

**MINUTES OF MEETING
MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE
January 19, 2011**

A meeting of the Municipal Budget Committee was called to order at 6:35 PM in the Meeting Room at the Conway Police Department with the following members present: Joe Mosca, Bob Drinkhall, Doug Swett, Bill Masters, John Edgerton and Ray Shakir. Members excused from meeting: Linda Teagan, David Sordi, Janine MacLauchlan and Karen Umberger. Also present: Earl Sires, Lucy Philbrick, Pat Preece of the North Conway Fire Department, Chief Wagner, Lt. Chris Perley, Commissioner Dave Doherty, Commissioner Rodney King and Dana Highland.

In the absence of David Sordi, Joe Mosca chaired the meeting. Chairman Mosca asked Bob Drinkhall to lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Bob Drinkhall moved, seconded by John Edgerton, to consider and accept the Minutes of January 5, 2011, as amended. In favor: 6; Opposed: 0; Abstain: 0.

Bob Drinkhall stated on page 6, third paragraph, eighth line, "shelves" should be "shells".

Chairman Mosca stated that Dana Highland had to leave for another meeting, but had a comment that he would like to make. Chairman further advised that he was going to let Mr. Highland make his comment prior to the presentation by the Police Department.

Dana Highland thanked Chairman Mosca for letting him speak first as he had to run off to a Zoning Board meeting. He just wanted to speak out in big support of the Police Department's Budget, hoping it doesn't get cut and hoping that the Committee supported their additional Officers. He just wanted to tell a brief story about something humorous he heard and that might put things all in perspective. He was a firefighter for Conway until last year and they had just finished a call and the call staff was getting ready to leave; there was a Police Officer there that was finishing up some paperwork with them. He was getting ready to go back out on the road, it was a night almost like tonight, and the rest of them were getting ready to go home. The Officer said something that they all thought was very amusing: "Okay, go home and curl up in the blanket of protection I provide for you". Everyone had a good laugh at that but, as all of this is happening, he was thinking about that and that's more true than funny. We are all talking about the budgets of the non-profits, School Budgets, Parks, Recreation, all that and all are very worthwhile things, but we don't think about the fact that the Police Department is here all the time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every single day. It doesn't matter who you are, they'll be there for you. It's just that blanket of protection he was talking about. The crime rate is growing they're telling us, things are going to start happening in town that we

don't like. This blanket of protection that the Officer was talking about, if the crime rate is increasing and they don't increase their staff, it's going to end up being somewhat of a towel of protection, if you will. Who's going to get left out? If they have to decide whose call is more important, what happens if two Officers are tied up in South Conway on a domestic disturbance; one of your relatives has a prowler outside, calls 911 and their only other Officer is up on Hurricane Mountain Road, what's going to happen? Who's call gets preference. That blanket of protection has gotten smaller in that case. It just seems to him way back a long time ago when he was 17 years old, he worked for this Department as a Traffic Controller, he pulled out an old roster he had of the Police Department and he thinks there is one more Officer now than there was back in 1992. Think of everything in the Town that has changed; he has been on the Planning Board, the Zoning Board, all of these businesses that have gone up, all of the visitors, the increase in the size of Mt. Cranmore, all of these people, everything that has changed over the years, it's almost like the people running this Town and he means no disrespect to anybody, are punishing the Police Department for doing a good job in their budgeting. They've strapped down and functioned at the same level for all of these years, not asking for anything else, when maybe if they hadn't done such a good job, they would have asked before hand but they tried to continue on and not ask for much. If the Town had gone down the tubes earlier and we got to a point where we see the need, that's a lousy place to be in. If we were afraid for our lives every time we went to work or what not, that's a bad place to be in. It would be nice that since they've done such a good job over the last however many years that it's been in keeping their staff at almost the same level, that we should be a little proactive and at least keep up with the times. That's all he really wanted to say. He was hoping that somehow the Committee, he didn't really know how it works for reinstating the money that was taken out, he only saw the Selectmen's Meeting on TV and knows some money was taken out of their budget and that only one Officer was put on the budget.

