

# **Wolfeboro Police Commission Meeting Minutes February 21, 2013**

**Members present:** Chairman Ron Goodgame and Vice-Chairman Bob Copeland

**Staff present:** Chief Stu Chase, Sgt. Keaton and Recording Secretary Amelia Capone-Muccio.

Chairman Goodgame called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM and introduced the Commissioner's, staff, and public in attendance. He noted a quorum was present.

➤ ***Pledge of Allegiance***

## **Consideration of Minutes**

- ***Public minutes of January 17, 2013***

**Commissioner Bob Copeland moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to accept the public minutes of January 17, 2013 as submitted. Commissioner Ron Goodgame seconded. Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.**

## **Activity Reports**

Chief Chase reviewed the following activity reports for the month:

**Offenses (State Law) by month:** He reported 109 offenses for the month, a 65% increase from the previous month.

**Arrest status report:** He reported 27 arrests last month, a 42% increase from the previous month.

**Personnel Analysis report:** He stated the report is provided showing a synopsis of each officer's reporting for the month.

**Accidents by street name:** He reported 15 accidents last month, a 36% increase from the previous month.

**Citation analysis report:** He provided the monthly report and noted 57 violations on Center Street, with a total of 169 violations and of those only 9 were monetary fines.

**Prosecutor's report:** He reported 35 defendants who answered to 45 offenses, 19 pleas, 12 arraignments, 4 trials and 7 pre-trial conferences.

**School Resource Officer (SRO):** He reported a high volume of activity at the High School and Middle School.

**Detective's Report:** 16 cases carried over from the previous month, assigned 9 new cases, 3 closed by arrest, 5 closed by other means leaving 17 pending cases.

## **Chief's Items**

Chief Chase reported the following items:

- Lt. Rondeau continues training at the FBI Academy.
- Part-time dispatcher Jim Savage has completed "SPOTS" (State Police on-line Telecommunications) training and is now working on his own. Supervisor Lyons has selected a person to fill the remaining, vacant part-time slot.
- Dispatchers Arty Alderette, Supervisor Mia Lyons, and Will Riley were commended for outstanding work on high-risk calls in January.
- The officers responded to three firearms-related calls in January, a domestic with a loaded handgun on Brown's Ridge Road, later the same day (which ultimately resulted in a suicide where the victim took his own life) a hit & run motor vehicle accident and one week later three Wolfeboro officers responded to a mutual aid call in Middleton where a suspect barricaded himself in a home with an AK 47.
- He placed job-opportunity notices with the Great Bay Community College Testing Alliance and Police Standards & Training in Concord, seeking candidates for our part-time position in the Downtown area this summer. He has already interviewed a full-time, certified officer from a nearby agency who has an interest in this job.
- Officer Strauch has completed the program qualifying him as a Field Training Officer.
- Personnel will attend Active Shooter training during school vacation at our High School and this will be an eight-hour, hands-on session, and using simmunitions.
- Officer Llewellyn will be at the SigSauer Academy in the near future for special instruction on the mechanics and functioning of the patrol rifle and other firearms.
- Detective Maloney and Officer Livie will be attending Supervisor training at the Academy in Concord for two weeks in March.
- Officers were re-certified in use of the Taser in January, with a special thanks to Superintendent Johnson at the House of Correction for supplying an instructor and the use of his facility.
- We will be working out the details to send officers to Primex in Concord for training on their simulator on risks facing officers every day during patrol activities in normal driving, emergency response or while engaged in pursuits.
- As the result of complaints received that children being dropped off at Carpenter School are not properly secured in booster seats, they conducted a compliance check last week at the drop-off area behind Town Hall. He reported out of 21 vehicles checked, 7 were not in compliance with State law. Violators were given a copy of the RSA and advised that a child under 55" tall must be secured in a booster seat and anyone under 18 has to wear a seat belt.
- Applications for pistol/revolver licenses are being processed at record levels and he reported they have processed 48 in January.
- He stated they get numerous calls from residents on the disposal of outdated/unwanted pharmaceuticals. He reminded the public that our collection days are coordinated with the Drug Enforcement Administration and usually done quarterly with our next date occurring on April 27, 2013. We will have the appropriate publicity soon.
- The budget process for 2013 is nearing completion and he attended the budget committee's public hearings on January 8<sup>th</sup>.
- He attended the oath of office ceremony for Sheriff Richardi at the Carroll County Superior Court on January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

- He met with the Director of Police Standards & Training recently to discuss matters of mutual interest.
- Wolfeboro hosted the Carroll County Chief's Association meeting last week with Senator Jeb Bradley present as an invited guest.
- The Town election is Tuesday, March 12, 2013, with polls open from 0800-1900 hours in the Undercroft of All Saints Church. As is customary, the Department will provide security at the polling place.

### **Commission Items**

#### ➤ ***Request by Robert Hanson to address the Commission***

Robert Hanson joined the Commission for discussion and started by stating he had previously met with the Chief and the Town Manager and he is unhappy with a discussion he had with the Chief regarding the matter. He addressed an altercation he was in on September 17, 2012 in the area of the Railroad Station and that Dispatch seemed to have trouble figuring out where the incident was taking place from the person who dialed 911, but ultimately and Officer along with Sgt. Keaton arrived on the scene after he had been allegedly beaten up badly by someone who was going the wrong way down the one-way street.

Chairman Goodgame questioned the actions of the Police to the knowledge of Mr. Hanson.

Mr. Hanson replied they did nothing; "they are like McDonald's workers".

Chairman Goodgame questioned if he asked the Officers to do anything to the man that assaulted him.

