

**Town of Auburn  
Police Commission  
August 5, 2014**

**Present:** David Dion, Police Commissioner, Ken Robinson, Police Commissioner, Captain Gary Bartis and Lillian Deeb, Office Manager

**Also Present:** Jay Bilodeau, Steve Grange, Audrey Trickett, Michelle Jacobs, Jeff Mullaney, Tom Gonyea, Mikey Rolfe, Mike Dross, Linda Dross, Holley Rolfe, Ray Pelton, Officer Chris Beaulé, Officer Kevin Cashman and Sgt. Chip Chabot.

**Absent:** Chief Edward Picard and Dennis McCarthy, Police Commissioner

**D. Dion** – the meeting was called to order at 7:01.

**REVIEW THE June 19, 2014 MINUTES**

**K. Robinson** - motion to accept the June 19, 2014 minutes. **D. Dion** – second. All in favor.  
**Motion passes.**

**REVIEW BILLS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

**D. Dion** – comments there are letters of correspondence, first letter is related to a response to a burglary call taken on Hooksett Road, where victim praises Officer Barry and Officer Beaulé for their professionalism. The second letter was related to a call taken over the phone related to Officer Bike's response to a stranded motorist and his kindness and courteousness. **D. Dion** – moves on to bills and explains the new cruiser set up has been received from Richard Bilodeau of Suncook, NH for outfitting. He briefly explains the process and condition the new cruiser arrived in when delivered to attendees and comments on the company and process last year and comment Jay Bilodeau is here tonight to explain the invoice to further help the commission understand what was covered when outfitting the 2 new SUVs at \$6564.99 each. Further explaining last year this was done at a cost of approximately \$7200.00 and taken back at the cost this year when he went to approve the invoice. **J. Bilodeau** – comments on the fact that crown vic packaging does not fit in the SUV style cruiser and had items that needed to be updated due to that. Console styles in SUV leave limited space requiring adjustments to be made in an effort to get the radio and switch box into a fit into a five inch space with switch box being nine inches alone and required consoles. **D. Dion** – questions whether new consoles had to be ordered. **J. Bilodeau** – explains in an effort to reduce the price he used refurbished consoles that have been modified and cut down. **D. Dion** – asked why the crown vic consoles weren't used. **J. Bilodeau** – explains the crown vic consoles were unusable. **D. Dion** – continues to review the itemized invoice requesting an explanation of each item. **J. Bilodeau** – explains rear window bars were added for safety reasons and explains the siren speakers that the department had were 50 watt which is not standard, disintegrating and needed to be replaced and couldn't be reused, plus needed new brackets to fit SUV. He further explains the needs relating to size and space issues and pricing on the lighting. **D. Dion** – asks what the rec-14 at \$65.00 for 6 is related to. **J. Bilodeau** – explains red/blue safety lighting on cruiser. **D. Dion** – comments on the black push-bumper. **J. Bilodeau** – comments, couldn't be reused. **D. Dion** – asks about the gun rack locking. **J. Bilodeau** – explains how it is used. **D. Dion** – asks why the light bar wasn't reused. **J. Bilodeau** – explains there was LED lights out and that those bars were purchased years ago. He also explains the effort to standardize

