

**Wolfeboro Police Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
December 16, 2021**

**Members present:** Chairman Steve Wood and Vice-Chair Bob O'Brien

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

Chairman Wood called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Wood entertained the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Consideration of Minutes**

Chairman Wood entertained a motion approve the November 17, 2021 public minutes.

**Commissioner O'Brien moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to approve the November 17, 2021, public minutes as written. Chairman Wood seconded. Roll call vote: Bob O'Brien – yes, and Steve Wood – yes, Members voted, the motion passed.**

**Other Business**

Chairman Wood introduced Ms. Claire Nash to the Police Commission and public members in attendance. Ms. Nash is a lifelong Wolfeboro resident, sharing she has lived here since 1924. Ms. Nash attended the Police Commission meeting to present afghans to the Police Chief Dean Rondeau and Fire Chief Tom Zotti. Ms. Nash decided this year she wanted to do something for the Police and Fire Department to show her appreciation and (at 97 years old) handmade an afghan for each Police Officer and Firefighter on the Departments.

**Activity Reports**

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

**Incidents:** He reported 43 incidents, a decrease from the previous month.

**Offenses by month:** He reported 88 offenses for the month.

**Arrest status report:** He reported a decrease from the previous month, a total of 23.

**Collisions YTD and Accidents by street name:** He reported 14 accidents occurred last month.

**Traffic stops YTD and location breakdown report:** He reported 257 traffic stops last month and 2 tickets were issued out of those stops. Resulting in an 0.77% 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 stated that he had two items for Non-Public under Personnel and Litigation.

Chief Rondeau read his report. Please see attached.

DISCUSSION:

None

### **Captain's Items**

None

### **Questions from the Press**

None

### **Commissioner's Items**

Next Police Commission Meeting will be January 20, 2022 at the Wolfeboro Public Library in the Bradley Room at 4:00 p.m.

Chairman Wood noted that the Town Manager is looking for a vote from the Police Commission to keep moving forward with the Warrant Article to place \$50,000 in the existing Dispatch Equipment Capital Reserve fund.

**Chairman Wood moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to approve the Warrant Article for the \$50,000 to be added to the existing Dispatch Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. Commissioner O'Brien seconded. Roll call vote: Bob O'Brien – yes, and Steve Wood – yes, Members voted, the motion passed.**

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

Luke Freudenberg commented on Mrs. Nash's donation to the Police and Fire Departments and said it is a testament to the Chief being out in the public. He went on to share that the process for the Selectmen on budgets went very smoothly. The Police Department did a great job. The Selectmen really like the new budget format.

Luke Freudenberg shared that the town is looking at the intersection of Route 28 and the Bridge Falls path for safety reasons. He asked the Chief if there is anything that the Police Department can do.

Chief Rondeau responded that he is working on getting additional grants from the State and the Chief will focus on that area and that he is tracking on that area.

Chairman Wood inquired if there is any discussion between the Town and State?

Luke Freudenberg stated that there is a \$70,000 item (the pedestrian cross walk lights) and looking down the road for grant money in 2022 and Federal money.

Chief Rondeau added that he knows there are some housing developments underway. When some of these projects are finished, we will see a significant increase in population density.

### **Budget Committee Representative**

Tom Bell shared that there is budget meeting with the Police Department this evening. Thinks that the Police non-discretionary is right where it needs to be. He also shared that the fuel costs are the real dark horse.

Chief Rondeau added that there will be a cost savings, but they will be gradual decreases because the Police Department is only replacing police cruisers with the hybrid models, one a year. Currently there is only one hybrid in the fleet and the department is waiting on the second hybrid. The department will continue to reduce fuel usage and expecting significant cost savings through the years.