Bob Drinkhall stated one Officer is in the budget and then there will be an Article for the other two that they want.

Dana Highland further stated that what he was asking and thought this was how it worked, correct him if he is wrong, he is asking and hoping that the Budget Committee will support the Article, whether that's tonight or some other time, support the Article to put the two other Officers on because the townspeople listen to what the Committee says and if the Committee would support it, he thought it would be a great thing for our townspeople. You have to remember that all of these other programs, all of us right here, obviously we're pretty safe when we are in the Police Department, but all of those folks out there are depending on you folks doing this job and helping out the Police Department. Thank you.

Bob Drinkhall stated at a given meeting where the Police Department was present, it was basically stated by the Selectmen and please remember that he has to abide by the majority vote of the Board of Selectmen; at any rate, at the first meeting with the Police Department, it was stated unofficially, without a vote, that it seemed that everyone on the Board of Selectmen were going to support one Officer in the Budget and they

would also support two as an Article with the Budget the way it was at that point in time. At the next meeting when the Police Department wasn't there, that reversed with the exception of himself, he believes he was the only one, and his fear was that if an Officer wasn't put into the budget itself, what he had heard from the public, that it probably or very possibly would not pass as an Article. Hence, he wanted to see it in the budget, thus the extra Officer and he, in an unofficial way, straw polled the Board of Selectmen and asked what it would take to get that Officer back into the Budget and the suggestion came from him if taking \$50,000.00 out of the overall Budget would accomplish that and, again unofficial at that point without a vote, was that yes it would. That's how that transpired without the Police Department present. Of course, everything happened after that and all of the controversy over it.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Wagner stated he was going to give the Committee a handout but it seems the Committee already has them. Unfortunately, they had to raise their budget a little bit already; they have two Officers getting married this year and they are people getting married who have children, so they have to raise the budget for that. Instead of going line by line, he thought it would be easier if he hit the highlights and then take any questions that may come their way.

Chief Wagner stated as everybody knows through the sheet the Committee received today, the overall Budget that they are requesting is \$2,755,593.00 which is an increase of \$169,300.00. In the Labor line, there is an increase of \$82,000.00, \$21,500.00 of that is for the new Officer that they want to put in the Budget, there is a \$5,000.00 overtime increase, and \$1,170.00 increase for Animal Control. The rest of the increases are from raises that people received for 2011. The Benefits line increased by \$83,162.00, \$58,000.00 of that is in medical insurance. There is also a \$42,000.00 increase in retirement, but there was a decrease of \$27,000.00 in the Earned Benefits line which sort of gets them to the \$83,000.00. The Operations line has an increase of \$3,570.00 and those increases include \$700.00 in their computer line for dues for their computer program, \$520.00 increase in dues and meetings for the New Hampshire Bar Association, there is a \$1,000.00 increase in training and \$850.00 increase in Uniform Maintenance and a \$500.00 increase in Exams and Physicals. There is also a \$450.00 increase in the Vehicle line for motor vehicle insurance. Again, total increase is \$169,300.00. The contractual obligation of pay and benefits is \$165,280.00 out of the \$169,000.00 and that includes about \$35,000.00 for a new Officer. The non-contractual increases are in Operations of \$3,570.00 and Vehicles at \$450.00 for the total increase of \$169,300.00.

Bill Masters stated he was glad to have them with us; on case load, what are the Officers carrying now. Chief Wagner stated it was hard to say individually because if you're on day shift on a Wednesday, your case load is going to be different than if you're on 3:00 PM to 11:00 PM or Midnights on a Friday or Saturday. It's hard to break it down to where you know what everybody's doing; they can get that information, but it's not going to be equal. Chief Wagner further stated he could tell the Committee they ended up with 861 arrests for the year which is about 52

more than 2009; there were more incidents than there was the previous year and he thought Lt. Perley has all that information if the Committee wanted to hear what they did last year as a whole.

