

**Wolfeboro Police Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
COVID-19 Meeting - GoToMeeting  
September 17, 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 4:01 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 – alone in a room in his house, 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 Balboni moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to approve the July 16, 2020 and the August 27, 2020 public minutes. Commissioner Bob O'Brien 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 August:

**Incidents:** He reported that there were 50 incidents, which was decrease from July.

**Offenses by month:** He reported 54 offenses last month.

**Arrest status report:** He reported a total of 21 arrests.

**Collisions YTD and Accidents by street name:** He reported 17 accidents during the month of August.

**Traffic stops YTD and location breakdown report:** He reported 135 traffic stops and 13 tickets were issued out of those stops.

**Personnel Analysis report:** No Report

**Detectives Report:** No Report.

**School Resource Officer (SRO):** Nothing to report as school just opened back up.

## **Chief's Items**

Chief Rondeau read his report. Please see attached.

Commissioner O'Brien noted that the arrest summation does not give who the arresting officer was. That would be helpful.

Chief Rondeau responded that he can certainly do that.

Captain Livie also responded that he can help with that.

## **Captain's Items**

None

## **Questions from the Press**

None

## **Commissioner's Items**

Chairman Wood mentioned that a vote would need to be taken on the FY 2021 Budget.

Chief Rondeau replied that he met with the Town Manager to go over the 2021 Budget and they discussed different options to reduce the budget. The Chief made some cuts to lines that amounted in about a \$20,000 reduction. The Part Time Juvenile Services Officer was discussed, and the Town Manager offered an idea of not starting the Officer until September. Implementing that strategy on that line resulted in a reduced amount needed.

Chairman Wood mentioned that he thought a vote was already taken to give permission for the Chief to speak on those budget points.

Chief Rondeau clarified that a vote was given for the CIP committee budget items.

Chairman Wood asked for a motion to accept the 2021 Budget as prepared up to this point. As well as give Chief Rondeau authority to speak in the absence of the Police Commission regarding the 2021 Budget.

**Commissioner O'Brien moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to approve the 2021 Budget as prepared and to authorize Chief Rondeau to speak in the absence of the Police Commission regarding the 2021 Budget. Commissioner Balboni seconded. Roll Call vote: Bob O'Brien-yes, Joe Balboni Jr. yes and Steve Wood-yes, the motion passed.**

## DISCUSSION

None

## Board of Selectmen's Representative

None.

## Public Comment

Suzanne Ryan spoke to the Commission about a letter she emailed to Chief Rondeau and inquired if he had forwarded it on to the Commission?

Chairman Wood suggested that she read the letter into the record and see if the Commissioners would like to comment.

Suzanne Ryan did not have access to the letter and summarized the letter saying it was regarding the CIP for the Public Safety Building. She wanted to make a request for the Commissioners to advocate for a larger sum of money to be put into the CIP. She feels it would be nice to have a public forum and doesn't feel like enough money is being put up for the project.

Chairman Wood shared that currently there is not a final plan. There is a committee looking at this and they have not come through with a firm decision and cost. The Commission is not on the committee. The Chief and Captain would know more about that. Chairman Wood can not speak to if there is or is not enough money being put up because there is not an approved plan.

Chief Rondeau added that there are two competing issues. One being that during the CIP Committee meeting there was some concern that there really is no committee formed relative to the how and when we will have a Public Safety Building. As well as, none of the policy makers were being updated on the Public Safety Building planning. The project is not a Police Department project. The Chief said that Suzanne's concern is valid.

Suzanne Ryan suggested a savings account or bank account be set up to off set the cost that "you" will be asking for. When the Library and Town Hall were being built, they had a "Friend's Of" help but people aren't going to raise funds like that for the Public Safety Building. However, the Commission could ask for a larger amount be put in the CIP.

Chairman Wood replied that he is more than willing to bring up her concerns. He thanked Suzanne Ryan for speaking up on this issue and making suggestions.