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

**Commissioner O'Brien moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to enter into non-public session RSA 91 A: 3, a to discuss personnel and litigation at 4:46 PM. Chairman Wood seconded. Roll call vote: Bob O'Brien – yes and Steve Wood – yes, Members voted, the motion passed.**

The Commission re-entered public session at 5:00 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 O'Brien seconded. Roll call vote: Bob O'Brien – yes, and Steve Wood – yes, Members voted, the motion passed.**

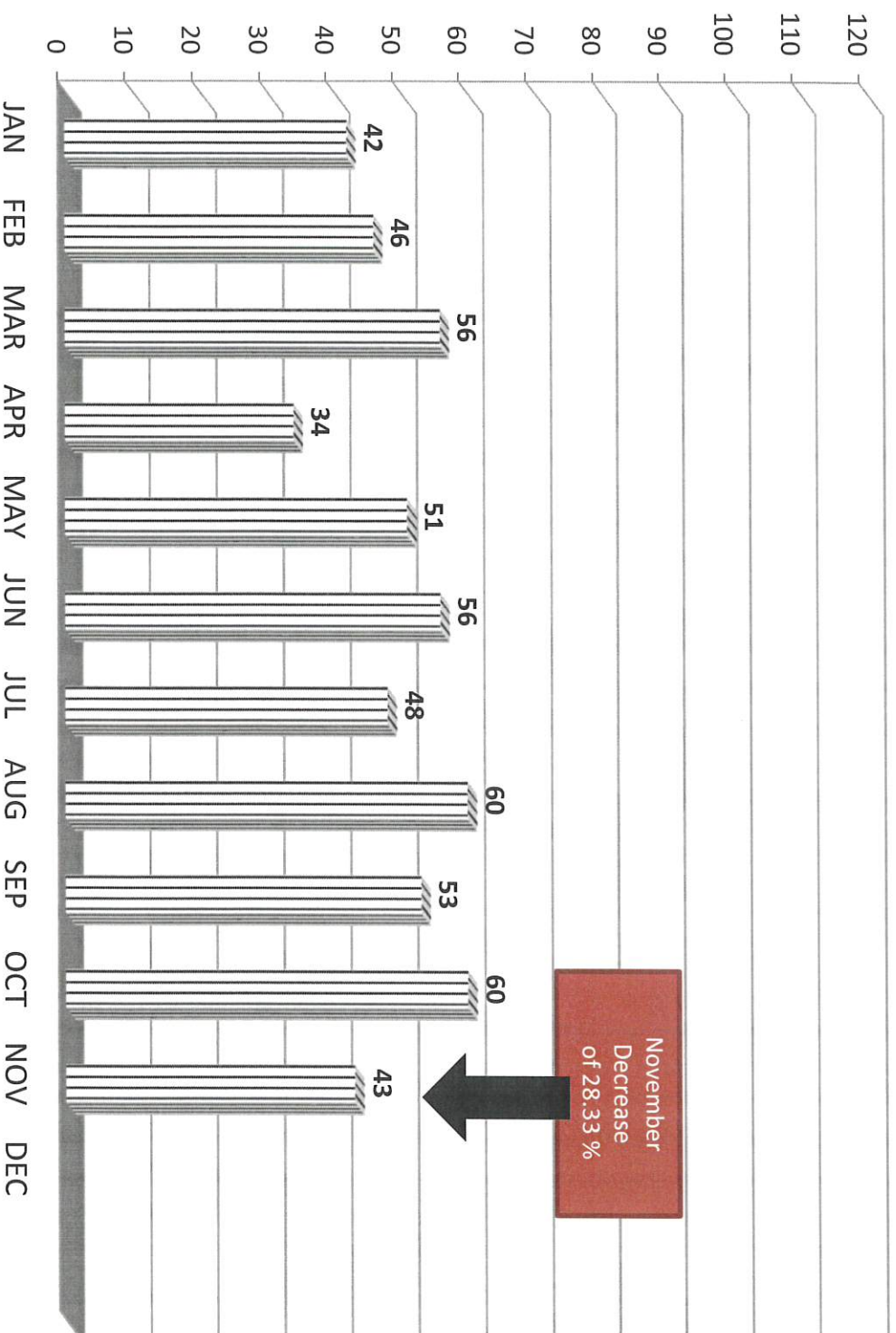
*Being no further business before the Commission, Chairman Wood entertained a motion to adjourn.*

