Public Safety Advisory Meeting Minutes

October 24, 2017

Brad Sevaldson, Greg Uthoff, Marie Reinhardt, John Reinhardt, Carl Ward, Colleen Gilliam, Holly Giles, Chief Lange

Discussion:

Department updates. Nightmare on Federal Street Halloween.   
Police department personnel changes. Hiring process for more reserve officers. Hired a female office reserve. Other interviews in progress. Over time budget is high due to limited staff. Chief Lange will be covering police and EMS at the end of the month administratively.

Cross training of staff in EMS and Fire. Should the town move to this model. Neither TJ nor Toby were here to speak to this topic. It is also an option to cross train police officers. Chief Lange has offered cross training to his officers. Unclear of training requirements or who provides the EMT training. Police has a collective bargaining agreement current contract ends June 30, 2017. Police are usually the first on the scene.

Question from John R, town select board wants to reduce budget by 500,000 but budget committee is not in favor they would prefer to raise revenue. How is this impacting public safety? Looking at parking as a revenue source in the two new lots. Minimum revenue but still an income. Looking at selling items at the water front.

The amount of work is increasing. Members are getting burnt out. Review of school grant. Concern in regards to public safety, Chief Lange sent a letter to the school board with concerns about the impact on public safety. No input from police. Concerns of student and staff safety. Superintendent Wilmot has responded to speak with Chief Lange based on his letter. SRO is working double duty until a replacement is hired. Police department has a good relationship with Sweetser crisis. CIT training for police, Wiscasset officers were signed up but class was cancelled due to low enrollment. Meeting with the select board to discuss this topic. Will request a meeting with school board. Holly will inquire about CIT training opportunities in Lewiston area and share information with Chief Lange. Abel to acquire a grant for scopes for new rifles, officer will qualify annually in hand guns. Harbor Master report. Ghost moorings select board has authorized to advertise in paper to alert owners of the property if no response then town can sell the property as is. Harbor Master needs a boat. Is a donation possible? Chief Lange is trying to acquire a boat from the federal government all Wiscasset would pay for is the shipping cost. Fire department has an inflatable Zodiac boat. Looking into homeland security grant to purchase harbor safety equipment. Does the department need help from the committee to seek a new vessel? Center console, large enough to tow another boat and move moorings. Town owns 4 moorings for visitors. Free during the day, charge for overnight stay. Carl will reach out to Yacht Club to learn of opportunities for boats for Harbor Master donations. Chief will ask Harbor Master to send Carl an email. Craig Worster, SRO applying for grant to enhance school safety, cameras in the school, new lights to alert motorist to school.

Holly Giles attended Chamber of Commerce BBH event. Networking about public safety services. Holly and Colleen will attend next month meeting. Talk about water front. Ask TJ if he would be open to sending a representative of the fire department to our meeting. Committee would like to learn perspective of the fire department.