Lt. Perley stated he couldn't tell what each individual Officer has for a caseload; they don't really measure it that way, but what he could state was the total aggregate case load is for the Department. It has increased once again for 2010; the raw statistics as far as total case load, they had 2,383 total incident reports. An incident report can contain multiple offenses, but that's crime reports and that was an increase of 136 over last year. They had an increase of 53 arrests over last year that puts it at 861 for total arrests; there's 365 days in a year, so every single day multiple people are being arrested in our community. They had an increase of Restraining Orders being issued to 14; an increase of Warrants by 24, they had 101 Warrants issued, those would be for criminal offenses that the perpetrator was not immediately apprehended. Unfortunately, there was a slight dip in Citations and a slight dip in Parking Tickets. Back in early 2008 when they came to the Budget Committee and the Selectmen to ask for an Officer, the core motivation to do that was so that they could have more boots on the ground, more Officers sharing the workload so that they could have more proactive time to go out there and interdict with the criminal element. Burglars drive to and fro; drug dealers drive from the place they pick up drugs to the place that they are going to sell and they do it in unregistered cars and they drive fast; so motor vehicle enforcement patrol is a key technique in this rural area to interdict criminals. Unfortunately because they are preoccupied with the increase in criminal offenses and criminal reports, they are starting to get a dip in that proactive activity like they did back in 2008.

Lt. Perley continued by stating that's the aggregate statistics for the Department. As that relates on a larger scale, on a State scale, the Committee heard him talk about the Group A and Group B crimes as it applies to the NIVERS, this is a universal system that all Police Departments use to report crime to central repositories that then gets turned into those Federal statistics that everybody relies on to make good decisions. At the close of this year, Group A - Crimes Against Persons, these are kidnapping, forcible rape, robbery, sexual assault, aggravated assault, simple assault, intimidation; those kinds of offenses they had a 9% increase over last year. Group A - Property Crimes which include burglary, larceny, shoplifting, larceny in all its forms, motor vehicle theft, counterfeit, forgery, fraud - significant increases there, stolen property and criminal mischief; they had a 14% increase in Property Crimes, in the most serious Property Crimes. In the Group A statistics, both Crimes Against Persons and Crimes Against Property, they had a total increase of 23%. The Crimes Against Society was level; Crimes Against Society are drug offenses, gambling, prostitution, weapons laws; that was level at 107, no change.

Lt. Perley proceeded with Group B Crimes having a decline by 10%. Group B Crimes are some quality of life crimes that you might see but are maybe less impactful, i.e. disorderly conduct, driving under the influence, liquor violations, trespasses. If you look at the increase in those significant crimes and you also look at the dip in proactive police activity, these kinds of offenses, the Group B crimes, are ones the

Officers interdict with, they check Davis Park at Midnight and they find kids drinking on the beach or people doing bad things, that time is getting chewed up, they don't have the time to do that, so those kind of lower offenses, the quality of life offenses, their apprehension rate and their documentation rate is decreasing, they aren't going away. He just did a scratch pad analysis on their Group A offenses; the Committee has heard them talk many times about where they rank in the State with serious activity and in 2009, they were the 15th busiest Police Department in the State of New Hampshire. That's not based on size of town, of community, of Police force, that is in the entire State of New Hampshire they were the 15th busiest community and that's based on Group A Offenses, the serious ones. If you totaled the Group A Offenses for 2010, you'd get 1,266 offenses. When they were 15th, they had a total of 1,160; they now have 1,266 and they're climbing and he rues the day when they're going to say they are number one, but that puts them around 11th now, all things being equal. That's where we are at and it's not pretty.

Bill Masters stated not a pretty picture; with the staff being tied up with the Class A Felons and there's bunches of paperwork that go with that, so for every hour that you spend out there, you're going to spend 2 hours preparing documentation, let alone Court time. Chief Wagner stated on a serious Class A Felony, you have minimum paperwork of 5 hours.

