

Wolfeboro Police Commission Meeting Minutes May 21, 2015

Members present: Chairman Ron Goodgame and Steve Wood

Staff present: Captain Dean Rondeau and Recording Secretary Amelia Capone- Muccio.

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*

Chairman Goodgame entertained the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consideration of Minutes

- ***Public minutes of April 16, 2015***

Commissioner Steve Wood moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to accept the public minutes of April 16, 2015 as submitted. Commissioner Ron Goodgame seconded. Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.

- ***Non-public minutes of May 6, 2015***

Commissioner Steve Wood moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to unseal the non-public minutes of May 6, 2015. Commissioner Ron Goodgame seconded. Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.

Commissioner Steve Wood moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to accept the non-public minutes of May 6, 2015 as submitted. Commissioner Ron Goodgame seconded. Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.

Chairman Goodgame noted that although the minutes state the Commission reviewed the resumes of the seasonal officers, those would not be included as part of the public record.

Activity Reports

Captain Rondeau reported on the following activity reports for last month:

Offenses (State Law) by month: He reported 69 offenses for the month which is an increase over the previous month.

Arrest status report: He reported 16 arrests for last month, which is an increase from the previous month.

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

Accidents by street name: He reported 5 accidents for last month which is a decrease from the previous month.

Prosecutor's report: He provided the prosecutor's report.

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 232 stops last month and only a handful of those resulted in summons. He noted the goal is to educate the public.

Detectives Report: n/a.

Central Dispatch report: n/a.

DISCUSSION:

Chairman Goodgame questioned the status of the Detective's cases.

Captain Rondeau replied that he is busy, but no report is included in this agenda.

Chairman Goodgame congratulated Wolfeboro and surrounding Towns with their assistance in the Rite Aid robbery.

Captain Rondeau noted it is included in the Chief's items, but noted a great job done by adjoining Departments and Fish & Game as the Department has a great working relationship with surrounding Departments. He stated the suspect was a desperate addict and obtained about 500 oxycodone pills and was apprehended with about 300 of those pills. He stated the investigation is ongoing. He noted that this incident indicates Wolfeboro is not immune to the rising problem with drug addiction around the State and that last year it was reported that NH had 370 deaths from over doses and currently the State is reporting they have already surpassed those numbers this year.

Chief's Items

Captain Rondeau reviewed the Chief's report as follows:

- NH's Hands Free Law will take effect July 1, 2015 and will be as follows:
 - No use of hand electronic devices while driving or temporarily halted in traffic for a stop sign or traffic signal or other momentary delays.
 - This includes cell phones, GPS, tablets, iPads, iPods or other devices that require date entry.
 - Emergency calls to 911 will be allowed.
 - One-handed non-cellular 2-way radio use will be allowed.
 - Teen drivers under the age of 18 will not be allowed to use any electronic devices except to report an emergency.
 - If your vehicle is not equipped with blue tooth functionality, after market systems can be installed or a Bluetooth speaker or an over the ear device can be purchased at many retail stores including cell phone carriers and online distributors.

