

Wolfeboro Police Commission Meeting Minutes October 27, 2021

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

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

Chairman Wood called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Wood entertained the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consideration of Minutes

Chairman Wood asked that the September 22, 2021 minutes be amended by adding "not allowed" next to number two and three of the items on Jessica Williams list of items to address.

Commissioner O'Brien moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to approve the September 22, 2021, public minutes as amended. Commissioner Coope seconded. Roll call vote: Bob O'Brien – yes, Shawn Coope – yes and Steve Wood – yes, Members voted, the motion passed.

Commissioner's Items

Chairman Wood announced that the Commissioner's would be postponing Activity Reports from the Chief so that he could address some business first. He then went on to read into the minutes remarks regarding the Internal Affairs Investigation.

Opening remarks and Internal Affairs Investigation attached to the minutes.

Chairman Wood asked for a motion to accept and read the Wolfeboro Police Commission Internal Affairs Investigation of Chief Rondeau.

Commissioner O'Brien moved to accept and read the document titled Wolfeboro Police Commission Internal Affairs Investigation. Commissioner Coope seconded. Roll call vote: Bob O'Brien – yes, Shawn Coope – yes and Steve Wood – yes, Members voted, the motion passed.

Chairman Wood shared that in reviewing the Rules of Procedures and in the spirit of 91:A he would like to propose a verbiage change under Scheduling a Meeting. NH RSA 91:A only stipulates twenty-four hours necessary for posting an agenda and the Rules of Procedures for the Wolfeboro Police Commission states: *Each meeting shall be posted in accordance with RSA 91-A. The Agenda for such meeting shall be posted Not Later Than ("NLT") one week in advance of the meeting.* Chairman Wood asked for a motion to change the posting an agenda in the Rules of Procedure to twenty-four hours.

Commissioner O'Brien moved to change the agenda posting for a meeting from one week out to 24 hrs before a scheduled meeting. 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 September:

Incidents: He reported 55 incidents, a decrease from the previous month.

Offenses by month: He reported 74 offenses last month.

Arrest status report: He reported a decrease from the previous month, a total of 33. The average arrests per month is 35 arrests a month.

Collisions YTD and Accidents by street name: He reported 15 accidents last month. A 11.76% decrease over the previous month.

Traffic stops YTD and location breakdown report: He reported 406 traffic stops last month and 39 tickets were issued out of those stops. Resulting in an 9.6% 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): Report attached.

Chief's Items

Chief Rondeau read his report. Please see attached.

DISCUSSION:

None

Public Comment

None

Board of Selectmen's Representative

None

None

Captain's Items

None

Questions from the Press

None

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

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

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

Chairman Wood entertained a motion to seal the Non-Public Minutes.

Commissioner O'Brien moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to seal the Non-Public Minutes. Commissioner Coope seconded. Roll call vote: Bob O'Brien – yes, Shawn Coope – yes and Steve Wood – yes, Members voted, the motion passed.

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

Commissioner O'Brien moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to adjourn at 5:10 PM. Commissioner Wood seconded. Being none opposed, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri Moore

Opening Remarks Regarding Internal Affairs Investigation

On September 22nd, Ms. Jessica Williams, a Wolfeboro resident and business owner addressed the Police Commission in public session about events that occurred at the September 13th GWRSD meeting.

Ms. Williams read a prepared statement to the Commission and expressed her opinions on the school district mask policy and her assertions that the School Board has no legal authority to enforce the policy.

She also made some very serious accusations against Chief Dean Rondeau for actions taken by the he and other officers assigned to work a detail at the school board meeting.

Although Ms. Williams spoke with clarity and conviction, the Commission found her statement to contain misinformation, disinformation, and misrepresentation of fact.

However, due to the seriousness of the allegations made by Ms. Williams, the Police Commission opened an Internal Affairs investigation on Chief Dean Rondeau. This afternoon, we will release our findings in this matter.

First, I'll explain briefly explain our process.

All requisite documentation and videovthat was deemed pertinent to the investigation was gathered if it "was available" to be obtained. **Note:** I personally visited the office of Ms. Williams on September 23rd and advised her of the investigation and provided her with the necessary IA investigation forms to be completed detailing her allegations and as of today, nothing has been received. More will be detailed in the release of our findings.

All written and video documentation was copied and provided to each of the three Police Commissioners for their personal review prior to in-person non-public work sessions.

After reviewing all of the information gathered for review on our own time, the Commission met together on October 13th and October 20th in non-public session to discuss the investigation and its merits. The investigation was closed on October 30th and we will make the results of our investigation public as they are read into the minutes of this afternoon's meeting.

Please understand that as I read the summary of our findings, I will address myself in the 3rd person as it is how the summary reads, as it is a record of the investigation.

At this time, I will entertain a motion to accept and read into the record the document titled "Wolfeboro Police Commission Internal Affairs Investigation of Chief Rondeau" Dated September 23, 2021- October 20, 2021.



WOLFEBORO POLICE COMMISSION INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATION OF CHIEF RONDEAU

Conducted September 23, 2021 - October 20, 2021

**Wolfeboro Police Commission
Internal Affairs Investigation of Chief Dean J. Rondeau**

Dated: September 23, 2021 – October 20, 2021

Introduction:

On Wednesday, September 14, 2021, Police Commission Chairman Stephen Wood was advised by Chief Dean Rondeau that a Ms. Jessica Williams may wish to attend the upcoming September 22, 2021 Police Commission meeting and discuss the events that had transpired at the September 13, 2021 meeting of the GWRSD School Board. Chief Rondeau also advised Commissioner Wood that Ms. Williams had asked him to drop the charges levied against those who had been issued hand summons for their actions at the School Board meeting on September 13, 2021 and he had denied that request. On September 15, 2021, Commissioner Wood stopped by Ms. Williams's office to speak with her and meeting her for the very first time, he introduced himself and asked if she indeed wished to address the Commission at the September 22, 2021 meeting to which she replied in the affirmative.