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

**Commissioner Joe Balboni moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission enter into non-public session RSA 91 A: 3, a to discuss personnel items at 4:28 PM. Commissioner O'Brien 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 5:30 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 5:30 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 (August 2020) for 17 September 2020 Police Commission meeting

DATE: 14 September 2020

**Non- Public: I have one item for Non-public Session under personnel.**

**GENERAL BUDGET ITEMS:**

We completed our FY 2021 budget. As you gentlemen are aware, we met with our LNO's in a meeting and they seemed to be impressed with our budget, and too seemed to support it. I have submitted it to the Town Manager's Office for review on schedule. We had a Town Manager review on 11 Sept. All changes have been made, I am looking for a vote from the Wolfeboro Police Commission to approve the submitted FY 2021 Budget for submission to the BOS and the Budget Committee. Incidentally, you gentlemen have my FY 21 Goals and Objectives, and as I said earlier, they are directly tied to my budget. Once the schedule has been finalized, I will brief the Commission on our presentation dates TBD.

**PERSONNEL:**

As you all know-Officer Shanks is still in our FTO program and is doing quite well. Officer Peaslee has started the Police Academy and all is well. We still have one full time slot to fill and those interview dates have been forwarded to you for your review. The Captain is coordinating that effort.

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

In terms of Police investigations, Aug remained a busy month for investigations and follow-up on major cases. This is reflected in the arrest and incident status reports. There is no Detective report this month due to vacations and other major investigations which took center stage this past month. I will catch-up the Commission next month.

In terms of Police Prosecutions, this past month was slow due to COVID-19 precautions. This past month we had five (5) Defendants respond to ten (10) charges. Of those charges, seven (7) were found or plead guilty, two (2) were Nolle Prosequi; one (1) with restitution to the victim, and one because of the Judge dismissing a restraining order. One (1) case was placed on file with a two-year ALS suspension. The conviction rate is this past month is ninety percent (90%) one hundred percent this past month (100%) with \$3918.00 meted out in fines, restitution, and penalties.

**Safety and Security matters:** ladies and Gentlemen, fall is now upon us, with that we take time to enjoy the cooler crisp air, please be mindful of the school children who are now trying to get in the last few vestiges of the warm summer temps and early fall colors, and who have returned back to school and will be walking and biking, to and fro these few months before winter arrives. Please be mindful and drive slowly in Town and in our neighborhoods-thanks-you.

**Dispatch:** NSTR

**Motor Vehicle Enforcement:** In an effort to mitigate the traffic crashes we realize monthly, we will be continuing our strong proactive approach to motor vehicle enforcement, and traffic stops. As a warning to those residents in the North Wolfeboro Area, I have received complaints about speeders on College Road and Stoddard Roads. We will be conducting aggressive speed reduction patrols in those area of Town-so please, if you are in a habit of speeding up there, please don't! Lastly, we continue to deploy 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 to Stoddard Road; 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:** SGT Strauch K-9 training

**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.



I am now conducting a weekly talk radio show with Erick Scot of WASR. The show is a one-hour feature with call in and we discuss relevant topics of interest. Please be our guest on this show each Monday at 12 Noon. Please call in and ask your questions and join in the discussion-let's get involved and solve community issues or simply have a good time! All are welcome!

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

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 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:** With the arrival of fall, water temperatures are dropping. If you are boating or taking in the few remaining warm days left until winter arrives, please be mindful of hyperthermia. The waters and air can become chilly. Be mindful of overexposure, even in mild temperatures, the body's temp can drop quickly causing one to become a casualty-please be safe and dress and prepare for the activities and weather-thank-you.

## **BUDGET ANALYSIS:**

Gentlemen, the next PD analysis will be in Oct for the 3<sup>rd</sup> QTR of the Town's FY. I will continue to keep the commission informed of any major muscle moves relative to the PD's budget in the meantime.

As you know-we have all but completed construction of the PD's FY 2021 budget and all is moving well. We met a 28 Aug suspense to the Town Manager and have already briefed him as of 11 Sept on the PD's Budget-all went well. We met with our Budget Committee, and BOS LNOs and went over our FY 2021 budget on 2 Sept. That meeting went very well, and there was plenty of very good discussion.

Gentlemen, subject to your questions, that is all I have.