**Commissioner O'Brien moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to adjourn at 5:41 PM. Chariman Wood seconded. Being none opposed, the motion passed.**

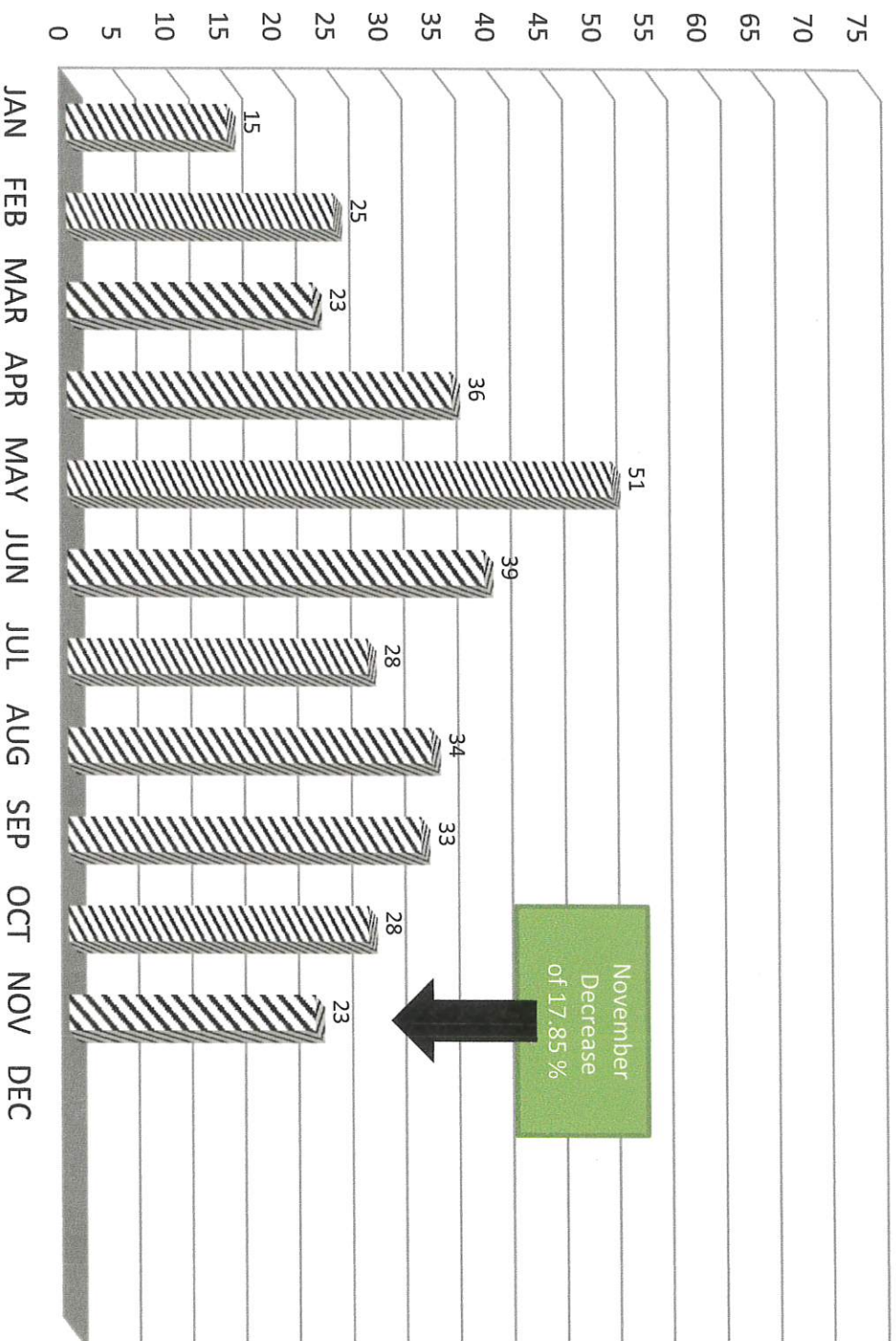