Commissioner Wood then explained the two ways that one can address the Commission; during the "Public Input" segment or by requesting to be placed on the meeting agenda, the latter requiring the talking point(s) be submitted with the request. That way, the Commission can be prepared to answer any questions related to those points. During this interaction, Ms. Williams asked Commissioner Wood if the Commission could ask the Chief to "drop the charges" to which he replied, we cannot and will not do that as it is an active case.

At the Wolfeboro Police Commission regularly scheduled meeting held on September 22, 2021, Ms. Jessica Williams approached Chairman Steve Wood prior to the start of the meeting, who was seated at a table with Commissioners Robert O'Brien and Shawn Coope, and asked for a copy of the meeting agenda. She was provided with a copy and Chairman Wood at that time advised Ms. Williams that the Commission could not speak to two (2) of her four (4) listed talking points. The first being the GWRSD Mask Policy as the Commission has no standing on the policy, and the Charges/Arrest (her words) of members of the public at a public meeting. Ms. Williams replied that she did not want the Commission to speak, but only to listen. Chairman Wood then advised her that she would have five (5) minutes which she said it would not be enough. Chairman Wood asked how much

time she thought she would need and Ms. Williams asked for ten (10) minutes which she was granted. When it was time for Ms. Williams to speak, Chairman Wood cautioned her once she was at the microphone to be careful not to say anything self-incriminating due to an on-going investigation into the events of September 13, 2021. During Ms. Williams's statement to the Police Commission, she made several complaints against Chief Rondeau for actions that he took at the September 13th, 2021 School Board meeting.

Specifically, Chief Rondeau, who was assigned as a detail Officer at the School Board's meeting cited (Summons in Lieu of Arrest) five (5) persons who were not in compliance with the School Board's Policy or Rule of not wearing a "proper mask" as defined in the Governor Wentworth Region School District's (GWRSD) "Stay Open Plan." During that meeting, approximately 15-20 people were in attendance and refused to wear masks claiming that the School Board's Authority does not extend over them as members of the public attending a constitutionally protected activity such as a public school board meeting. Furthermore, they claim they are "members of the public" and not visitors to the School Board's meeting. The basis for this idea comes from RSA 189:15 which says:

"The school board may, unless otherwise provided by statute or state regulations, prescribe regulations for attendance upon, and for the management, classification and discipline of, the schools, and such regulations when recorded in the official records of the school board, shall be binding upon pupils and teachers."

Again, on September 22, 2021, Ms. Williams read from a prepared statement. In that prepared statement she made several troubling allegations against Chief Rondeau and asked the Commission to "remove him" presumably without "due process." under RSA 105-C:4 the chapter of the NH RSA's which allow Police Officers and Chiefs to be removed for "Just Cause" only. Because troubling allegations were made by Ms. Williams against the Chief, the Commission took this matter very seriously.

On September 23, 2021, Commission Chairman Stephen Wood met with Ms. Williams in her 29 Union Street office once again, advised her that the Police Commission would in fact be looking into her allegations against the Chief, handed her the Department's Internal Affairs Compliant forms, asked her to complete them, and list in writing the specific allegations and violations of law allegedly committed by the Chief Rondeau. This was

necessary so that the Commission could more fully review and thoroughly investigate her complaints against the Chief. Ms. Williams asked if others could complete the form as well to which Chairman Wood replied only she should complete the form but that she may attach statements from others along with anything she deemed pertinent to the investigation. Ms. Williams then asked if she could attach video and Chairman Wood replied that video would be acceptable. (To date, nothing has been returned to the Commission.)

The Allegations:

As near as the Commission can tell at this point, the following are the allegations and violations of law committed by the Chief based on Ms. Williams oral statement(s) to the Commission:

- a. Conspiracy (with the School Board and or the SAU 49 Superintendent) to violate Constitutional rights
- b. Abuse of Authority under Color of Law (Federal Law, Section 242, Title 18 United States Code.) A Civil Rights Violation
- c. Actions (Enforcement) were Unconstitutional

The Chief's Actions:

The School Board's meeting of September 13, 2021 was both recorded and televised. In summary, it shows approximately 15-20 people in the front of the Kingswood Art Center stage sitting in front of the School Board purposely not wearing masks or face coverings as defined in the "GWRSD's Stay Open Plan." The video shows a dialogue continuing with the Chairperson of the SAU 49 School Board, Mr. Jack Widmer, in conversation with members of the public telling them that masks are required, and that he was not going to call the meeting to order until they either went into room 113 where the District had set up "Reasonable Accommodations" where citizens could participate in the meeting while not wearing masks, leave the auditorium, or be found to be in Criminal Trespass.