cruisers to be set up all the same way for officer safety. **D. Dion** – asks about the two LED lights ordered. **J. Bilodeau** – explains those light enable the officer to see inside the hatch and be seen for safety when hatch is open. **D. Dion** – comments on the labor costs being very reasonable and asks Mr. Bilodeau if there is any wiggle room to reduce any of the pricing. **J. Bilodeau** – explains there really isn't as much of what was invoiced was at cost and there are some things that were not included already in the billing that he is taking a hit on like map light and mic clips. **D. Dion** – asks some of the officers present how they find the set-up of the new cruisers. **R. Pelton** – comments that officers main concern was addressed to standardize the outfitting including rifles, radios, lighting in the hatch and bars on the window were safety concerns, but primarily was to standardize for muscle memory. It may have been a little more money to replace things worn out but felt had to do for safety in emergencies for officer to know where everything was. Pricing was obtained from Adamson and they wanted more than Bilodeau. **J. Bilodeau** - comments to cut costs they use refurbished or used equipment whenever possible. **D. Dion** – thanks Mr. Bilodeau for taking the time to come down and explain costs. **T. Gonyea** – asks if there was a budget for these costs. **D. Dion** – affirms there was and comments it was in somewhere around 6,000 range. **G. Bartis** – comments it puts over budget by approximately 8,400 in total. **D. Dion** – comments funds from cruiser maintenance are going to be used. **T. Gonyea** – asks about the initial quotes. **G. Bartis** – explains Skip from Cocheco Communications in the past year was responsible for the changeover and historically almost half of the changeover was done by Bilodeau, at a very competitive cost. The one quote from Adamson from Haverhill, Ma. Adamson does many of the agencies and MA State Police cruiser set-ups and it is done uniformly and it was for \$16,000.000 at \$2,000 more, than Bilodeau. Since they were used in the past the department decided to stick with them. **T. Gonyea** – comments he agrees Bilodeau's costs seem to be reasonable but again asks about the original budget. **G. Bartis** – comments the main reason it went over was uniformity in cruisers as officer safety issue, bars in rear windows being one of the safety issue and the department messed up not keeping closer track of the budget but the work had to be done but was at a lower cost than other companies could have done the same work for. **M. Rolfe** – asks how many years the cruisers are kept. **G. Bartis** – explains the department leases two vehicles per year historically. **M. Rolfe** – comments if Ford changes the design again the department will be looking at the same issues. **D. Dion** – confirms with the change from crown vic that is the case. **G. Bartis** – comments some additional costs incurred because the Lieutenant's cruiser was one of the old styles that was changed out and is now one of the two cruisers up for sale with the town and the undercover cruiser changeover, were costs not incurred last year. **R. Pelton** – explains in all likelihood the department will incur these cost again for new suv style but anticipates getting a good run out of this set up style. **D. Dion** – comments he will initial the invoices makes on to the next item on the agenda.

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH UPDATE

**D. Dion** – confirms with Mr. Grange he is here for related to the NW. **S. Grange** – confirms he is. **L. Deeb** – explains Mr. Grange has expressed in interest in becoming the leader of Group B's Neighborhood Watch. **D. Dion** – comments that Group B is the section that he resides in. **L. Deeb** – had hoped one of the other leaders was going to be present at tonight's meeting to introduce Steve to one of the other leaders but will make sure Steve gets the contact information. **D. Dion** – recommends having an impromptu meeting at the department with other leaders and possibly a commissioner or two informally to take about the program. **L. Deeb** - also comments that Detective Chabot is present tonight update on past and recent burglaries. **D. Dion** – asks Ms. Deeb to put in the works, setting something up.

