see the revenue in our budget because it goes back into the General Fund. This year there will be less revenue.

Commissioner Balboni asked why, with the radios being so old, don't we put them in the budget? How many radios still need to be replaced?

Captain Livie answered that we have two left that need to be replaced.

Chief Rondeau stated that we budgeted for the replacement of one for next year.

Commission Balboni instructed the Chief to put two radios in the budget.

Chief Rondeau responded that he would put two radios in the budget.

Chairman Wood asked what is the turnaround time for replacing a radio?

Captain Livie answered that the turnaround time takes anywhere from six to eight weeks to come in and be installed. They are typically installed on site at the Police Department.

#### **Board of Selectmen's Representative**

None.

#### **Public Comment**

None.

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

**Commissioner Bob O'Brien moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission enter into non-public session RSA 91 A: 3, a to discuss personnel items at 4:45 PM. Joe Balboni, Jr. seconded. Roll call vote: Bob O'Brien-yes, Joe Balboni Jr. - yes, and Steve Wood-yes, the motion passed.**

The Commission re-entered public session at 5:09 PM.

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

**Commissioner Bob O'Brien moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to adjourn at 5:10 PM. Commissioner Joe Balboni Jr. seconded. Roll call vote: Bob O'Brien-yes, Joe Balboni Jr. - yes, and Steve Wood-yes, the motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

**Sherri Moore**

TO: Wolfeboro Police Commission

FROM: Dean J. Rondeau  
Chief of Police

SUBJ: Chief's Items (June 2020) for 16 July June 2020 Police Commission meeting

DATE: 07 June 2020

**Non- Public: I have no items for Non-public Session.**

**GENERAL BUDGET ITEMS:**

After the presentation of the Chief's items we will take a quick break and move into the end of Second QTR Budget review and analysis. Please see the attached Budget Sheets attached to the Commission report package.

**PERSONNEL:** Officer Martineau's last day was 30 June, she is now with Alton PD. Officer Jason Bucher was hired in her place and is doing just fine as he works his way through a modified FTO process. He will be on his own shortly, by the third week in July. Officer Shanks is now about 2/3 of the way through the Police Academy and is doing well.

**Operations (Criminal Investigations and Prosecutions):**

In terms of Police investigations, June provided us the opportunity to get caught up on several investigations. This is reflected in the arrest status report. We continue to work closely with our local, County, State and Federal partners in a host of different investigative efforts. Please see the detectives report for more information.

In terms of Police Prosecutions, this past month was slow due to COVID-19 precautions. This past month we had Fifteen Defendants (15) respond to eighteen (18) charges. Of those charges, fourteen (14) were found or plead guilty, and four (4) were placed on file with good behavior, counseling, and restitution ordered to the victims. The conviction rate is one hundred percent this past month (100%) with \$5253.00 meted out in fines, restitution, and penalties. Crime does not pay!

**Safety and Security matters:** As we get into the coming Summer months, please be mindful of the school children who are now out of school and out in public doing things and activities that kids do-bike riding, swimming, and playing. Please be mindful and drive slowly in Town and in our neighborhoods-thanks-you.

The Both the Captain and I spoke on Wolfeboro Community TV this past month with a member of the public about topics of interest.

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

The Captain and or I continue to attend all the BOS meetings.

The Captain continues to be part of the Master Planning process, the Technical Review and Joint loss committees.

Lastly, please be our guest on Coffee and Connections with the Chief.

**Safety Tip of the Month:** Summertime driving: Driving in the rain: As the Summer is upon us, flash thunderstorms and summer rain storms can produce strong down pours. During these weather events excess water can pond on the roadways surface. When this occurs, it is easy for a vehicle to hydroplane (water builds up on the bottom of tires and reduces the tire's contact with the pavement.) When you feel this happen, and you will take your foot off the accelerator-do not mash the breaks. Taking your foot off the accelerator will drop the vehicle's center of mass slowly, but quickly enough for you to gain control of the vehicle. The dropping of the vehicle's center of mass will push the water out from the bottom of the tire's treads, causing the tire to contact the pavement. Strong braking will cause the vehicle to go into an immediate skid and yaw-the vehicle rotating around its center of mass-causing you to lose control of steering.