Ray Shakir stated first of all, is the Police Department a Union shop and second of all, can they tell him what the retirement criteria is and just a general run down of the retirement criteria, i.e. how long before they retire and how they work out the retirement benefits and what constitutes a final retirement payout. Chief Wagner stated they do have a Union; Sergeants and above are not Union, so Corporals and below are in a Union, all of the Dispatchers except for the Dispatcher Supervisor and one of the secretaries is in the Union. Ray asked if there was a "no strike clause" in the Contract. Chief Wagner stated yes, Police can not strike. Retirement is 20 years and 45 years old; they don't do the retirement, it's a State Retirement so it's all calculated down there. It's based off your three highest years; at 20 years you get 50% and every year thereafter is 2.5%. Ray asked if that was the basis for the entire calculation or is there other things added in like overtime, vacation time, sick time. Chief Wagner stated based on your three highest years, you get your base pay, you get any overtime, detail work is included in that, earned benefits is calculated in when you leave depending on how much you have; here they get 90 days of sick time and you get 75% of that and you get 30 days vacation time that you can carry over. Ray stated it is conceivable that a retiree can walk away from the Department making at or more than his base pay. Chief Wagner stated Dave Bennett was here for 75 years and Bob Morrell was here for 65 years and he didn't know what they got in their retirement, but he can probably say they didn't get what they left here at.

Lt. Perley stated you would have to work 40 years based on the calculations of the State Retirement System that are fixed by the State Retirement System, not by the Union or the Officer, you'd have to work at least 40 years as a Police Officer to qualify for 100% and the State has a cap on maximum benefits and he didn't know exactly what it was but you can't exceed a certain amount of your base pay in retirement. There are

State level features to control the costs of retirement as well as the calculations and 40 years would be a long time to be on the line. He thought that if somebody served this community as a Police Officer for 40 years, they probably deserve their pay for the rest of their life, no matter how short that may be; it'll suck it out of you.

Chief Wagner stated it is possible that there are people that make more through the State Retirement than they ended up being paid at, but they are not around here.

Chairman Mosca stated the request for 2009 to 2010, there is about a 15% increase in retirement and from 2010 to 2011, there's about a 23% increase in retirement. Is that just through changes in calculations because of lack of State monies being put forth. Chief Wagner stated he wasn't sure why the changes were made, but there were changes; it went up at the middle of last year and then it's going up in July again. Chairman stated that's pretty substantial increases over the last two years; you're talking close to 40%. From what's being requested, not necessarily being spent, although he didn't know if the actual for 2010 includes right through the end December. Lucy Philbrick advised the Chairman to look under Section 7, the Town's Employee Benefits, there is a back up sheet that shows the changes in contributions to the New Hampshire Retirement System.

Doug Swett stated when you hire a new Officer, he has to go to the Police Academy and Chief Wagner stated yes, he has to go to the Police Academy. Doug stated how soon after you hire him does he have to go, right away. Chief Wagner stated they like to send them right away, but it depends on when they're hired and when they're running Academies; they usually run three or four a year, depending. Doug asked how many weeks do they have to go and how long are they there. Chief Wagner stated they have to go within a year for 14 weeks. Doug asked if they get full pay while they are at the Academy and Chief Wagner stated they did. Doug further asked what the cost was to train an Officer for 14 weeks. Chief Wagner the cost is whatever his pay is and his benefits for 14 weeks. Base pay for a new Police Officer is about \$43,000.00, so if you divide that by 52, multiplied by 14. Lt. Perley stated they don't charge us for training, the Academy does not bill us. Doug asked where does that fee come from. Lt. Perley stated Traffic Tickets; there's a fee assessed to every fine in Court, partly for the Academy, partly for the Fire Academy and partly for Domestic Violence Victims Fund, called a Penalty Assessment and he thought it was 24% of a fine now. Doug asked if that brought up enough money to do the job or does the General Fund have to kick in. Lt. Perley stated he believed it was self-sustaining.

Ray Shakir stated out of curiosity, is there credit given to a candidate that comes from services in another municipality as a Police Officer. Chief Wagner stated usually if they come from out of state they only have to go through the law package which is about 3 weeks, just to learn our laws, they don't have to learn to be a cop again, they have to learn the laws of the State of New Hampshire.

