

Wolfeboro Police Commission Meeting Minutes January 16, 2014

Members present: Chairman Ron Goodgame, Vice-Chairman Bob Copeland and Joe Balboni Jr.
(via telephone)

Staff present: Chief Stu Chase, Lt. Dean Rondeau and Recording Secretary Amelia Capone-Muccio.

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

➤ ***Pledge of Allegiance***

Consideration of Minutes

- ***Public minutes of December 19, 2013***

Commissioner Bob Copeland moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to accept the public minutes of December 19, 2013 as submitted. Commissioner Joe Balboni Jr. 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 60 offenses for the month of December, a 20% increase from the previous month. He noted the total offenses for 2013 was 909.

Arrest status report: He reported 16 arrests last month, a 20% decrease from the previous month. He noted a 5% decrease from the previous year with a total of 324 arrests.

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 stated there were 13 accidents last month and 165 total for the year.

Citation analysis report: He provided the monthly report that notes 170 stops made last month. He noted that 90% of the stops are educational

Prosecutor's report: He reported 17 defendants answering to 20 offenses, with 10 arraignments, 2 hearings, 3 pleas, 5 pretrial conferences and \$4, 842 in fines to the State.

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

Chief's Items

Chief Chase reported the following items:

- He reported the Wolfeboro Police Children's Christmas Fund serviced a record number of forty six families this year. He praised Dispatch Supervisor, Mia Lyons, for her efforts in leading this task and thanked the citizens who fund this charitable endeavor.
- A letter of thanks was received from a Wolfeboro resident for service rendered during a recent medical episode at his home.
- He read an e-mail from a resident commending the department on being a professional and quality police department.
- Our Division Sergeants are working on specific projects in addition to their regular duties as follows: Sgt. Scott Moore (Operations) updating the Department Manual, Sgt. Randy Archambault (Administration) is preparing for a public auction of surrendered and/or adjudicated firearms. There will be considerable publicity prior to the event and proceeds, by statute, will go to the Town's general fund and Sgt. Chris Keaton (Services) is in charge of disposing of records that are no longer needed in compliance with the State's retention laws.
- Lt. Rondeau and on-duty personnel assisted with the First Night activities and procession through the Downtown area and providing a presence during the fireworks.
- He attended several meetings in December including the Board of Selectmen, Chamber of Commerce, Budget Committee, Police Commission and the Town Manager's Department head meeting.
- He reported that donations for a new K9 continue to come in to the Relief Association with about \$7,000.00 as of this date all from the generosity of our residents. He noted the existing K9 car is still capable of reliable service with some minor repairs, which is good news because it would be \$30,000.00 to purchase and outfit a new vehicle. He stated the department continues to research and consider what "type" of K9 we would like, a patrol dog (German shepherd) with several certifications or would a tracking/search dog (Lab-type) suit their needs.
- He read the 2013 Annual Reports.

DISCUSSION:

Chairman Goodgame stated they should have a discussion on what type of dog they should get. He stated a Labrador may be better suited for Wolfeboro as they are good tracking dogs but seem less ferocious than a German shepherd.

Commissioner Balboni stated he needs more background information on the dogs before a decision can be made.

Commissioner Copeland stated he prefers the Shepherd, but agrees a Labrador is a good dog and seems less scary.

Sgt. Moore stated with regards to training, any dog can be trained to do what they need, but the purpose of the dog needs to be determined such as are they looking for a friendly dog or a scary dog.

Commissioner Balboni suggested they form a K9 Committee to determine the purpose of the dog.

The Commission appointed the following to a Committee to review the purpose of the K9 for Wolfeboro: Commissioner Balboni, Chief Chase, Sgt. Moore, and Board of Selectmen member Sarah Silk.

Commission Items

➤ *Memos of Understanding (MOU's) update status*

Commissioner Copeland stated that he will work with the Chief and the Lieutenant to make the updates to both MOU's.

Chairman Goodgame questioned if he will need assistance from Town Labor Council.

Commissioner Copeland replied not at this time.

➤ *Everbridge/NIXEL*

Chairman Goodgame stated he read an article in the Union Leader dated 12/29/13 where the Tilton Police Department was able to apprehend a suspect in a burglary by using an alert system called Everbridge. He stated that Wolfeboro Police Department used something similar several years ago called NIXEL and wondered if this is something the town should consider using and if a presentation on the system could be done for the Board of Selectmen.

Lieutenant Rondeau provided a brief overview of what Everbridge is summarizing it as a push notification system with data that has been "opted in" and can be received via text message or e-mail. He stated the NIXEL system used in the past is similar but not as advanced as the Everbridge system. He stated that the Everbridge system is \$4,000 for a year but noted it can be used beyond the Police Department, as all the town departments and the school could use it.

Elissa Paquette of the Granite State News questioned the cost and if the town still uses NIXEL.

Chief Chase replied no, it was a free system.

➤ *Person of Interest*

Chief Chase reminded the public they are still looking for a person of interest from an assault case that took place on October 20th 2013 and he referred to the artist sketch of this person.

Board of Selectmen's Representative

Ms. Silk stated she has been in touch with Lieutenant Rondeau to schedule the officers who assist in the medicine collections at LRHHPF and reminded the public they hold two events in Wolfeboro and one in Alton. She stated this program continues to be a success keeping unwanted or expired medicine from getting into the wrong hands.

Public

Chairman Goodgame stated the Commission has agreed to allow Ms. Amatuucci a few minutes if she would like to ask them some questions.

Josephine Amatuucci stated that she is demanding the Chief to do a criminal investigation on James O'Brien for impersonating a Police Officer in her home invasion.

Commissioner Copeland stated that this is not town business.

Ms. Amatuucci interrupted Mr. Copeland and demanded an investigation.

Chairman Goodgame questioned when this alleged event took place.

Ms. Amatuucci replied in 2003, but she just found out that James O'Brien was not employed by the town that day.

Chief Chase replied that this question has been asked and answered numerous times.

Ms. Amatuucci interrupted the Chief and continued to demand an investigation.

Sgt. Moore suggested to Ms. Amatuucci if she feels she is not seeking justice with the department that she contact another agency to investigate the matter.

Elissa Paquette of the Granite State News requested to allow the Chief to provide a response.

Chief Chase stated that this matter has been investigated by the Attorney General's Office and he is sorry that Ms. Amatuucci feels this way, but her allegations are wrong. He noted that she has filed several lawsuits against the town on this matter and has not prevailed in any of them.

Commissioner Ron Goodgame moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to move to non-public session under RSA 91-A II to discuss personnel at 5:16 PM. Bob Copeland seconded. Roll call vote, Ron Goodgame-yes, Bob Copeland-yes, Joe Balboni Jr.-yes, being none opposed, the motion passed.

The Commission re-entered public session at 5:16 PM.

Chairman Goodgame announced that the Commission sealed non-public session minutes of the January 16, 2014, by a 2/3rd vote as required by law.

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 5:17 PM. Commissioner Ron Goodgame seconded. Being none opposed, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Amelia Capone-Muccio
Amelia Capone-Muccio