

Wolfeboro Police Commission Meeting Minutes May 20, 2021

Members present: Chairman Steve Wood, and Vice-Chair Bob O'Brien, and Commissioner Shawn Coope

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

Chairman Wood called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM and introduced the Commissioners and staff in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Wood entertained the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consideration of Minutes

Commissioner O'Brien moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to accept the April 15, 2021 public minutes as written. Commissioner Coope seconded. Roll call vote: Bob O'Brien – yes, Shawn Coope – yes, and Steve Wood – yes, Members voted, the motion passed.

Activity Reports

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

Incidents: He reported 36 incidents, a decrease from the previous month.

Offenses by month: He reported 81 offenses last month.

Arrest status report: He reported an increase from previous month, a total of 36, resulting in a 56.52% increase.

Collisions YTD and Accidents by street name: He reported 2 accidents last month. Chief Rondeau was happy to have such a low number.

Traffic stops YTD and location breakdown report: He reported 171 traffic stops last month and 17 tickets were issued out of those stops. Resulting in a 9.94% chance of getting a ticket.

Personnel Analysis report: The report is a synopsis of each officer's reporting for the month. Report included in the Commissioners report only.

Detectives Report: Report attached

School Resource Officer (SRO): No report for the month of April.

Chief's Items

Chief Rondeau read his report. Please see attached.

DISCUSSION:

Chairman Wood asked if the detective is still pulling shifts?

Chief Rondeau answered no.

Chief Rondeau updated the Commission that Officer Peaslee has completed his FTO program. Although his FTO was a little bit lengthy it is not a reflection of Officer Peaslee. Chief Rondeau explained that it was due to him going through the Police Academy during COVID and having a majority of virtual classes. The Academy just was not able to do the high level of training like they usually do. He went on to explain that we received an officer that needed a lot more training and we were not quite prepared for that. That is the reason for the extended FTO training. The Department will not skimp on training regardless of how many officers the Department is down.

Commissioner O'Brien noted that in reviewing the officer's monthly activity he could see that it showed Officer Peaslee was off to a great start.

Commissioner O'Brien also asked if he could offer guidance for the Chief's safety tip of the month due to an incident that happened between a motorcycle and vehicle. His tip is that if you have a confrontation go to the nearest Police Dept and NOT your residence.

Chairman Wood added that after a particular vehicle incident one of the motorists followed the other and now knows where the person lives.

Commissioner O'Brien responded that if you have a near collision let the authorities handle it and do not go directly to your residence.

Captain's Items

The Captain updated the Commission on the results from the combined 7 radar signs and trailers. The areas that jump out are:

- North Main Street because of the volume of cars that are recorded (28,209 cars) and the high rates of speed.
- Bay Street the volume of cars recorded was 8,516 traveling towards Pine Hill Rd. The max speed recorded on that street was 59 miles mph and the speed limit is 30 mph.

Overall the radars are doing their jobs to slow people down. The data is helping us to narrow down where and what time of day there are speed issues.

Chief Rondeau added that the radar data helps the department to be more efficient by seeing when the issues are occurring. The volume of cars on the road is impressive.

Chairman Wood asked if the radar trailer takes more information?

Captain Livie responded yes; it takes pictures.

Chief Rondeau added that we cannot use the photographs.

Chairman Wood replied that he thinks that It is an exceptional machine. Especially seeing how we are able to narrow down where and when to patrol.

Chief Rondeau mentioned that we could benefit from another speed radar trailer.

Captain Livie responded that if the public needs the speed trailer on their road to let the Police Department know. Our officers are doing their best to get there and manage the traffic.

Chairman Wood asked what is the cost different between a radar trailer and radar sign?

Captain Livie responded that a radar trailer is about \$15,000 and the radar signs are about \$5,000 to \$6,000.

Questions from the Press

None

Commissioner's Items

Commissioner Coope shared that he spoke with a small business owner yesterday regarding a speed issue on his road. The owner said that he is very pleased with the difference the police have made.

Commissioner O'Brien asked if it is possible to find out who is doing burn outs? He has seen them on few roads in town.

Chief Rondeau responded that it is reckless driving and if the offender is caught then he/she will get a summons.

Board of Selectmen's Representative

Selectman Freudenburg noted that speed is an issue in town, and he is receiving complaints. He has noticed the police presence and thinks they are doing a great job.

Chief Rondeau responded that speed issues represent a quality-of-life problem. The public is welcome to call the police department. We do not want anyone to make a confrontation, we are happy to help with those issues. That is why we get paid. Since COVID we are seeing an increased traffic volume. Does not excuse but explains it.

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 at 4:45 PM. Shawn Coope seconded. Roll call vote: Bob O'Brien - yes, Shawn Coope-yes and Steve Wood-yes, the motion passed.

The Commission re-entered public session at 6:41 PM.

Chairman Wood announced that while in non-public session they made a conditional offer to David Baumgartner for the Juvenile Services Officer.

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 6:42 PM. Commissioner Shawn Coope seconded. Being none opposed, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri Moore

Monthly Activity for April 2021

Seventeen cases were carried over from March 2021. For the month of April 2021, Det. Emerson investigated three (3) new cases. The cases below represent all the incident and arrest for the month of April.

Three cases were investigated at felony level. At the end of April 2021, Det. Emerson was able to clean up some of his lingering case load and close out cases from previous months.

Presently, Detective Emerson is investigating a suspicious untimely death case and Detective Emerson was present during the autopsy.