John Edgerton stated he noticed that the actual expenses to the Budget are \$260,000.00, actual not budget. You spent \$2,495,000.00 actual and

you're asking for \$2,755,000.00, that's around \$260,000.00; bottom line 4 from bottom line 5. Lucy Philbrick stated the year wasn't closed out yet.

Bill Masters stated where we have the dubious distinction of being number 11, where are we in total population versus the other municipalities in this State; how are we ranked. Earl Sires stated the population is about 9,400 or 9,500; can't tell you where they rank in terms of whether or not we're the 52nd largest community in the State or not. Earl thought that what the Chief had indicated, most of the municipalities that have the level of response required here are larger populations. The other issue we have here is we have a resident population somewhere around 9,500 and then we have the visiting population that could be 20,000 or 30,000 on any given weekend. In a certain respect it's not surprising their call volume or response volume is higher than other communities our size because we have more people and sometimes there are people not living their normal lifestyle when they are here. They come here to do things, to enjoy, recreate but also go out and have a good or not so good time, depending on how they look at it. Bill stated the point that he was trying to make was that they are staffed today with 9,000 and if they had 30,000 thrown at them, that's a bunch.

Lt. Perley stated to put it in perspective for the Committee, Group A Offenses this year at 1,266 put them up at about number 11; number 11 last year was 1,299 so 33 more Group A Offenses and that was the City of Hudson and they have 24,978 residents and they have a substantially larger force than they do, he thought they had around 35 or 40 Officers.

Chairman Mosca stated he was going to apologize up front; being a rookie and not knowing all of the line items and what they are for, he asked that all bear with him. First, on the Health Insurance, the medical insurance increase, you have already explained what that is and he had a question for either Earl or Bob. The Selectmen have already put a budget number in there, given the increase of the Police request, will that be reviewed by the Selectmen. Earl Sires stated the typical process that's been followed in the last 6 or 8 years has been that the Selectmen provide the Budget Committee with their recommendation and then there is a letter that goes back to the Selectmen with the Budget Committee's comments. Typically it will say we suggest you review this or think about doing this or whatever and the Selectmen respond at that point. Whether they reconsider this is going to be up to them.

Chairman Mosca questioned Incentive Pay. Chief Wagner stated Incentive Pay is where the Officers get paid for any additional advance schooling they'll have, education incentive; he thought they give \$400.00 for an Associates, \$600.00 for a Bachelors Degree, and \$800.00 for a Masters Degree so that's included in that. They also have 4 people that are left on their longevity pay which is included in that and it also included their sick time buy back. Currently they get 15 sick days a year; if he goes through the whole year and doesn't use any sick days, he has to have banked 30 days or 240 hours; once he reaches that 240 hours, he can sell back a portion of those sick days, he can get 75% of those sick days paid back to him. If he uses 5 sick days, he could sell back a portion of the 10, 75% of the 10. Chairman asked if that was a yearly thing and Chief Wagner stated it was.

Chairman Mosca proceeded with the Merit Account by stating he guessed he didn't understand that one at all. Chief Wagner stated he wasn't sure if anybody did. Chairman stated he didn't understand having merit pay for coming to work. Lt. Perley stated they have performance based evaluations, it's not just for showing up. Chief Wagner stated they currently get their raises in November, so on January 1st he knows what he is getting paid for the whole 12 months; the merit account is for the raises he has to cover for November and December of that same year. Chairman asked if the merit was for non-Union or was the merit for everybody. Chief Wagner stated it was for everybody; it's really not a merit to just give out money. Chairman stated it's part of a contractual raise, but you need to account for it for the two months because of when the contract's time runs. Chairman further stated he thought he understood, but to call it a merit just doesn't seem like the right terminology.

Chairman Mosca stated the Professional Liability Insurance is going up 20% this year; there's probably nothing you can do about it, but it seems to be a pretty steep increase from year to year and he didn't know if it's been looked at or whether they go through one insurance carrier, or how it's done, or if there's been anything done to try to defer that. Chief Wagner stated they get their Professional Liability, their medical insurance, their life and disability insurance, all through the same carrier. When the carrier goes up, they go up as well.