In the video at approximately the twenty-minute (20) mark we see Chief Rondeau get up and address the Chair. At this point, the Chief asks the Chair if the attendees not wearing masks are in violation of the school board's rules and are now trespassing. The Chair responds in the affirmative to the Chief's question. Chief Rondeau makes a statement of this to the audience. The Chief makes one last attempt to inform the citizens of what is about to happen if they don't follow and

comply with the rule of the school board while attending their (the school board's) meeting. A few more minutes transpire and there is more open dialogue between the public and the school board chair. Shortly after that dialogue concludes, and to move the meeting along, Chief Rondeau and Officer Ben Church begin to issue Summonses in Lieu of Arrest. This action breaks the stalemate that had ensued and five citizens, including Ms. Williams, are cited for Criminal Trespass and Obstructing Government Operation. The meeting is delayed for approximately fifty (50) minutes from the time the unmasked individuals first entered the auditorium until the last summons is written and handed to Ms. Jessica Williams.

Actions of the Police Commission:

The Police Commission, in its "Civilian Review Board" capacity and acting as the "Supervisor" of the Chief of Police is duty bound; and as the ultimate hiring and firing authority of the Wolfeboro Police Department, was compelled to investigate these allegations-as it is our duty.

On September 23rd, as previously mentioned in this report, Chairmen Stephen Wood met with Ms. Williams and handed her various Wolfeboro Police Internal Affairs Complaint forms and asked that she fill these forms out. The purpose of this is to accurately address and detail her complaints and have them reduced to writing so that the Commission, as a group, can discuss and investigate each complaint, specified or implied. Incidentally, as of today's date, (October 27, 2021), no written or any other form of communication from Ms. Williams has been received.

Additionally, the Commission has reviewed the September 13, 2021 School Board meeting video, and the September 22, 2021 Police Commission video. We have reviewed the very detailed investigative reports submitted by Chief Dean Rondeau, Officers Jacob Boucher, and Ben Church regarding the "Summons in Lieu of Arrest" incident at the September 13, 2021 School Board meeting, and the subsequent five (5) summonses issued to the separate defendants.

The Commission also reviewed all the applicable laws, rules, and regulations of the GWRSD authorities made available to it; and the statutory authority granted to school boards (RSA 189) and school administrative districts (RSA 194.) The Police Commission also reviewed the Memorandum of Law (dated: September 22, 2021) outlined by Attorney Barbara Loughman, the SAU 49 School District

Attorney, as well as the August 17, 2021 Minutes of the SAU 49 School Board meeting where they adopted the GWRSD Stay Open Policy.

In terms of laws, we refreshed ourselves with the Criminal Trespass, Disorderly Conduct, and Obstruction of Government (Administration) Operations RSAs; specifically, RSAs 635:2, 644:2, and 642:1 along with RSA 189, RSA 194, various State Board of Education Rules and Regulations, RSA 281-A:64 Safety Provisions and Administrative Penalty (Workers Compensation Statute.) RSA 40, specifically RSAs 40:7 and 8. The Commission also reviewed Federal Code Section 242, Title 18 Deprivation of Rights Under Color of Law (Civil Rights violation), and RSA 105-C:4 Removal of Police Officers, and its legal standard “Just Cause.”

Analysis:

Ms. Williams opines in her statements, if we understand her correctly and we surmise that “the School Board (SAU 49 specifically) does not exercise any authority over her and other members of the public attending a school board meeting in a public venue because they are taking part in a Constitutionally Protected Activity.” This logic is based in part of her analysis of RSA 189:15 previously discussed. The Commission agrees with her in that RSA 189 does not fully address the School Board’s authority in this matter, however Ms. Williams totally ignores other RSA’s and State Board of Education Rules which do apply in this matter-specifically RSA 194-C:4 (j) specifically “...and dealing with citizens at large.” Also, RSA 281-A:64 Safety Provisions; Administrative Penalty applies too. State Board of Education and administrative rules also apply. The Commission finds Ms. Williams argument in this regard as “lacking” and a “fallacy of logic” in that only one RSA applies to school boards to the exclusion of all others; and that no other rules or administrative guidelines, policy, or procedures would apply in this matter, or to the public at large.

The Wolfeboro Police Commission in its research has learned that school boards in the State of New Hampshire are indeed “Rule Making” boards and can make and set policy for the governance of their respective meetings, and along with that authority, the governance of their faculty, staff, students, and the “citizens at large” (as defined in RSA 194-C:4) attending their functions and at public meetings in order to maintain order therein.

Whereas the Wolfeboro Police Commission encourages public discourse at public meetings, and it recognizes the public’s rights at public meetings, and the rights of citizens to redress their grievances in front of their elected officials, these rights are

not always absolute. For example, they must comply with the board's rules, even if they don't like or agree with them. The school board members are elected officials representing approximately 18,000 citizens within the district. No right exists to obstruct or delay a public meeting.

The Commission reviewed Ms. Williams verbal Civil Rights Complaint, specifically her allegation that the Chief violated section 242 Title 18 of United States Code. This is a serious allegation, and one of which is normally investigated by the FBI. The Commission disagrees with Ms. Williams. When reviewing the Chief's actions, we can find no evidence, Probable Cause, or even Preponderance of Evidence (Civil) that he violated any Federal or State Law in this regard. Rather, the Commission found his actions to be most conservative in that he issues or had caused to be issued five (5) summonses in Lieu of Arrest - an action very much like issuing a speeding ticket.

The Commission recognizes that though five citizens were issued notices to appear in court, no one was processed, handcuffed, pulled out of their seats or anything of the sort. In fact, at no time were any citizens threatened with "arrest", placed under "arrest", or read their Miranda Rights as required by law if arrested. No one was "deprived" of their "Constitutional rights". As Ms. Williams stated in her address to the Police Commission on September 22nd, "laws are made of words... words matter" and indeed they do. Moreover, the Commission noted that the Chief and Officer Church were calm and relaxed, and allowed people to wander about, leave the room before receiving a summons, and simply talk to each other. In fact, at no time does Chief Rondeau or Officer Church "detain" anyone by the most liberal of definitions. In fact, Chief Rondeau asks a question, "Who wants a summons?" like he is giving them away. Incidentally, we notice that Ms. Williams was the last to receive a summons from Officer Church, we can't help but think she had every opportunity to simply walk away or walk out of the room but stayed to receive a summons-almost like she invited it. This can be seen in the video.