Respectfully submitted,

**Sherri Moore**

# INCIDENTS (CASES) YTD 2021

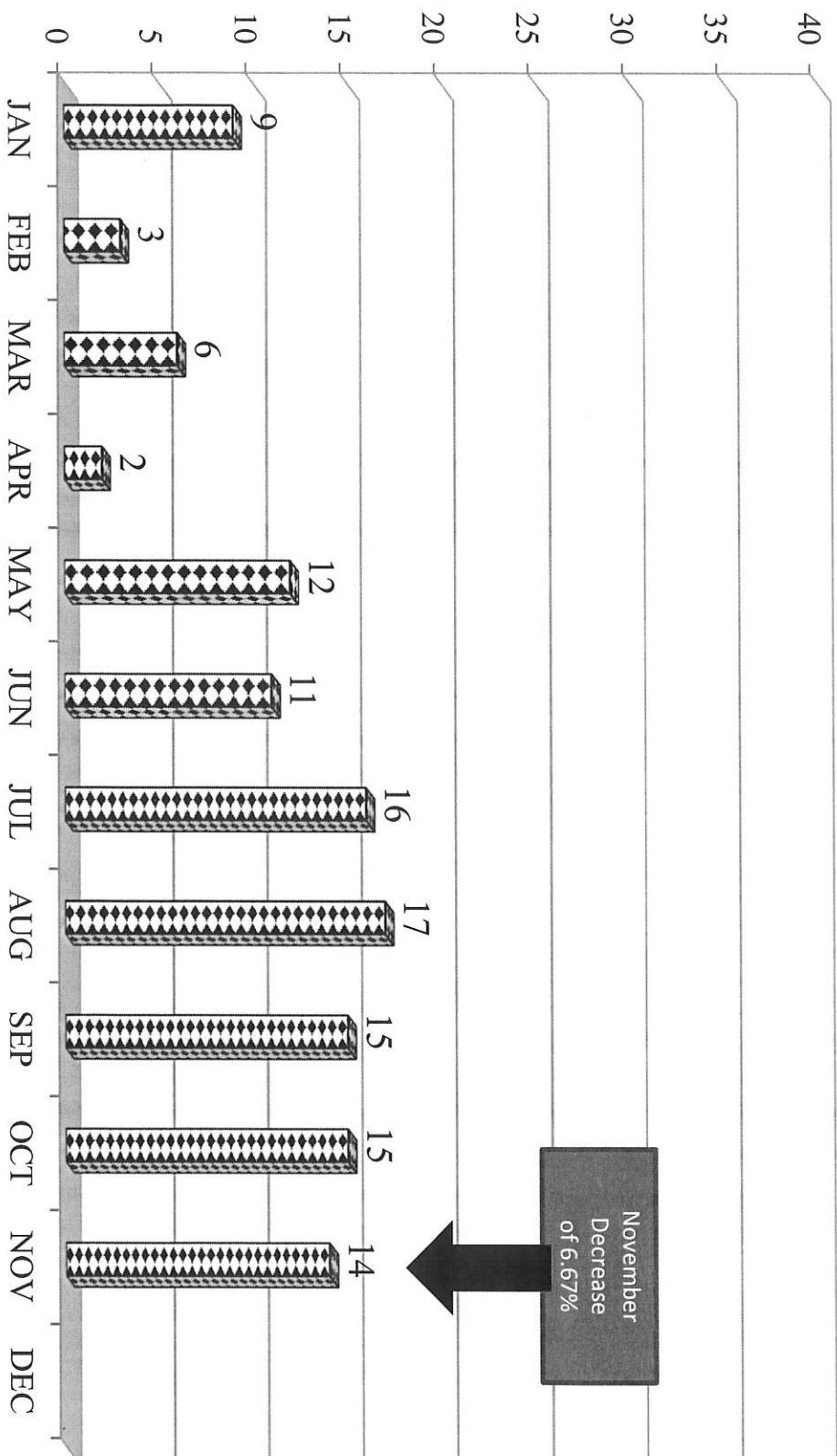


# ARRESTS YTD 2021

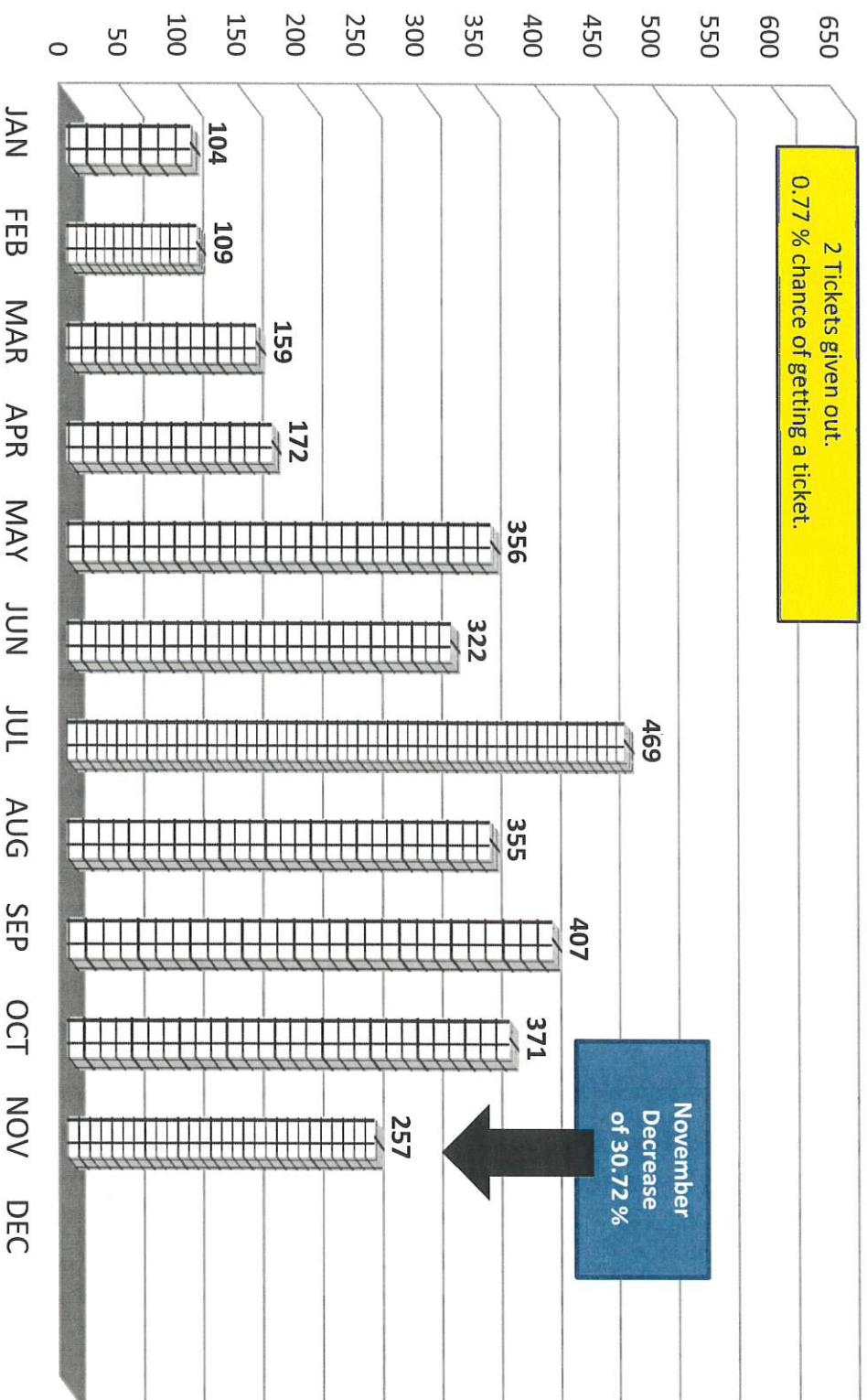




# COLLISIONS YTD 2021



# TRAFFIC STOPS YTD 2021



TO: Wolfeboro Police Commission

FROM: Dean J. Rondeau  
Chief of Police

SUBJ: Chief's Items (November 2021) for 16 December 2021 Wolfeboro Police  
Commission meeting