- Penalties for Violations: 1st offense=\$100 fine, 2nd offense=\$250 fine, 3rd offense within 2 years=\$500 fine and penalty assessments will be added to the fines.
 - More information can be found at www.handsfreeNH.com.
- The two seasonal officers, Brian King and Eric LaRoche, appointed by the Commission, were sworn in on May 6th. Officer King is a full-time Deputy with the Carroll County Sheriff's Department and Officer LaRoche is a full-time officer with the Wakefield Police Department. They will be on duty from the week of June 26th through Labor Day.
- Detective Guy Maloney recently completed advanced, motor vehicle crash reconstruction training in Concord.
- K9 Officer Mike Strauch and "Riggs" are in the final four weeks of training at the State Police Academy. According to the reports of instructors, "Riggs" is proving to be a scent dog of extraordinary ability with exceptional tracking skills. Graduation is June 15th. He reported on a sadder note, they have learned that retired K9 "Blek" has passed away from a stomach ailment.
- In a recent announcement on seat belt enforcement grants, the Chief made a misstatement when defining the law on child safety devices. He clarified that he should have reported it as follows: "IF THE CHILD IS UNDER 7 OR LESS THAN 57" TALL, HE/SHE MUST BE SECURED IN AN APPROVED CAR SEAT. He previously reported under 7 **AND** less than 57" tall.
- He reminded the public the Department will be running extra enforcement patrols through the end of May.
- He stated that last week Officer Pete Llewellyn, while working a seat-belt enforcement patrol, made a stop on South Main Street for an unbuckled (young) operator. The driver, a student at Kingswood, was transporting a quantity of marijuana, individually packaged and ready for sale and distribution at the high school. The grinder, scale and other paraphernalia bolstered the possession with intent to distribute charges.
- The Department has switched to the short-sleeved shirts as of April 13th for the summer season.
- He reported on some pre-Memorial Day statistics that resulted in 10 arrests over this past weekend on a variety of offenses.
- Sgt. Archambault continues to work on the disposition of firearms as time permits.
- He reported an armed robbery at the Rite Aid on May 18th once again reminds us of the perils of drug addiction. The suspect handed a Rite Aid employee a note and left the store with a large amount of prescription pills and fled on foot on Glendon Street. He stated that the Department was joined by several law enforcement agencies in the search for this suspect. He thanked the NH State Police, Carroll County Sheriff's Department, Alton, Tuftonboro and Wakefield Police and NH Fish & Game for their assistance. The suspect, a 29 year old addict from Tuftonboro, was later apprehended in Alton trying to sell the stolen pills. He stated the case was solved very quickly and Sgt. Moore, lead investigator, and the Chief interviewed the suspect two hours after the offense and obtained a complete confession. The arrest warrant was served at the Belknap County Jail on May 20th with arraignment scheduled for mid-June.
- The Department continues to provide a police presence at the Selectmen's meetings.
- The Chief met with Senator Bradley in Concord to discuss upcoming budgets and funding for Police Standards & Training.
- The Chief attended the monthly Town Department Head meeting.
- The Chief attended a Chamber of Commerce event.
- The Department acknowledged the good work of our Central Dispatch Staff during "Dispatchers Week" and provided each member with a gift for their service.

- Officer Llewellyn attended a coffee hour at Sugar Hill at the invitation of the staff. The Department hopes to make this a weekly event.
- The Captain attended a meeting at the Laconia Police Department on the growing problem of theft of boats and boat trailers.
- The Chief fingerprinted the staff of Cornerstone Christian Academy as part of employee screening mandates.
- The Department assisted with, "Walk & Bike to School Day" with an additional police presence along the route.
- The Captain attended a regional meeting on Emergency Preparedness.

DISCUSSION:

Commissioner Wood questioned how the Department plans to enforce the hands free law.

Captain Rondeau replied that it will be taken into consideration during other patrols and noted a recent accident where it is a strong likelihood that texting and driving is suspected. He noted as with other patrols an enforcement the goal is to educate vs. punitive.

Commissioner Wood questioned the status of the speed trailer.

Captain Rondeau replied that they are still working on a grant for that which will include a 50% match from the Town.

Board of Selectmen's Representative

Mr. Freudenberg stated that he has nothing new to report but noted Captain Rondeau's report on the heroin problem is an accurate description of the epidemic.

Other Business

Sarah Silk of the Lakes Region Hazardous Product Facility requested to speak about the upcoming medicine collections. She noted that the DEA will not be doing any collections this year so the only time you can dispose of expired or unwanted medicines this year in Wolfeboro will be June 20th and August 15th at the LRHPF Facility at 404 Beach Pond Road. She noted they can only take medicine on the specified dates as they will have a Pharmacist and two Police Officers present for the collection.

Chairman Goodgame announced that Captain Rondeau would be retiring from 34 years in the US Army and thanked him for his service.

Public

None.

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 4:35 PM. Commissioner Ron Goodgame seconded. Being none opposed, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Amelia Capone-Muccio