## CHIEF'S REPORT

**D. Dion** – comments in the Chief's absence will move right into Captain's report.

## CAPTAIN'S REPORT

**G. Bartis** – comments firstly on the police reports related to the Silva property and the dumping at the town shed, commenting he talked to the County Attorney's Office, Attorney Bill Pate. Attorney Pate was assigned these cases and is still reviewing them but related the dumping as not a felony at best misdemeanor and would be sending the file back to the police with his recommendations. As far as the Silva property was concerned, the Attorney reports it remains under review and warrants further investigation and spoke of grand jury investigation as a way to go but that is still in the works and will let know when done reviewing. **G. Bartis** – comments the other item he was asked to address was hours submitted by the part-time officers and that Ms. Deeb provided duty shift printouts. Further comments officers are putting in for a decent amount of shifts but may not actually get them but are in compliance with the union contract of at least 6 shifts. He further explains some of the numbers are off due to employees being out for certain reasons which limited their shift availability. **D. Dion** – asks some questions related to the hours to date and the 1300 limit for part-time officers. **M. Dross** – asks if officers are putting in for shifts they know they are not going to get in an effort to get more details. He refers to the town report that shows Santuccio and Rogers both have more detail work than shift work. **R. Pelton** – explains the full-time officers are scheduled on the rotation first and open shifts are put out to the part-time officers. **G. Bartis** – explains the schedule is put out a month in advance and details come in daily. **R. Pelton** – explains many of the part-time officers on an average work two shifts per week. **M. Dross** – asks if there is a ratio for the number of officers that should be working for a town. **G. Bartis** – comments the ratio he believes being spoke of is 2.2 per 1000 people. **R. Pelton** – explains that would be full-time officers. **G. Bartis** – explains that would put Auburn at somewhere over 10 full-time officers and Auburn only has 7. **M. Dross** – asks how many part-time officers Auburn has. **G. Bartis** – comments Auburn has 12 and explains the part-time officers are only paid for the time they work. **M. Dross** – comments he is bothered by all the details Rogers and Santuccio do and again asks if they are putting in for shifts they know they are not going to get. **R. Pelton** – explains that is not happening and that part-time officers are getting about 50% of the shifts they put in for and he tries to be fair and rotate if multiple people put in for the same shifts. **M. Dross** – asks if there is a limit to the amount of time an officer can work. **R. Pelton** – comments on 32 hours per week. **M. Dross** – comments on hiring more full-time and using less part-time officers. **R. Pelton** – explains with the cost of benefits this would not be cost effective for the town. **D. Dion** – comments he was told that it would cost the town approximately \$70,000 to hire a new officer earning about \$40,000 for the costs of benefits. **M. Dross** – again wonders if it might be beneficial to hire more full-timers and get rid of some part-timers. **D. Dion** – explains that is something the department plans on looking into. **D. Dion** – asks Detective Chabot to come forward to address commissioners, updating them on some recent and past case results. **C. Chabot** – comments on a burglary last week or so that took place on Rattlesnake, where a portion of the items taken were recovered. Detective Chabot further explains about Leads Online program that the budget committee approved funding for and how the data base program works to aid the department in solving burglaries. He comments that the victim was able to go Cash for Gold and identify some of her jewelry and it was like pulling a string on a sweater and he was able to identify a suspect from that. In addition the department has received several Superior Court convictions, one related to an arrest Officer Lennon made with a traffic stop where stolen items from Walmart and Home Depot were recovered. There was

also a burglary at the Go-Go Mart last year and received convictions on all three of the suspects that were arrested two are still sitting in jail. Dick V. on Bunker Hill was burglarized two summers ago. Officer Kapos retrieved a die cast car which was fingerprinted and identified a local suspect that was already in jail but is serving consecutive time on Auburn's charges. Also had a burglary on Dollard Drive where Captain Bartis retrieved a cigarette butt from the scene as evidence which received a DNA hit on a suspect in some other local burglaries, he will continue to work that case. Much of the delay is related to the fact there is only one State Lab processing all the evidence from all the agencies in NH but the Department is solving them. **D. Dion** – confirms that the suspect in the Rattlesnake Hill burglary is a suspect for some other local agencies. **C. Chabot** – confirms but explains the victim was proactive wanting to help and by going to the pawn shop was able to provide an initial lead and because the Department has a good working relationship with the pawn shops they set aside the jewelry and are working with department. Further reiterates the importance of taking photos of jewelry and items of value and writing down serial numbers to help locate property if it is ever stolen. **G. Bartis** – comments he also wanted Chip commended not only on the solving of these cases but the fact he is a member of the ICAC task force within the state which is responsible for getting some pretty nasty people off the streets. **D. Dion** – comments that Detective Chabot wouldn't have time to devote to these case if he continued to be responsible for prosecution but because the Department has hired a prosecutor Chip is able to devote all his time to solving and investigating cases. **C. Chabot** – comments he also uses the Prosecutor as a resource on many cases