DATE: 08 December 2021

**Non- Public: I have two item(s) for Non-public Session under personnel and litigation.**

**GENERAL BUDGET ITEMS:**

There will be an end of Fourth QTR. Budget Presentation for the FY 21 Budget at the conclusion of the Chief's Items presentation in January 2022-this will close the books on the FY 21 Budget.

Presently the PD continues to execute the FY 21 budget well and we 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. As you know, we have the FY 22 Police Department presentation to the Budget Committee this evening following our Police Commission meeting.

As you know, we have all but completed our FY 22 budget. So far all is going well, and I am not expecting any major requestions or requests for appropriations this year, we present to the Budget Committee following this meeting.

As you all know, we were instructed by the Town Manger 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 Town's electorate voted for this last year as it was discussed on the floor at Town meeting.

Presently, our collective budgets are up a modest 5.1, 4.2 and 1.5 percent (Police, Dispatch, Animal Control Officer) respectively. That increase is due in large part to the Police Union Contract, State Retirement costs, which increased approximately 7% percent this coming year, and other series 200 lines including health Insurance-all of which we cannot and or do not control.

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 increase, 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.

Lastly, these increases also include the BOS increases to the Town's respective COLA's.

## **PERSONNEL: NSTR**

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

In terms of Police investigations and Operations, the month of November was reasonably busy for a Holiday month, and though our activity was down-it is still very active for this time of year.

#### **Prosecutions:**

The month of November was busy in terms of prosecutions. Twenty-Five (25) defendants responded to Twenty-Six (26) charges. Of those Twenty-Five (25) defendants, sixteen (16) were found guilty by plea or trial, eight (8) were Placed on File (POF) pending good behavior, restitution and other classes or counseling as part of their agreement; and one (1) defendant was found Not Guilty at trial and the case was dismissed.

The conviction rate is this past month is ninety-six percent (96%) with \$6488.00 dollars in fines, restitution, and penalties meted out by the Courts.

**Safety and Security matters:** November proved to be a busy moth for traffic. We are still realizing 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 long, so please plan for this in advance and leave earlier for destinations! Remember it is winter in Wolfeboro and the roads and will soon be covered by snow, slush, and ice, be mindful of how you are driving, and as always, please be safe.

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: Chief Rondeau and Ms. Sherri Moore attend NHGFOA (NH Government Finance Officers Association) class for our NH Government Finance and Accounting certificate program. We each have one class left-woohoo!**

SGT Strauch attended K-9 Training.

**DISPATCH:** Within the coming weeks, Dispatch, and Supervisor Mia Lyons will be in the process of "finalizing" and closing the records on our FY 21 logs and Calls for Service (CFS). This is an annual ministerial (housekeeping) event that we conduct at the end of each year. Specifically, the Department reviews, audits, and closes out all open calls for service, deletes any duplicate cases, and fixes administrative or clerical errors in our dispatch and run logs. As such it is an important time of year, because we use these finalized numbers in our annual reporting, and we use these numbers to measure activity.

**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:**

We are still engaged in a wide variety of TV, and talk shows along with Town of Wolfeboro committee programs.

**Safety Tip of the Month: December is upon us. The temps will be dropping soon, winter has arrived! On that note: Please be mindful of the Children out and about enjoying a snow day off from school, and or walking and playing by the sides of the road on their way to and from school. Lastly, keep in mind that holiday parties and festivities will be in high gear, and many folks will be out and about on our Town roadways-especially at night-so please, everyone, slow down and please be safe. Happy holidays to all, and to all a good night!**

### **Monthly Activity for November 2021**

For the month of November 2021, Det. Emerson investigated four (4) new cases. The cases below represent all the incident and arrest for the month of November 2021.

