

Wolfeboro Police Commission Meeting Minutes March 19, 2015

Members present: Chairman Ron Goodgame, Steve Wood and Joe Balboni Jr (via telephone). .

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

Vice-Chairman Goodgame called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM and introduced the Commissioners, staff in attendance and noted a quorum was present.

➤ *Pledge of Allegiance*

Vice Chairman Goodgame entertained the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consideration of Minutes

- ***Public minutes of February 19, 2015***

Commissioner Steve Wood moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to accept the public minutes of February 19, 2015 as submitted. Commissioner Joe Balboni Jr. seconded. Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.

Reorganization of the Commission

It was moved by Steve Wood and seconded by Joe Balboni Jr. to nominate Ron Goodgame as Chairman of the Police Commission for the term expiring March 2016. Members voted and being all in favor, the motion passed.

Activity Reports

Chief Chase reported on the following activity reports for last month:

Offenses (State Law) by month: He reported 77 offenses for the year to date and comparing to last year at 104, it is a 34% decrease from last year.

Arrest status report: He reported 9 arrests for last month, which is a decrease from the previous month and is among the lowest he has seen over the years.

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

Accidents by street name: He reported 13 accidents for last month.

Prosecutor's report: n/a

School Resource Officer (SRO): He reported numerous investigations at the High School last month and at the Middle School.

Motor Vehicle Traffic Report: He reported 134 stops last month and that not many of those were punitive reporting \$498.07 in fines. He noted this is a decrease from the previous month.

Detectives Report: n/a.

Central Dispatch report: n/a.

Commission's Items

➤ Ratify Union Contract

David Owen, Town Manager, addressed the Board to state the voters approved the two year bargaining agreement between the Town of Wolfeboro and the New England Police Benevolent Association. The agreement was approved and signed by the Board of Selectmen last night and he is providing such for the Commission's signature and approval.

It was moved by Steve Wood and seconded by Joe Balboni Jr. to approve and sign the new collective bargaining agreements for 2015-16 with the NEBPA Local #39 (expiring 12/31/2016). Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.

➤ Amatucci Right to Know Request

Mr. Owen stated that at last night's Board of Selectmen's meeting Josephine Amatucci presented a Right to Know request to Captain Rondeau and noted Ms. Amatucci has called the Board's Chairman regarding the status of that request several times today. He noted that Ms. Amatucci has also filed another lawsuit against the Town of Wolfeboro naming new employees at the Town office as well as a previous employee from other lawsuits. He noted that he has forwarded this lawsuit on to Primex, the Town's insurance company, as she is seeking damages and has been notified not to file any further lawsuits on the same subject matter. He suggested with regards to the Right to Know request the Police Department respond in writing.

Chief Chase replied that he is aware of the Right to Know request and it has been forwarded to the Town Attorney for review and he noted that the Town has five business days to respond to Right to Know requests.

Chief's Items

Chief Chase stated the following:

- He reported the Department has two candidates for our upcoming seasonal positions. Both are full-time certified officers and they are reviewing their resumes.
- Dispatch Supervisor Lyons received five resumes for a part-time slot in Central Dispatch created by the resignation of dispatcher Anthony who has accepted a full time dispatch position with the University Of New Hampshire Police Department.
- Officer Strauch has begun his third week of training at the State Police K9 Academy in Manchester. He reported, "Griggs" and Officer Strauch are progressing "ahead of schedule". He stated the Commission may recall that an older Crown Victoria cruiser, formerly assigned to the Captain, was converted to a canine car. The conversion was completed at 2-Way Communications and the K9 Officer will be assigned this vehicle until the 2016 fiscal year when the Department will seek to lease four new Ford Explorers, one outfitted for K9 use.

