

# **Wolfeboro Police Commission Meeting Minutes August 21, 2014**

**Members present:** Chairman Joe Balboni Jr., Ron Goodgame and Steve Wood.

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

Chairman Balboni 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***

Chairman Balboni entertained the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Consideration of Minutes**

- ***Public minutes of July 17, 2014***

**Commissioner Ron Goodgame moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to accept the public minutes of July 17, 2014 as submitted. Commissioner Steve Wood 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 115 offenses for the month, a 10% increase from last month.

**Arrest status report:** He reported 164 arrests year to date. He reported a 58% increase in arrests from last month.

**Personnel Analysis report:** The report is a synopsis of each officer's reporting for the month.

**Accidents by street name:** He reported 19 accidents for last month and a 46% increase from the previous year.

**Prosecutor's report:** He reported 20 defendants answering to 16 offenses, with 4 arraignments, 2 pleas, and 4 pretrial conferences. \$ 1,139.00 was received in fines, fees or other assessments.

**School Resource Officer (SRO):** n/a.

**Citation Report:** He reported 39% increase in citations issued last month with a majority of those on Center Street, North and South Main Streets. He noted they have been policing a common area for complaints on Beach Pond Road.

**Central Dispatch report:** He reported and 8% increase in calls to Central Dispatch last month.

**Detective's report:** He reported that the Detective has 15 pending cases going into the new month. He close 7 by arrest last month and 4 by other means.

### **Chief's Items**

Chief Chase reported the following items:

- Jim Savage is now a full-time employee at Central Dispatch and Garrett Anthony is a permanent part-time employee. There is one part-time opening in this Department.
- One patrol officer who incurred an off-duty injury has returned to regular assignment.
- Officers Swift (f/k/a Devine) and Bois will be finishing up their summer assignments at the end of August. He stated their presence and professionalism has been well received to this duty and stated he will be seeking to add more hours to this patrol function next year.
- He announced as part of the first step in re-structuring the Police Department, he would like Lieutenant Rondeau to receive oath of office in September (date to be announced) in the position of Police Captain. He reviewed the chart provided showing the re-structuring of the Department and noted the contract negotiations are ongoing which will further the determine of outcome of the restructuring of the Department.
- The 2015 Budget season is approaching and budgets are due to the Town Manager by September 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- As previously discussed at a past meeting, the abandoned vehicle has been awarded to the Department. It has been inspected by the Town Mechanic who determines it to be road-worthy and suitable to use for service. The vehicle will help reduce fuel costs for training and administrative matters and will be useful for surveillance and other investigative matters.
- He noted some inquiry has been made on the Department's fleet and he explained as follows: The Chief, Lieutenant and the Detective drive high-mileage, older vehicles. The Sergeants share a 2013 Ford Pursuit. Two additional 2013 Ford Pursuits and two Crown Victoria's are assigned by shift to officers leaving one designated as a spare or back-up (total of eight). He explained this allows the Department to retain vehicles for 8 to 9 years rather than replace vehicles every eighteen months by running them 24/7.
- Sergeant Keaton has completed the culling of the old records, reorganized and retained files in accordance with the State's retention laws. Great job by Officer Keaton on freeing up much needed space in the storage container.
- The Department in coordination with the State Liquor Enforcement Agency conducted compliance checks at about thirty licensed establishments in July. The establishments were notified in advance of the actual event, but two restaurants served to under-age customers and will face "Prohibited Sales" charges along with any other administrative sanctions the Liquor Commission may charge.
- He stated they are seeing an unusually large increase in calls for service involving mentally ill people. It is frustrating to deal with what he calls a "broken system" shared by the patient, family, loved ones, the hospital and the Police Department. He noted it is an election year and political hopefuls are making the rounds. He publicly calls upon those seeking office to address these issues and see that our State Hospital and related services are properly staffed.
- The Wolfeboro Police Benevolent Association will host its second annual Family Fun Day at Foss Field on Saturday, August 23, 2014 from noon to 2:00 PM. This is a free public event and kids of all ages are invited.

- The Department has learned they will be eligible for participation in the bullet proof vest reimbursement program through a Federal Grant. This grant is a 50% reimbursement on the purchase of body armor. He plans to replace two sets in the 2015 budget.
- Officer Cooper attended a one-day session on IED search and awareness procedures for School Resource Officers.
- He stated he attended a meeting with Primex and the Town Department heads discussing upcoming training on dealing with difficult customers.
- He publicly thanked Lt. Rondeau on being proactive in the K2 Spice Ordinance a few years ago in light of what is going on in surrounding communities.
- He read a letter of gratitude for Animal Control Officer Earl Clough.
- He provided an update on the disposal of the firearms stored at the Department and that they have looked into Mr. Melanson's suggestion at a previous meeting and are currently determining which firearms they can legally sell. Once this has been completed they will move to the next step of selling the firearms.

### **Discussion:**

Commissioner Goodgame questioned if there is an increase in pay for the Lieutenant's promotion to Captain.

Chief Chase replied no, his current duties are consistent with that of a Captain.

Commissioner Goodgame noted the Commission has reviewed the proposed re-organization many times and noted this is the final draft. The Commission agreed to approve the re-organization at this meeting.

### **K-9 Program update**

Chief Chase stated that Officer Mike Strauch has been selected as the new K-9 Officer and is currently researching contacts to obtain a new dog. He stated he previously announced that a Malonios would be the chosen breed, but stated that a dog trained specifically trained for what the Department needs may be of another breed including a lab. He stated that because of fundraising they do have enough funds to purchase a dog and are continuing to fundraise to convert a vehicle to a K-9 vehicle.

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

Ms. Silk was not able to attend the meeting but requested the Secretary to report on the recent Household Hazardous Waste Collection including a medicine collection. They served 118 households for waste and an additional 48 for medicine collection. They collected 3 gallons of controlled medicine, 32 gallons of personal care products and 24 gallons of non-controlled which is double the amount from June.

## Public

None.

*Being no further business before the Commission, Chairman Balboni entertained a motion to enter into non-public session at 4:34 PM.*

**Commissioner Ron Goodgame moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to move to non-public session under RSA 91-A II a, c & d to discuss personnel and litigation at 4:34 PM. Steve Wood seconded. Roll call vote, Steve Wood-yes, Ron Goodgame-yes, Joe Balboni Jr.-yes, being none opposed, the motion passed.**

The Commission re-entered public session at 4:55 PM.

Chairman Balboni announced that the Commission sealed the non-public session minutes of the August 21, 2014, by a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> vote as required by law.

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

**Commissioner Ron Goodgame moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to adjourn at 4:56 PM. Commissioner Steve Wood seconded. Being none opposed, the motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,  
**Amelia Capone-Muccio**  
Amelia Capone-Muccio