Additionally, Detective Emerson is investigating a case involving the dissemination of nude and sexual photographs/videos (no juveniles involved).

Detective Emerson is also investigating an endangering the welfare of a child case.

Cases Assigned/Investigated

1 Suspicious death

1 Dissemination of nude/sexual images/video

1 Endangering the welfare of a child (x4)

Percentage of cases closed this month 67%

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

Percentage of entire case load closed 64%

TO: Wolfeboro Police Commission

FROM: Dean J. Rondeau
Chief of Police

SUBJ: Chief's Items (April 2021) for 20 May 2021 Wolfeboro Police
Commission meeting

DATE: 05 May 2021

Non- Public: I have two (2) items for Non-public Session under personnel, hiring, and litigation.

GENERAL BUDGET ITEMS:

There will be an end of second QTR. FY 21 Budget review following the presentation of the Chief's Items in July. 2021. This budget presentation will mark the half-way point of the PD's Budget and will give a detailed forecast as to the status of the PD. Also accompanying this presentation will be a mid-year status of the PD and the briefing on completion of our 2021 Goals and Objectives. Together, these two briefings to the commission will provide a good snapshot and status as to the financial and administrative snapshot of how the PD is performing and where we stand on the accomplishment of our goals and objectives.

PERSONNEL:

Officer Peaslee continues to make progress in his FTO program, and presently, we are quite pleased with his performance. He is scheduled to come out of the FTO program sometime in May, he has accomplished a lot given that his class was the first of the "COVID" academies. Please congratulate him when he completes his training, it has indeed, been quite a ride!

Operations (Criminal Investigations and Prosecutions):

In terms of Police investigations and Operations, April was busy, and we can see this in the April Stats that I just briefed. In addition to the two serious motor vehicle crashes we had earlier in the year, on 19 April 2021 we realized another fatal motor vehicle crash in Wolfeboro-this one on center Street by the NH Boat Museum. SSG Guy Maloney and I conducted the traffic crash reconstruction on that crash and determined the impact speed to be just at 95 MPH. This was a near head on collision. It appears that the driver of the offending vehicle may have had a medical issue which resulted in the crash.

Additionally, the department also remains involved in the five (5) car motor vehicle crash investigation on South Main Street, and the fatal crash investigation on College Road. Both of those investigations are still ongoing.

In terms of Police Prosecutions, this past month busy; we had 14 (14) defendants respond to fifteen charges (15) charges. Of those charges, eleven (11) were found or plead guilty. Two (2) cases were placed on file pending good behavior, with other court ordered or directed actions, such as restitution or alcohol and drug treatment added as part of their sentences. Lastly, two (2) were withdrawn at the request of the victim.

The conviction rate is this past month is one hundred (100%) with \$5,948.00 dollars in fines, restitution, and penalties meted out by the Courts.

Safety and Security matters: We have already seen the weather turn. Spring is on the way. Please pay attention to the pedestrians out and about, and our busy work crews cleaning up the wintertime sand and leaves on the roadway. This past winter debris represents a hazard and may make the roads a little more slippery on both dry pavement and wet asphalt. Please drive carefully and allow extra time when going to and from your daily business. As we get into the summer months, please pay attention to strong summertime storms and weather, Lastly, during these significant weather events if you don't have to go out-please don't. A vast majority of our crashes occur during periods of inclement weather. Plan for needs ahead of these storms, cancel non-important appointments or events, and please be safe while driving-thank-you!

Dispatch: NSTR

Motor Vehicle Enforcement: In an effort to mitigate the traffic crashes we realize monthly, we will be continuing a strong proactive approach to motor vehicle enforcement, and traffic stops. As a warning to those residents living within and traveling about on both the North Wolfeboro Road Areas and on Bay Street-we have received many complaints for upset residents about the speeds on those streets. We have deployed our radar warning signs out to those locations, and shortly thereafter we will be strictly enforcing those speed zones-being forewarned is being forearmed. Additionally, we will be deploying our radar warning trailer out to Center to support our Public Works team in support of their construction efforts. While traveling in these areas, please watch out for our Public Works Employees, and drive slowly by and through construction zones.

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:

Police:

SSG Maloney and I trained the 184th Police Academy Class in Traffic Crash investigation. 19 April 2021.

Officer Joe Shanks attend interview and interrogation training as Drug interdiction training.

Dispatch: NSTR

As of the end of March, almost all the PD members have met their annual training requirements in terms of Non-Discretionary training

DISPATCH: NSTR

OUTREACH AND MATTERS OF INTEREST:

SSG Maloney and I headed back to the NH Police Academy on 19 April to teach block zero of the Technical Crash Investigation Course to the recruit class. Fun was had by all!

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

The Captain continues to be part of the Master Planning process, the Technical Review and Joint loss committees, and I continue to serve on the Governor's Commission for the humane and ethical treatment of animals.

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

Safety Tip of the Month: It is warming up, get your equipment and bob houses off the ice. Fail to do so at your own peril.

BUDGET ANALYSIS: Presently (as of 07 May 2021) the Department is doing well on its budget execution. The PD is underspent by 3.154 percent; Dispatch is underspent by 2.057 percent; and Animal Control is underspent by 7.63 percent. This makes for a total combined underspent budget of 2.19 percent. With that being said, please be mindful that we still have almost 2/3 or essentially 9 months of the year left in front of us-thanks.