Lastly, the Commission looked at the "Conspiracy" allegation. RSA 629: another very serious allegation.

The Commission holds the Chief accountable for the long-, medium-, and short-term planning for the Department. Additionally, the Commission expects that the Chief, through his Officers will "Keep the Peace" through the Laws of the State of New Hampshire and the United States.

More to the point, the Chief and his Captain had been aware of a brewing situation at the school board's meetings for the last year or more over their approaches to the COVID-19 viral threat that the board was enacting.

According to Chief Rondeau, he spoke with the SAU 49 Superintendent on a wide range of issues over the last year. In a discussion prior to the September 13, 2021 School Board meeting, the Chief argued for a separate area inside of the auditorium for the non-mask wearers, (he felt this was a better alternative than of room 113) but the SAU 49 Superintendent felt otherwise.

The Chief and Kathy-Cuddy Egbert, the SAU 49 Superintendent, spoke about the process of how the meeting should proceed given the likelihood of a large scale protest, and details about how to make room 113 "work" to satisfy the requirements for alternate accommodations so that no one's rights would be violated. At no time was there a discussion about deprivation of rights, constitutional abuse, or anything else which would rise to that level. The Chief and Mrs. Egbert both agreed that their Counsels (Attorney Loughman and Attorney Puffer) should get together to discuss the legal authorities and actions most prudent, and which can/should be taken by both the school board and the Police Department to maintain safety, and keep the peace, while providing for the most effective meeting process to allow the school board to get its public meeting work done in relative calm and in an orderly fashion given the threat of disruption.

Additionally, Chief Rondeau reached out to the Carroll County Attorney, Michaela Andruzzi, who opined that he had the authority to act and arrest for Criminal Trespass should it come down to that, and that the school board's authority was well established in this instance in terms of their ability to make and follow rules.

Acting under advice of counsel and within the spirit of counsel, who too argued that the Chief's ability to arrest was well founded in this event for Criminal Trespass, Obstructing Government Operation, and possibly Disorderly Conduct if the situation presented; all agreed that this should be a course of last resort. The Commission feels that the Chief, who is duly authorized to plan, and coordinate, did so accordingly. He had a plan of action which was staffed through not just appropriate legal counsels, but the SAU 49 Superintendent; and had consulted with the County Attorney (The lead Law Enforcement Officer in the County.) as well.

Our investigation in this matter finds no indication of Conspiracy in Chief Rondeau's actions at all. Acting under the advice of legal counsel and the County Attorney hardly qualifies as Conspiracy. Coordination with the SAU 49

Superintendent on meeting process and arranging for alternate accommodations for those not wanting to wear a mask hardly qualifies as a plot.

In terms of unconstitutional actions, the Police Commission can find no indication that the Chief violated either the NH Constitution or the U.S. Constitution.

Additionally, the Chief has acted justly and within reason dealing with a difficult situation. The Commission found additional guidance in RSA's 40:7 and 8.

Though we recognize these cases apply to town and board of selectmen meetings, their guidance is clear.

Finally, RSA 105 requires "Just Cause", a legal definition to remove an Officer from employment. Without such cause, the Wolfeboro Police Commission sees no reason to remove Chief Rondeau for any act that occurred at the School Board meeting, or which might fall under RSA 105-C:4. On the contrary, the Commission feels as though the school board was justified in its rule making, the rule seems reasonable given their State of NH mandates, and the COVID-19 (Delta Variant) pandemic. We find that the Chief was compelled to act in a manner which was fair to all to keep the Peace and to affect a smooth and orderly school board meeting and we certainly think he did that.

Conclusions:

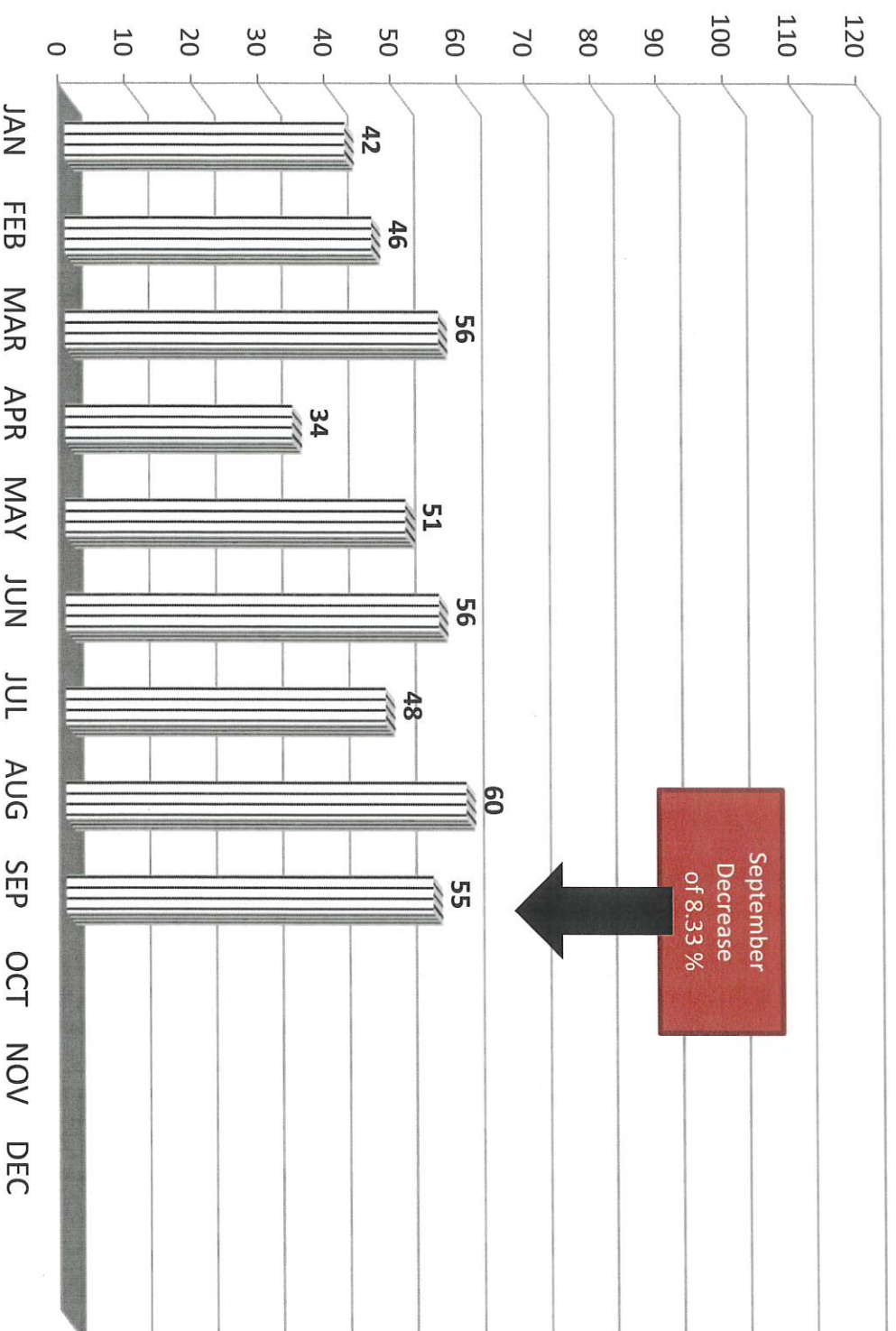
The allegations are completely unfounded, without merit, and baseless. The Commission can find no indications of wrongdoing or crimes committed by Chief Rondeau.

This internal Affairs investigation is closed UNFOUNDED in all aspects.

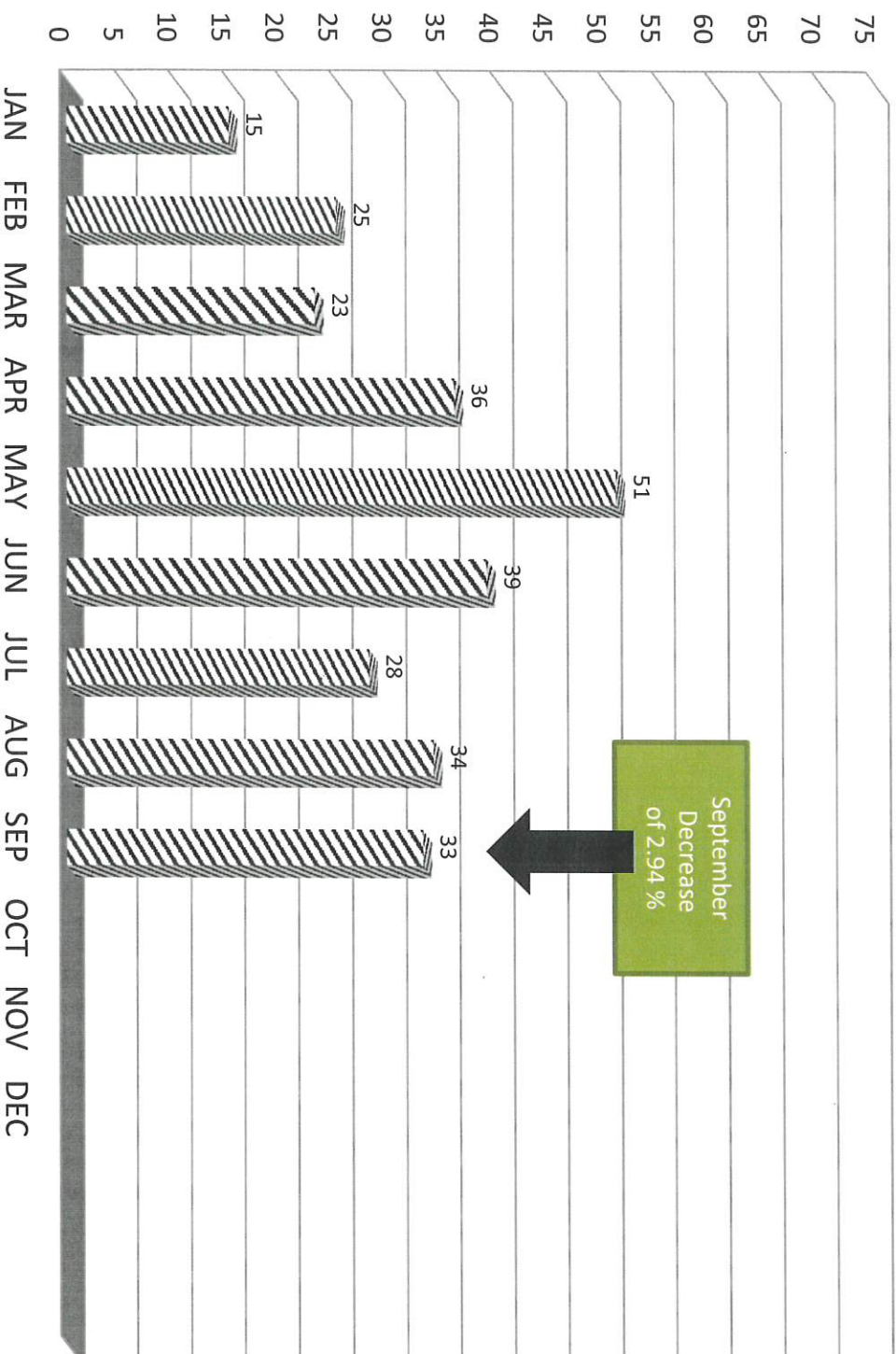
Respectively submitted:

Wolfeboro Police Commission

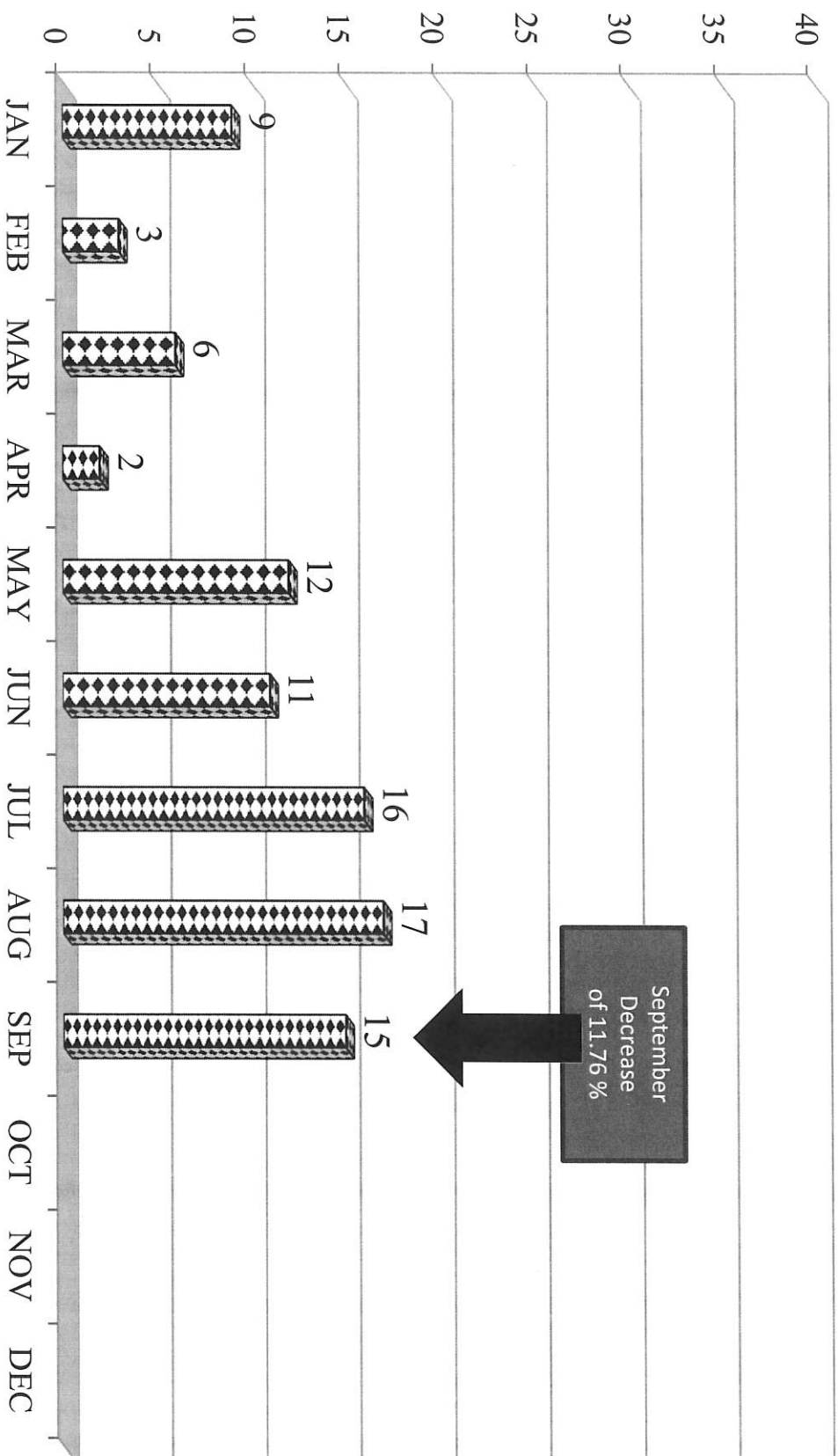
INCIDENTS (CASES) YTD 2021



ARRESTS YTD 2021



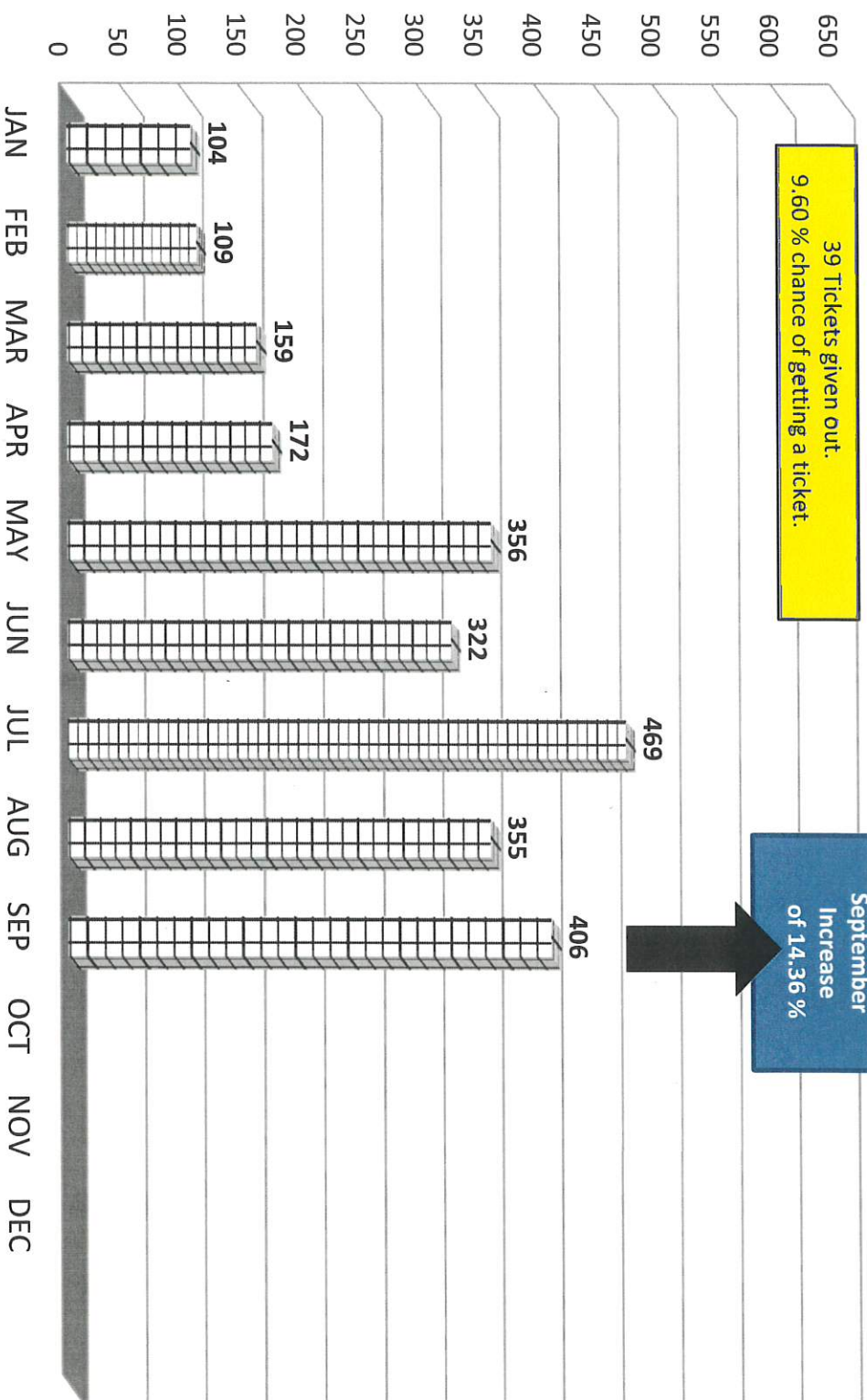
COLLISIONS YTD 2021



TRAFFIC STOPS YTD 2021

39 Tickets given out.
9.60 % chance of getting a ticket.

September
Increase
of 14.36 %



TO: Wolfeboro Police Commission

FROM: Dean J. Rondeau
Chief of Police

SUBJ: Chief's Items (Sept 2021) for 27 October 2021 Wolfeboro Police
Commission meeting

DATE: 05 October 2021

Non- Public: I have one item(s) for Non-public Session under litigation, and the Captain has two items for Non-public under personnel.

GENERAL BUDGET ITEMS:

There will be an end of Third QTR. Budget Presentation for the FY 21 Budget at the conclusion of the Chief's Items presentation.

Presently the PD continues to execute the FY 21 budget well and are still showing a slight under expenditure of approximately 2 percent-this fluctuates each week. This is normal. Throughout the course of a year, there are always minor cost savings that are realized throughout the season which contribute to these minor amounts of unexpended appropriations.

Additionally, we have started in earnest on the construction of the FY 22 budget. So far all is going well, and I am not expecting any major requests or requests for appropriations this year. As you know, we were instructed by the Town Manager to put in the \$17 K into the Operational Line pursuant to the vote from the floor at last year's Town Meeting-it is his understanding that the voters voted for this last year as it was discussed on the floor at Town meeting. Presently, the PD is up a modest 4.2 percent. That increase is due in large part to the Police Union Contract, State Retirement costs which increased approximately 7% percent, and other series 200 lines including health Insurance. Additionally, though we reduced our gasoline consumption by approximately 200 gallons or so of fuel due to our hybrid and Tesla vehicles, gas prices jumped from \$1.87, last year's cost, to \$2.55, this year's forecasted cost. This represents a \$0.67 cents adjustment on the approximately 9000 or so gallons of fuel we budget for each year. This despite the reduction in our fuel consumption due to our hybrid and electric vehicles. As we continue with our purchase of these types of vehicles in the future, we can expect this decrease in fuel consumption to continue as we refine our exact consumption rates. However, please understand, that even though we are reducing our fuel consumption, gas prices are increasing at alarming rates-out pacing any savings that we normally would show.