Chairman Mosca stated when he looked at the Unemployment Insurance line item, he figured out there were 33 employees: 22 Officers, 2 Secretaries and 9 Dispatchers. Chief Wagner stated that was with the new Officer.

Chairman Mosca questioned Earned Benefits. Chief Wagner stated Earned Benefits is what he was talking about earlier; when somebody leaves, they are entitled to their vacation time and a portion of their sick time. For 2010, they knew somebody was going to retire and their Earned Benefit buyout was about \$27,000.00 so they had money in their to cover that. They also had 3 other people leave that they weren't expecting and spent about \$28,000.00 more than what was budgeted.

Chairman Mosca questioned Uniforms and Uniform Maintenance; he got the gist of what it is, but we are paying twice as much for maintenance as we are for Uniforms. Chief Wagner stated the maintenance is given out to everybody that works at the Police Department. The easiest way he can explain it is for Uniform Maintenance for him, if he took one uniform to the Dry Cleaners every week, just one, at \$8.00 times 52, he is spending \$416.00 at the Dry Cleaners and that's just for one uniform. That's what they give the Uniform Maintenance for. Uniform Allowance is for people that have to maintain both their uniform and maintain suits for Court, like Detectives, and stuff like that.

Chairman Mosca stated on Exams and Physicals it says it is for random drug testing, blood tests for DWI's and cost of club membership for Officers. The club membership is the one he is questioning. Chief Wagner stated a good portion of their Police Officers are now required to do a 3 year Physical Fitness Test, so they are a member of a club in town and

they pay for Officers to go there, stay in shape, be physically fit and so on and so forth. They also do random drug tests every month that is controlled by the Hospital for drug and alcohol testing. Chairman asked if it would be more beneficial to put a facility in here for the Officers to work out if there was space for it rather than paying a Health Club. He knows it's a big cost up front, but once you do it, you'd get rid of the cost of paying for gym memberships every year. Chief Wagner stated they'd probably really enjoy that, but a) they don't have the money and b) they don't have the space.

Chairman Mosca stated the only other one was Vehicle Insurance was up 11% which, again, there's probably nothing you can do about it, but when anything gets double digits, it just jumps out a little bit.

There being no further questions, Chairman Mosca thanked everyone for coming in.

Chairman Mosca stated that the Conservation Commission was on the Agenda, but he thought that was pretty much covered already. Earl Sires agreed.

Chairman Mosca asked for public comments or questions. Bill Marvel stated he had a question for Lt. Perley. Mr. Marvell asked how many of the 861 arrests came from the High School, from the Resource Officer at the High School. Lt. Perley stated he could tell how many he has made and you have to extrapolate a little because he is up there 180 days and then he goes on patrol because they use him in the summer. This School Resource Officer has only been up there since September, so he would have to look at two Resource Officers for the whole year. Officer Mattie was the School Resource Officer for the majority of the school year, he's now Detective, and from January 1, 2010 to the close of school 2010 he made 72 arrests. You need to take 15 or 20 of those as Detective from September to now. Let's say 50 and Officer Wallace, now the School Resource Officer, has 34 arrests. He has been in the school since September, they haven't had summer break, so his total function has been as the School Resource Officer, so 84 at the High School. They can say with surety 34 arrests have just been Officer Wallace and he's only been at the High School since September; 72 arrests were made by Detective Mattie who was the previous School Resource Officer, so if you took 50 of them, he's been a Detective since July or August. Comfortably Lt. Perley would say 80 arrests. Youths don't necessarily get custody arrested to get brought into Court; there's Juvenile Petitions which is a process where they serve the parents and they bring them to Court, but they do list that as an arrest to clear the Petition once the Petition gets activated. He thinks that's a good hard number, but it could be for fighting, it could be for drugs, it could be for tobacco possession, it could be for those kinds of things.

