

Wolfeboro Police Commission Meeting Minutes August 20, 2015

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

Staff present: Chief Stu Chase, 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 July 16, 2015***

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

Activity Reports

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

Offenses (State Law) by month: He reported 71 offenses for the month which is an 11% decrease from the previous month.

Arrest status report: He reported 29 arrests for last month, which is a 14% decrease 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 9 accidents for last month which is a decrease from the previous month.

Prosecutor's report: He reported 36 defendants who answered 40 offenses; 24 arraignments, 10 pleas, 1 hearing, 5 trials, 1 remand and 1 status. He reported \$14,598 recieved in fines or assessments.

School Resource Officer (SRO): N/A

Motor Vehicle Traffic Report: He reported 303 stops last month and only a handful of those resulted in summons. He noted the goal is to educate the public.

Detectives Report: He provided the Detectives reporting for the month showing 11 new cases.

Central Dispatch report: N/A.

Chief's Items

Chief Chase reviewed the report as follows:

- Central Dispatch continues to accept resumes for part-time positions.
- He provided an update on the firearms approved for disposal that were on display on July 21st at the public safety building. Two licensed firearms dealers viewed the weapons in the three hour period. Joe Melanson, owner of the Gun Closet, was the high bidder with an offer of \$3,010.00 for the lot. As previously discussed, this transaction established a “credit” with the Gun Closet toward future purchases of firearms or training equipment. He thanked Sgt. Archambault for his work on this project and Officer Pat Spera for providing coverage on the day of the display.
- A July 19th power outage resulted in 565 calls to Central Dispatch that were handled by our automated system. He noted that 1,744 people received information by viewing the Wolfeboro Police Department Facebook page.
- Due to popular demand, the DEA will be bringing back the National Take Back Initiative for disposal of unwanted pharmaceuticals in an environmentally friendly and safe way. The Public Safety Building will again be a collection site on September 26th. The public can bring those items into the lobby and deposit them in the receptacle.
- He reported that July and August continue to be very busy in Wolfeboro with heavy traffic on our roadways and lakes. The seasonal officers will be wrapping up their scheduled hours by the end of the month and this additional coverage in the Downtown area is a positive public safety measure.
- He reported many outreach programs in July in addition to our usual presence at planned events as follows; He read “bedtime stories” to children at the Library one evening, The Captain did a public service announcement with Sarah Silk for hazardous waste days at the transfer station, he did a forty minute “spot” with community television called, “coffee with the chief” at the Downtown Grille, the Department continues to provide coverage at the Board of Selectmen meetings and officers have been monitoring our public beaches when possible, the Captain is working with several sources on follow-up strategies for those charged in heroin cases, the Captain attended the Carroll County Chief’s Association meeting while he was at the Town Department Head meeting, Detective Maloney addressed the Safety Committee of a local manufacturing firm on the different symptoms drug users may manifest when under the influence and The Wolfeboro Police Benevolent Association (WPBA) will host its annual “Family Fun Day” at Foss Field on Saturday, August 22nd, from 12 noon – to 2PM. All are welcome!
- The WPBA continues its annual appeal through a letter request/ campaign. There is no question as to the authenticity of the effort and there are no professional solicitors involved. Anyone with a question is invited to call the Department on a regular business line, 569-1444.
- For two nights, a family had been disturbed by someone banging on the side of their house after dark. On the second night Officer Strauch and “Riggs” responded to the address on Lake Wentworth. Riggs caught a scent and off they went through woods and wetlands, eventually arriving at a rental property where several teenagers were visiting. The “suspect” was amongst the group. There were no charges filed but the complaints ceased.

Heroin Update

Captain Rondeau provided the Commissioner's with a packet of information outlining the problem and the emphasis on society as a whole in the battle against heroin. He noted the Department plans to implement a modified version of Laconia's new program in referring those arrested on drug charges to a local counselling service to initiate help during that crucial time. He stated another part of this program is to start educating the young people in our school systems and he has discussed implementing a program with the Superintendent of Schools.

Board of Selectmen Representative Luke Freudenberg thanked Captain Rondeau and the Wolfeboro Police Department for their initiatives in addressing this problem and that what has been proposed is a real step forward.

Elissa Paquette of the Granite State News questioned who the drug counselor is and if such is part of the bail conditions.

Captain Rondeau replied they will be referred to a licensed drug and alcohol counselor in Wolfeboro and within the arrest a set of bail conditions are set which will include a 48-72 hour time period to meet with the counselor which is an initiative to get the addict into recovery. He stated that they are aware they will have some failures and some deny the services but regardless getting someone treatment is a step in the right direction.

Questions from the Press

None

Board of Selectmen's Representative

None.

Josephine Amatucci questioned the public portion of the meeting.

Chairman Goodgame replied that the Commission has a lot to cover in non-public session today and no public input will be included in the meeting today.

Ms. Amatucci stated the Board of Selectmen told her to come to the meeting today and that she needed to address her issue.

Chairman Goodgame stated she is out of order and Ms. Amatucci continued to scream at the Commissioner's and call them freaks.

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

Commissioner Joe Balboni Jr. moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to move to non-public session under RSA 91-A II a, at 4:25 PM. Steve Wood 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 5:30 PM.

Chairman Goodgame announced that the Commission sealed the non-public session minutes of the August 20, 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 5:30 PM. Commissioner Joe Balboni Jr. seconded. Being none opposed, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Amelia Capone-Muccio