

**Wolfeboro Police Commission
Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2017**

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

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

Chairman Wood called the meeting to order at 4:00PM 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 February 16, 2017 meeting and March 8, 2017 meeting.***

Commissioner Goodgame amended the first page of the March 8th minutes to note in parenthesis, for police officer interviews).

Commissioner Ron Goodgame moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to accept the public minutes of February 16, 2017 as submitted. Commissioner Joe Balboni Jr. seconded. Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.

Commissioner Ron Goodgame moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to accept the public minutes of March 8, 2017 as amended. Commissioner Joe Balboni Jr. seconded. Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.

Activity Reports

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

Offenses (State Law) by month: He reported 37 offenses for the month which is a 12% increase from the previous month.

Arrest status report: He reported 30 arrests for last month, which is a 22% 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 8 accidents last month, which is a 27% decrease from the previous month.

Prosecutor's report: He stated the Prosecutor's report has been provided for review with 22 offenses answering 25 charges. Resulting in 1 trial, 7 arraignments, 11 pleas, and 6 pretrial conferences. He noted \$5,122 collected in fines, fees and assessments as revenue for the State of New Hampshire.

School Resource Officer (SRO): The SRO provided his monthly report noting numerous investigations for the month and he referred to his narrative on the report.

Motor Vehicle Traffic Report: He reported 117 stops last month. He noted out of those only 8 resulted in tickets.

Detectives Report: He reviewed the Detective's report noting that 85% of the cases have been closed, which is great work by Detective Maloney. He took on 9 new cases for the month.

DISCUSSION:

Commissioner Goodgame suggested discontinuing some of the monthly reports received as the Chief's narrative covers most of the information. He feels in an effort to save on paper, time and preparation this would be more productive.

It was moved by Ron Goodgame and seconded by Joe Balboni Jr. to eliminate the Prosecutor report, offense listing report, and accident breakdown and records analysis. Members voted and being all in favor, the motion passed.

Chief's Items

Chief Rondeau reported the following:

- He read a press release. (See attached) He commended Detective Maloney for his excellent detective work and ability to close a very difficult drug distribution resulting in a death case. The case represents great work by many who worked together to bring conclusion to the crime committed and although nothing can bring back the victim the family can take some small measure that the person who plead guilty to her crime will spend 18 years in prison.
- He presented Officer LaRochelle with an accommodation for his outstanding assistance in supporting a stranded motorist and read the letter from the citizen who commended Officer LaRochelle for going above and beyond his duties in assisting with a tire change for his granddaughter's vehicle. He noted this is a perfect example of Community Policing at its best.
- He also read two letters of thanks from Chief Bernier of the New Durham Police Department thanking Sgt. Archambault and Senior Patrolman Strauch for their assistance in another incident.
- He noted that the PAR's for the new year have been submitted to the Town office based on the results of the Town Election.
- He and the Captain held a staff meeting.
- He and the Captain continue to be a presence at the Board of Selectmen's meetings and additionally attended the Deliberative Session and Candidates night.
- The Department is reviewing the possibility of reviving the Bike Patrol downtown.
- Officer Swift, Officer Strauch, Officer LaRochelle and Detective Maloney attended training offered by the Carroll County Sheriff's office for "Bleeding Control for the Injured".

- He and the Captain spoke as part of a new segment on WCTV.
- He spoke to the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) where three students were recognized for citizenship.
- The 2018 highway safety grants have been initiated and are being prepared by the Captain. He noted they are looking to competing for \$45,000 in extra patrol funds and \$ 7,000 in equipment grants for new radar equipment.

DISCUSSION:

Elissa Paquette of the Granite State News noted some of the reports that are given are helpful to the reporting of activities for the department.

Chief Rondeau replied that he can still provide her with any information she may need.

Commissioner's Items

Chairman Wood noted at the last meeting the Commission reviewed part time wages of some employees who were not included in budget for cost of living increases, the Commission voted to increase the part time wages budget line and such was submitted to the Town Manager's office and included in the 2017 proposed budget. He also noted that at previous meetings the Commission has discussed and made some updates to the job descriptions of the Chief, Captain and Sgt. and suggested they ratify those changes.

It was moved by Ron Goodgame and seconded by Joe Balboni Jr. to accept the revised job descriptions as presented at this meeting for the Chief of Police, Captain and Sgt. Positions. Members voted and being all in favor, the motion passed.

Chairman Wood noted that at their last meeting citizen Suzanne Ryan suggested the Police Commission adopt a set of rules for conduct at their meetings as many other town boards do. He thanked her for that suggestion and noted that Commissioner Goodgame took that constructive criticism and draft a set of Rules of Procedure for the Commission similar to what the Board of Selectmen uses. He asked Commissioner Goodgame to review that document with the Commission for any revisions.

The Commission reviewed the draft Rules of Procedure and made some minor edits and/or amendments.

It was moved by Steve Wood and seconded by Joe Balboni Jr. to adopt the Rules of Procedure as presented at this meeting contingent upon the edits and or amendments to the document as made at this meeting. Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.

Board of Selectmen's Representative

None.

Public Comment

Chairman Wood noted that citizen Joe Melanson had requested to address the Commission with regards to a remark he alleges Commissioner Balboni said.

Joe Melanson referred to his statement with regards to a comment he alleges Commission Balboni made at the last Police Commission meeting. (See attached statement)

Chief Rondeau stated that when he heard about this alleged statement he went to WCTV and reviewed the video with others at the station and no one could make out exactly what was said the sound is just not clear.