- He noted that his current vehicle, like the Fire Chief's vehicle, will not pass inspection in another year because the bottom is rotted out and will need replacement and cannot be used for the K9 vehicle as previously planned.
- He reported that Captain Rondeau attended a class on Internal Affairs investigations in Grafton, Ma.
- He stated he conducted a command staff meeting in this reporting period to discuss some issues as follows: K9 program, future vehicle leasing, schedule and staffing issues, court activity and coverage, the Deliberative Session, continued coverage of Selectmen's meeting, pending litigation, examples of excellent police work by officers, Taser re-certification, future equipment needs, use of and possible renovation of squad room and other matters of mutual interest and concern.
- He reported the following outreach and/or meetings for last month: covered two Board of Selectmen meetings, the Captain appeared at the March 4th Board of Selectmen meeting to have the Board accept several grants for upcoming enforcement programs, He had two meetings with Special Town Counsel on an upcoming criminal matter scheduled for March 25th, he addressed the Chamber of Commerce on the general activity of the Department and other matters of mutual interest, he attended the Library Trustee's meeting and talked about several options on dealing with unruly or disruptive patrons, the Department covered the polls for the Town elections, he appeared at the State House at the request of Police Standards & Training and attended budget hearings in the House of Representatives, and he attended the Town, department head meeting.
- He made the following public service announcement:

WE ARE REPORTING THAT BETWEEN May 18 AND May 31st WE WILL BE STEPPING UP ENFORCEMENT ON SEAT BELT VIOLATIONS.

WE CONTINUALLY RECEIVE COMPLAINTS OF PARENTS DROPPING OFF CHILDREN AT LOCAL SCHOOLS WITH KIDS NOT BEING PROPERLY SECURED.

IF YOUR CHILD IS UNDER 7 AND LESS THAN 57" TALL, HE OR SHE MUST BE SECURED IN AN APPROVED CAR SEAT (265, 107A).

IN NEW HAMPSHIRE, ALL DRIVER'S UNDER THE AGE OF 18 MUST WEAR A SEAT BELT. WE CONSIDER IT GOOD SENSE FOR EVERYONE AND INSIST THAT OUR OFFICERS WEAR SEAT BELTS WHILE ON PATROL.

THE "CLICK IT OR TICKET" CAMPAIGN IS NOT ABOUT GENERATING CITATIONS. IT'S ABOUT SAVING LIVES.

IN 2013, 9,580 UNBUCKLED PASSENGERS WERE KILLED IN CRASHES IN THE UNITED STATES.

ALSO IN 2013, 638 CHILDREN - 12 AND UNDER- WERE KILLED IN CRASHES. MORE THAN A THIRD OF THOSE FATALITIES WERE UNRESTRAINED.

WE INTEND TO BE HIGHLY VISIBLE. A FIRST OFFENSE IS A \$50.00 FINE; A SECOND OFFENSE IS \$100.00.

Commission Items (continued)

Chairman Goodgame thanked the members of the public for their recent “letters to the editor” regarding the discussion on traffic stops. He stated the input provided helps the Commission communicate with the public and receive feedback. He also referred to an article in the March 18th edition of the Union Leader on heroin overdoses in Manchester, NH and that such epidemic is on the rise and the deaths are estimated to double that of 2013. He stated he hopes parents are having the conversation with their children about this terribly addictive drug. Lastly he noted the Chamber event scheduled for next Wednesday, from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM that they were invited to attend.

Board of Selectmen’s Representative

n/a

Public

None.

Being no further business before the Commission, Chairman Goodgame entertained a motion to enter into non-public session.

Commissioner Steve Wood moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to move to non-public session under RSA 91-A II a and c, at 4:32 PM. Joe Balboni Jr. seconded. Roll call vote, Ron Goodgame-yes, Joe Balboni Jr.-yes, and Steve Wood-yes, being none opposed, the motion passed.

The Commission re-entered public session at 5:07 PM.

Chairman Goodgame announced that the Commission sealed the non-public session minutes of the March 19, 2015 by a 2/3rd vote as required by law.

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

Commissioner Steve Wood moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to adjourn at 5:08 PM. Commissioner Joe Balboni Jr. seconded. Being none opposed, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Amelia Capone-Muccio
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