Mr. Hanson replied no, "he was too beaten up".

Chairman Goodgame stated he does not understand his complaint.

Mr. Hanson replied that the Police arrived with no medical personal and he has a disability and according to his Doctor is a "walking time-bomb" and he thinks the Wolfeboro Police should have addressed his disability issues.

Chairman Goodgame questioned how he got from the scene to the hospital.

Mr. Hanson replied he did not go to the hospital, all he wanted to do was go home, he is like a football player and went home and went to bed. He stated 3 days later he was not doing well so he then went to the hospital. He spent 3 days at Huggins Hospital and has been in and out ever since, this is the first time in weeks he has felt good enough to come to the Commissioners.

Chairman Goodgame questioned if his complaint to them is the procedure for medical personnel for an altercation.

Mr. Hanson replied "that's it" the Police are not trained to handle such and that the EMT's should respond.

Chairman Goodgame questioned if he told everyone to leave him alone and that he declined medical attention and wanted to go home, but his point is if the EMT's came, he would have gone to the hospital? Is the issue he wants to be sure medical personnel is on the scene?

Mr. Hanson replied "yes".

Chairman Goodgame questioned if he recalls the dialogue he had with Sgt. Keaton that day.

Mr. Hanson replied "no".

Chairman Goodgame questioned if he recalled the dialogue with the other Officer that responded.

Mr. Hanson replied "yes", he asked him for his driver's license and the Police report says he spoke to the man that he had the altercation with.

Chairman Goodgame stated he believes the complaint should be with the Rescue Department, not the Police Department.

Mr. Hanson replied he has a complaint with the report and why they didn't do anything to the man who beat him up.

Chairman Goodgame questioned if he has two complaints, one is the medical response and the other is?

Mr. Hanson replied his question is in regards to a statement made by the 911 caller and that he questioned why they didn't do anything to the man who hit him.

Chairman Goodgame stated that the 911 caller is not here making such complaint and Mr. Hanson did not press charges.

Commissioner Copeland noted that he was offered the opportunity to make a charge.

Mr. Hanson replied that he was handed a form and as a citizen he resents that and that no one knew what was going on from a medical standpoint.

Chairman Goodgame stated that he is trying to get to the truth of the matter. He understands his first issue, but needs clarity on the second.

Mr. Hanson replied if he gave him his e-mail he could forward him what the 911 caller said to him.

Chairman Goodgame questioned if the second issue is why nothing was done regarding the assault.

Mr. Hanson replied not necessarily.

Chairman Goodgame questioned if they could eliminate that.

Mr. Hanson replied "yes".

Chairman Goodgame clarified that Mr. Hanson's issue is with the lack of medical response.

Mr. Hanson replied "yes that is the issue".

Commissioner Copeland questioned what he would like the Commissioners to do.

Mr. Hanson replied "you have done more than expected".

Chairman Goodgame questioned if they could ask the Chief or Sgt. Keaton what the records indicate and if it is standard for EMT response to a situation like what allegedly happened in this instance.

Mr. Hanson replied he would think it is.

Chairman Goodgame questioned if it is possible the Officers did not call medical personnel because Mr. Hanson said he wanted to go home and that it seems there might have been a miscommunication.

Mr. Hanson replied "no, if you listen to the tape it is obvious someone was being beaten up".

Chief Chase clarified that EMS response is governed by the State of NH and the call came in that day as a 911 assault. The protocol is the first responder is the Police Department and EMS personnel stage nearby until the Police Department clears them to the scene. He stated the first officer to respond that day was Officer Emerson who responded in less than a minute from when the call came in and the observations made by the Officer was that Mr. Hanson was coherent and declined medical attention.

Chairman Goodgame questioned if Mr. Hanson understands the Chief's explanation of the State Standards for assault vs. a dispatch to an accident scene.

Mr. Hanson replied he understands what the Chief is saying, but he filed the complaint and then Mr. Hanson went on to discuss his complaints he filed on ADA issues in Washington and that this is why he feels changes needed to be made. He compared the situation to a football game and how medical personal responds to an injured player and those standards should be applied to the Police Department when an individual is hurt.

Chairman Goodgame stated he does not know how to solve this issue as he does not see this as the Police Department's responsibility to override an individual who appears coherent and denies medical treatment.

Mr. Hanson stated this would be a different situation if he was inebriated or something, but he feels because of his disabilities, the Police should have done something. He went on to say that this is why he filed his complaints about the Town of Wolfeboro in Washington, D.C. and he has been working on this for 20 years. He stated his Doctors advised him he should refrain from getting stressed.

Commissioner Copeland replied they have heard what he has to say and understand his concerns, but will take this as informational as it doesn't seem he is asking them to do anything but just to understand his concerns.

Mr. Hanson went on to a discussion in regards where he met with Henry Maxfield, but again reiterated his point is that the Police should have acted differently by calling for EMT despite his expressed desire not to have medical help, refusing medical help and "just wanted to go home" and thanked them for the Commissioners for their time.

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

Ms. Silk stated the following:

- In addition to the DEA Drug Take Back program, The Household Hazardous Product Facility will start their regular collections in May on the third Saturday running to October with medicine collections in Wolfeboro in June and August.
- She noted information about the National Traffic incident responder training that emergency personnel staff can attend which essentially provides training on how to keep from getting hit by oncoming vehicles in emergency situations.

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

**Commissioner Bob Copeland moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to adjourn at 5:15 PM. Commissioner Ron Goodgame seconded. Being none opposed, the motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,  
**Amelia Capone-Muccio**  
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