Detective Emerson is investigating an Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) case based on a tip he received from the ICAC headquarters. ICAC is a Joint and Combined Interagency law Enforcement task Force made up of Federal, State, County, and municipal laws Enforcement officers who aggressively seek out those exploiting our most vulnerable residents, our Children. ICAC relies heavily upon municipal Detectives to investigate tips and information relative to child exploitation and other child-based crimes.

Detective Emerson is a member of the New Hampshire ICAC team and he investigates these internet crimes when tasked with a case in our jurisdiction. These crimes are of the utmost importance and require a large amount of Detective Emerson's time. The New Hampshire ICAC team executes 1-2 search warrants and or arrest warrants a week in the State of New Hampshire. Additionally, New Hampshire ICAC cases and tips have increased approximately 30% this year alone. ICAC cases are a significant slice of what Detective Emerson does as part of his role at the Wolfeboro Police Department, and more importantly, keeping children safe from sexual predators is a very important part of this agency's commitment to the Town of Wolfeboro and our greater Wolfeboro Community.

Also, this month, Detective Emerson investigated a child abuse case that occurred approximately 5-7 years ago which was reported to have occurred in this Town, but during the investigation, it was learned that

the offense originated in another jurisdiction-the case was forwarded to that agency's Detective.

In another matter, Both Detective Emerson, and SGT Strauch executed a search warrant in the Town of Sandwich NH., for a case out of Wolfeboro. Multiple cell phones, a laptop computer, an Ipad and numerous thumb drives were seized.

Detective Emerson continues work with the County Attorney's Office as well as the New Hampshire State Police as he assisted both with a follow up on a Child Exploitation case.

In a solid commitment to our County Attorney's Office, Detective Emerson assisted the County Attorney with follow up on a case that is currently awaiting trial.

Lastly, to cap off an extremely busy month, Detective Emerson drafted and served subpoenas and search warrants. Detective Emerson conducted surveillance on a suspect, drafted and served subpoenas and search warrants, processed evidence in our evidence room; took multiple items of evidence to the New Hampshire State Lab for testing, assisted Patrol Officers with a Domestic Disturbance call, worked on cases from the previous month, and provided back-up to Officers out with a motor vehicle stop that resulted in a DWI arrest on Hopewell Point Road.

### **Cases Assigned/Investigated**

1 Fraud

1 ICAC

1 Child Abuse

1 Assault



Percentage of cases closed this month 69%

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

Percentage of entire case load closed 71%

# **WOLFEBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER DEVINE MONTHLY SUMMARY FOR NOVEMBER 2021**

November was the third month of school for SRO Devine with only sixteen full days of school. SRO Devine responded to several incidents in both the High and Middle Schools, completing seven (7) incident reports in the process.

SRO Devine also participated in meetings regarding the Kingswood Next Steps Team. The Next Steps Team is an intervention and support group for identified at risk students to help improve overall positive behaviors, academic success, and achieve better school and societal based outcomes.

As part of her duties, SRO Devine wrote a CHINS (Child in Need of Supervision) petition for truancy.

SRO Devine took a report of an assault, which, during the investigation was learned, did not occur on campus.

During this past month, several students were found to be in possession of tobacco products. All were first offenders that were ultimately referred to school authorities for school-based discipline.

During November, one (1) student was found to be under the influence of THC and had received school discipline. Another student was found to be in possession of THC and is currently going through the diversion program with White Mountain Restorative Justice program.

SRO Devine also took a report of a motor vehicle crash on campus during school dismissal.

Of significant note, graffiti was found on the Kingswood Campus and is being investigated. This is particularly troublesome because graffiti defaces public property and is expensive and difficult to clean up.

SRO Devine assisted another WPD Officer in a Criminal Threatening case by interviewing students who were involved as witnesses.

SRO Devine assisted the Middle School with delivering Thanksgiving Baskets to those in need within the SAU 49 district.