Bill Masters stated it wouldn't necessarily be a high percentage of Class A. Lt. Perley stated no, not that there aren't any because if you steal somebody's laptop, that's going to be a Group A theft of property; if they steal a couple bucks of lunch money, that could be a robbery and that would be a Class A, or it could be that they just stole a couple of bucks and that would be a Group B. It's a variety of things. John Edgerton stated if it's 90, it would be one arrest every other day. Lt.

Perley agreed and stated there's no sitting on anybody's hands in this shop and he wished they had those quiet days but they are long gone.

Doug Swett asked if it had gone up noticeably since they changed the age from 16 to 18 to stay in school. Lt. Perley stated he really couldn't say that because they had no data to support that; however, that change has significantly impacted the work load of the SRO because one of his jobs is to go out and retrieve truants which they just created a new class of truants because now people before didn't have to be in school and now are classified as truants and that's one of his jobs to go out there and try to get them back to school. Doug stated they don't want to go to school in the first place. Lt. Perley stated he was going to go out on a limb and guess the members realize that they don't write the laws, they just enforce them and they try to enforce them all, but that has impacted on his work load which again takes away from that proactive time. One of the best by-products of the SRO is that the kids are in school thinking there's a cop around every corner; wouldn't it be nice if that's how it was in town, but if he's out looking for truants, that kind of saps that proactive time. That may explain an arrest a day.

John Edgerton stated he substitutes at the High School and he thinks it's priceless; you never know where he is.

Chief Wagner stated he also wanted to mention that they are in line to get a little over \$41,000.00 back from the School, so the School is paying for their portion of the Police Officer there.

Bill Masters asked if they had the 3 Officers initially, what kind of an impact would that make in terms of being proactive. Lt. Perley stated they added one Officer back in 2008 and it did have a significant impact. They went from 70 DWI arrests in 2007 to 174 last year, that is proactive patrol at it's finest. Somebody selling weed is against the law and it's bad for the community, but drunk drivers will kill your family. If they can put their efforts into things like that, then they make an impact on the quality of life here and people's safety, the children, the wives working late at night, the husbands working late at night, driving home and they will get home safe because there are 175 less drunk drivers on the road. That is starting to roll back because that time is getting chewed up by calls at 2:00 in the morning or 3:00 in the morning, processing arrests, so it makes an impact. One Officer makes a difference, in particular, one young enthusiastic Officer that's got a Chief like him, a Lieutenant like me, Sergeants like we have saying "get out there and make a difference" so with 3 of them, it not only has a direct impact but a synergistic impact too because the Officers know that the community is behind us, let's go make a difference. It does have a big effect.

Ray Shakir asked if that statistic would be somewhat skewed to the higher end. Lt. Perley asked what statistic Ray was asking about and Ray stated the one on alcohol. Lt. Perley stated it was not skewed at all, it's factual. Ray stated he wasn't saying that it's not, he's talking about the numbers, wouldn't that be somewhat elevated because the threshold went from .1 to .08. Lt. Perley stated that threshold changed 15 or 20 years ago; it's been .08 for 20 years. When he first started it was .10

and before that it was .15 shortly before he started. It's been .08 mandated by Federal law for at least 20 years.

John Edgerton stated this has nothing to do with the budget, but you are Police Officers; on the case in Wolfeboro where the woman trespasses and the guy goes to jail because he had a gun in his hand, what's your opinion. He should have shot her and it would have been over. Lt. Perley stated no, he should not have shot her. Chief Wagner stated there has to be some threat; this is a young lady that's lost, wandered on to his property as far as he knows; he doesn't know the case, but you can't just go around threatening people with a gun just because. John stated in his personal opinion, if had called 911 he would have been better off. Lt. Perley stated of course, he wouldn't be in jail.

Chairman Mosca again thanked Chief Wagner and Lt. Perley for coming in.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Mosca advised the members that the non-profit budgets were ready and asked that each member pick up a copy before leaving. John Edgerton questioned that there were only 8 non-profits this year.

Bob Drinkhall moved, seconded by John Edgerton, to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Iris A. Bowden, Recording Secretary