#### **BUDGET ANALYSIS:**

As the PD moves from the end of the Second QTR into the Third, I have some good news and bad news regarding the overall PD Budget: The good news is that we are no longer 1 percent over spent in the Budget, but are rather 0.301 percent under spent. What this really means is that between all three budgets we only have a buffer of approximately \$6000.00 dollars. This is due primarily to the removal of \$17,000 dollars by the Budget Committee in January 2020, and of the un-forecasted requirement of fund our two recent Officer's buyouts from the PD budget-this was un-forecasted. This has forced us into some stringent budgetary constraints which have unfortunately had an impact on Officer and dispatcher morale-as one can imagine. Though I expect the PD to continue will our funding guidance well into the Third Qtr. and most likely into the fourth, I believe, as long as we have no further major un-forecasted financial requirements, we will recoup these monies from hiring new Officers (not at the same pay rate) by the middle of the Fourth QTR -or 30 October 2020. I will continue to keep the Commission informed.

Gentlemen, the PD's budget review sheets are in your packets and are provided for your review. Please take a long at them and I will be happy to address any lingering questions. I think we are doing as well as can be expected, and there are only a few major cost overruns at this time, but as I said earlier, we are underspent by approximately 0.301 percent. Gentlemen, subject to your questions, that is all I have.

**Dispatch:** We have opened the lobby and access to the Dispatch window. We have taken followed the State's and the Federal Government's CDC guidance in this regard and have placed a window microphone to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. This is a new addition to the Dispatch-lobby window.

**Motor Vehicle Enforcement:** In an effort to mitigate the traffic crashes we realize on a monthly basis-and we have seen increase this past month up 157% percent from last moth which was a 250 % jump (yikes), we will be continuing our strong proactive approach to motor vehicle enforcement, and traffic stops will now be conducted again in earnest as I have relaxed the protocols I had put in place for COVID-19 response. However, it is important to realize that we as a Town went from 07 crashes to 18. Though we are increasing, the increase is a modest spike, due to the summer months upon us and the Town opening. We are deploying assets and patrols into our identified problem areas-Safety First!

More to the point, as I have said before, speed and traffic crash issues continue to be a problem in our community. Please pay attention to the posted speed limits on our Town roads, and please drive safely-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, especially our high traffic roads such as North-South Main Streets, Center Street, and 109-East. If you speed-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: Lehner Street, 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, Bay Street 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 posted speed limits.

**Training: NSTR**

**Dispatch: NSTR**

#### **OUTREACH AND MATTERS OF INTEREST:**

Both the Captain and I met with concerned citizens regarding a wide range of issues and community involvement topics.

Both the Captain and I attended a wide range of Budget meetings with various groups and committees as we proceed through the budget process.



### **Monthly Activity for June 2020**

9 cases were carried over from May 2020. For the month of June 2020, Det. Emerson investigated 5 new cases. The cases below represent all the incident reports and arrest reports for the month of June.

2 cases were investigated as felonies and 3 cases were investigated as misdemeanor level. At the end of June, Det. Emerson has 8 cases still under investigation. Detective Emerson was able to close out previous pending cases that had carried over from the previous month.

Additionally, Detective Emerson has been also working Patrol shifts rather than Detective duties to help out with shift coverage as we work on getting the new hires up to speed.

Detective Emerson worked on a runaway child case that came to him directly. Detective Emerson was able to use his street level contacts to help locate the runaway up in Ossipee. After 5 days away, he is now back at home safe and sound.

#### **Cases Assigned/Investigated**

1 Theft

1 Overdoes (attempted)

1 Sexual Assault

1 Runaway

1 Breaking and Entering

Percentage of cases closed this month 84%

Percentage of new cases closed by arrest during the month 0%

Percentage of entire case load closed 69%