We have presented our FY 22 Budget to the BOS of the evening of 18 October. Next, we are scheduled for the Budget Committee date is TBD.

PERSONNEL:

It is nice being full strength again. The officers have been out and conducting their work. All is going well.

Operations (Criminal Investigations and Prosecutions):

In terms of Police investigations and Operations, the month of September was very busy. Among items of noticeable interest are:

The Department concluded its yearlong investigation into the five-car crash that occurred in Nov of 2020. We will be sending in our letters to DMV for further Administrative Action on the offending driver's license privileges.

The Department remains involved in the Felony Level Animal Cruelty Case which has been referred to the County Attorney's Office.

The Department Administration is preparing the Budgets and the FY 22 Grant Proposals.

Prosecutions:

The month of September too was very busy in terms of prosecutions. Thirty (30) defendants responded to Thirty-Five (35) charges. Of those Thirty (30) defendants 25 were found guilty by plea or trial, nine (09) were Placed on File (POF) pending good behavior, restitution and other classes or counseling as part of their agreement; and one case was dismissed (no trial) as the victim refused to show-up at trial.

The conviction rate is this past month is near one hundred percent (96.57%) with \$9406.00 dollars in fines, restitution, and penalties meted out by the Courts.

Safety and Security matters: We are still realizing a significant increase in traffic volumes because of a variety of reasons. We believe that the population of Wolfeboro has grown a bit beyond the 2020 census mostly due to folks escaping the major population centers to ride out COVID-19. I dare say these volumes are at or near all-time highs. I suspect the traffic to our Town will continue to be heavy all season-plan for this in advance and leave earlier for destinations-it is summer in Wolfeboro!

Lastly, during significant weather events if you don't have to go out-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, if possible, please be safe.

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-this can be seen in our monthly briefing slides. We will be conducting aggressive speed reduction patrols in all through Town-so please if you are in a habit of speeding-don't! Lastly, we continue to deploy assets and patrols to our identified problem areas-Safety First!

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.

Lastly, "speeding" represents a danger on Town roads. All our roads are posted accurately. Our speed limit signs, and radar warning devices are there to keep driver's safe. I said last month if I catch you speeding on our roads, or racing our radar warning signs, you will be issued several summonses and have your license to drive revoked-a license is a privilege-not a right. Please obey the posted speed limit signs-they are there for your safety, and that of the public.

Training:

Police:

Detective Emerson attended a two-day class on Criminal Investigations.

SGT Strauch attended K-9 Training.

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

Training note: **We do have on-line Training through Lexipol/Police One-it is available to all for training* Dispatch as well as Officers.

OUTREACH AND MATTERS OF INTEREST:

Both the Captain and I continue to meet with concerned citizens regarding a wide range of issues and community topics.

I am still conducting our talk radio show with Erick Scot of WASR. 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!

The Both the Captain and I spoke on Wolfeboro Community TV this past month.

Captain Livie continues to be part of the Master Planning process, the Technical Review and Joint Loss committee.

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: October is upon us. The temps will be dropping soon, and Fall is here! Please be mindful of the Children out and about trying to eke out the last vestiges of cool fall days before the winter winds and snow arrive. Lastly, remember that Columbus Day Weekend and Samhain (yes, I know calm down) Halloween, are on the way. And speaking of Halloween, I have set the dates for Trick or treating as 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. (1700-1900) hours everyone, or if you prefer, Samhain! If you stop by my house, I will have a few soul cakes left out! Happy Halloween.

WOLFEBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER DEVINE MONTHLY SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

The first month of school was extremely busy for SRO Devine. SRO Devine responded to several incidents in the High School and Middle School and wrote eighteen incident reports. SRO Devine participated in weekly meetings regarding the Kingswood Next Steps Team. The Next Steps Team is an intervention and support group for identified at risk students to increase overall positive behaviors and academic success.

SRO Devine had requested a truancy check from the Truancy Officer. SRO Devine had several DCYF notifications for the High School and Middle School regarding truancy, runaway, past tense assault and mental health evaluations.

SRO Devine assisted other agencies for investigations to include the NH Fish and Game for a past tense accident. The Tuftonboro Police Department for an investigation involving a student that took place out of school. A fight on a school bus was investigated with the assistance from the Ossipee Police Department.

Several students were found to be in possession of tobacco products. All were first offense offenders that the school had handled with discipline. SRO Devine took two reports of assault at the school that were unfounded. One subject was criminally trespassed from school.

The viral TikTok trend, "Devious Licks" had hit the High School and Middle School resulting in criminal mischief and theft. Several students were involved, and the incidents were handled with diversion through the White Mountain Restorative Justice.

SRO Devine took a report of a past tense motor vehicle accident involving a hit and run-on campus. The accident was caught on camera and all parties were identified.

Monthly Activity for September 2021

For the month of September 2021, Det. Emerson investigated two (2) new cases. The cases below represent all the incident and arrests for the month of September 2021.

The two (2) cases were investigated as Misdemeanor level offenses.

In addition to Detective Emerson's assigned case's, Detective Emerson also assisted the FBI with locating a female in Town. Detective Emerson also assisted Berwick ME Police Department with a domestic disturbance arrest they had which involved a male subject living in Wolfeboro.

Detective Emerson worked on arrest warrants for cases that he has been working on from the previous month.

Cases Assigned/Investigated

1 Criminal Trespass

1 Vandalism

Percentage of cases closed this month 67%

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

Percentage of entire case load closed 71%