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**D. Dion** – comments there isn't anything under old business.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**D. Dion** – asks Jason lentile to move to the front of the room and explains the Department has had a part-time officer recently resign and explains Jason is presently a sworn officer under Auburn for the Manchester Water Works Department and this spring graduated the part-time police academy and expressed an interest in working part-time for Auburn and invites Jason to tell the commission of his qualification. **J. lentile** –explains he is full-time employed with Manchester Water Works and has been for the last 10 years and believes he would be a good fit and work well with the other officers. **G. Bartis** – explained Jason's background check was already done when the Water Works Department hired him for patrol and he needed to attend the academy. **K. Robinson** – comments on Jason's knowledge of the trails here in Auburn. **J. lentile** – comments he is very familiar with the trails here in Auburn. **D. Dion** – confirms with Captain Bartis that part-time new hirers enter as a labor grade 6. **G. Bartis** – confirms discussions to hire Jason at Step 2 which is \$16.62 per hour. **K. Robinson** –motion to hire Jason lentile at Labor Grade 6, Step 2 at 16.62 per hour. **D. Dion** – second. All in favor.

**Motion passes.**

**D. Dion** – comments next on agenda is to review budget, with present usage at 57.05% and once current cruiser set-ups costs added with have to see where adjustments can be made. **L. Deeb** –comments the cruise maintenance line is down slightly because department making a concentrative effort to keep costs down. **K. Robinson** – comments the fuel line remains down and getting it at the state pumps has certainly save the town money. **M. Rolfe** – asks whose position this new hire is filling. **D. Dion** –comments Officer Scurry's position and asks if there is anything additional that needs to be addressed. **M. Jacobs** – comments on a few issues of

concern to her, relating the speed on Wilsons Crossing remains a concern and asks if there is a way to change the speed limit from the already posted 35 mph. **R. Pelton** – comments on the radar trailer being stationed out on Wilson and having recorded data showing the average speed to only be about 40 mph and this matter has been discussed at the Highway Safety Meeting since Wilsons Crossing is no longer a back road but a main road through town and believes Selectmen are the ones she needs to speak with related to changing speed limits. **M. Jacobs** – comments Selectmen Sullivan has spoken to her about the issue but she still has concerns about the speed. **R. Pelton** – comments the police department has done what can logistically be done. **M. Jacobs** – recommended getting a flashing sign like Manchester has on Lake Ave. **R. Pelton** – comments the department will look into signage that may offer a solution and check the data on the radar trailer and attempt to have detail patrols at this high volume time. **M. Jacobs** – comments on her other issue which relates to her neighbor and gives the police commissioners a history of what has taken place with phone calls and consistent calls she has had to make to the police department. Police were able to stop the harassing phone calls neighbor was making but since 2008 continues to make loud noise at night and understands it could be mental health issues but doesn't know what to do. **G. Bartis** – comments one of the department's female officers has done a lot of work with the party Ms. Jacobs is speaking to, further commenting this officer tried to get assistance from other State agencies and it just isn't anything available and much of what the person is doing may not be considered a crime but the calls continue to be answered. **M. Jacobs** – asks when it becomes a crime. **G. Bartis** – comments the issue is the state of mind of the individual, deliberately or knowingly is committing a crime and the phone calls can be seen as harassment. **G. Bartis** – asked if subject was ever charged with harassment. **M. Jacobs** – comments couldn't charge someone like that, knowing they have issues. **R. Pelton** – suggests Ms. Jacobs make a report to one of the officers present after the meeting and see if some assistance can be gotten from a state agency but she may have to seek assistance from the Court

**K. Robinson** - Motion to adjourn. **D. Dion** – second. All in favor. **Motion passes**

**Meeting closed at 8:04 pm.**