Joe Melanson stated his copy of the video is clear.

Chairman Wood reviewed the video today and stated he could not make out what was said but did note that it is clear the last word he said was "me".

Joe Melanson stated he wants to be on next month's agenda to discuss this matter further.

Peter Pijoan noted that there is not more than one video and he has listen to the video with many others and no one hears what Mr. Melanson heard.

Tom Bell addressed the Commission to thank Mr. Wood on his re-election and those who voted to support him as a candidate. He noted that he looks forward to helping in anyway. He also noted that he heard the alleged statement from the back of the room.

Being no further business before the Commission, Chairman Wood entertained a motion to enter non-public session to discuss personnel (hiring of officer) and ongoing litigation.

Commissioner Ron Goodgame moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission enter non-public session RSA 91 A: 3 a, b & c to discuss personnel and ongoing litigation at 5:25 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 5:36 PM.

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

Commissioner Ron Goodgame moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to adjourn at 5:36 PM. Commissioner Joe Balboni Jr. seconded. Being none opposed, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Amelia Capone-Muccio

JOINT PRESS RELEASE

Released by: Joseph A. Foster, New Hampshire Attorney General
Dean Rondeau, Chief of Police, Wolfeboro Police Department

Subject: Tanya McCormack Pleads Guilty to Selling Fentanyl that Caused the
Death of Cole McMahon in Wolfeboro

Date: Thursday March 16, 2017

Release time: Immediate

Contact: Benjamin J. Agati, Senior Assistant Attorney General
Drug Unit – Criminal Justice Bureau
603-419-0124

Danielle E. Horgan, Assistant Attorney General
Drug Unit – Criminal Justice Bureau
603-230-0743

New Hampshire Attorney General Joseph A. Foster and Wolfeboro Police Chief Dean Rondeau jointly announce that Tanya McCormack, age 27, of Effingham pled guilty today in Carroll County Superior Court to selling fentanyl that caused the death of Cole McMahon, age 22, of Wolfeboro. Ms. McCormack was sentenced to eleven (11) to twenty two (22) years in the New Hampshire State Prison, with three (3) years suspended off of the minimum and maximum portion of the sentence, for selling the controlled drug fentanyl which caused Cole McMahon's death in September of 2015.

On August 31, 2015, Tanya McCormack met with Cole McMahon in Ossipee and sold him a quantity of the controlled drug fentanyl. Cole ingested that fentanyl, suffered an acute intoxication from the fentanyl causing a fatal overdose, and was found unresponsive in his parents' home in Wolfeboro early on September 1, 2015. Cole was pronounced dead at Huggins Hospital a short time later.

New Hampshire Attorney General Joseph A Foster said, "Opioid and fentanyl misuse is our most serious public health and public safety problem. In 2016, it is estimated that New Hampshire suffered over 475 overdose deaths; nearly 200 involved fentanyl alone, while another 126 involved fentanyl with another drug. Fentanyl is a serial killer; those who sell it are choosing to sell poison to another and should be held accountable. Ms. McCormack made a choice to sell a deadly drug and it caused Mr. McMahon's death. Today she faced the consequences of that choice."

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Chief Dean J. Rondeau of the Wolfeboro Police Department said, "The investigation, prosecution and subsequent sentencing of Tanya McCormack highlights the strong interagency cooperation between the Wolfeboro Police Department, the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office and the DEA that is so crucial to fighting and ending our State's Opioid epidemic. Today's sentence sends a very strong message to the Greater Wolfeboro community about our Department's dedication to stopping dealers who sell drugs that could potentially kill; and who continue to do so even when they know their drugs have killed a member of this community." The Chief went on to say, "The State of New Hampshire is faced with a very real fentanyl and heroin crisis never before seen in our State. This nearly two-year-long investigation underscores the professionalism and dedication by members of the Wolfeboro Police Department, and shows just how committed we are to stopping this Opioid crisis. We will continue to team-up with our local, County, State and Federal partners to stop those who prey upon some of our most disadvantaged and vulnerable residents."

Attorney General Foster and Chief Rondeau jointly announce that this success came about from an investigation by the Wolfeboro Police Department, spearheaded by Detective Guy Maloney, with the assistance of the Office of the New Hampshire Attorney General, the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, the New Hampshire State Police, and the Carroll County Sheriff's Office.

The commission states "so please attend a meeting express an interest, get on the agenda and speak if you wish. We want to hear from you"

As a member of the public I did just that. At The february meeting commissioner Balboni made the comment that He a f.....g idiot, in reference to my comments. This is not an insult, a hostile response to a member of the public.

This is a contradiction from what the commission states, the commission has to listen to the public whether you agree or disagree. If a member of the public says something that you don't agree with you can think of the bad language but don't say the words in a public session.

This has damaged the effectiveness of the commission that the comments are not conducive to a rational discussion. disorderly conduct- a person commits an offence if he intentionally or knowingly uses abusive, indecent, profane or vulgar language in a public place.

The commissioner have to be held to a higher standard, conduct unbecoming of an elected official should not be tolerated and he should resign.

- How does each commissioner feel about the comments made or is this the general concession of the commissioners.
- Were each of you informed what was said by commissioner balboni before this meeting.
- How are you going to change the perception of the commission so that the public believes you care about there input.

~~SECRET~~
B & L & S