**New Boston Police Department**

As we look back upon 2021, we will note that it was another challenging year for our department. Between the continuing challenges created by the pandemic, along with our constant struggle finding and retaining staff, I would best describe our effort as resilient.

Beginning our new year, we found ourselves with vacancies for two full time and one part time Officer positions. Positively, we were able to make significant progress in a short period of time and upon reaching the end of the first quarter, we had filled both full-time positions and only had our part time Officer remaining. Our outlook towards fall, once all training was scheduled to be completed, looked very favorable. But, by the time we reached the fall, we again found ourselves three positions down and despite attempts in June, August and November to fill our positions, we could not find any suitable candidates. We did welcome two new Officer’s in December with the hiring of Hunter Secor, and Gabriel Iacoviello but still finished the year looking to fill three vacancies. Unfortunately, the candidate pools for Officer positions statewide remain very small which has caused many cities and towns to offer highly competitive alternatives. As a smaller town, our Select Board has supported my efforts to remain competitive, but we just do not have the resources larger agencies have which will always remain a challenge to retain and attract new staff. Despite these hardships, we have maintained our 24-hour coverage and will continue to work through these issues to provide the same level of service our residents have come to expect.

In February, I was honored to accept a donation from James “Bud” Baudreau who generously donated $10,000 to the Police Department towards the purchase of our body cameras. Sadly, Bud passed away a few months later. Bud was a wonderful and generous man and he will be missed by his friends and family.

In May, through a collaboration with Millennium Running, New Boston held its first ½ marathon which was a huge success. Partnerships with Goffstown PD and the town Fire Departments made it a great event and we look forward to this becoming an annual attraction for our town.

In June, our delayed town vote was held and unfortunately, our building addition warrant article failed. The positive result of the vote was that the town passed our warrant request for body cameras and overwhelmingly passed the town budget which provided much needed support for our employees after three default budgets over the prior five years.

To address our building needs, we engaged in discussions with the fire station committee and through that collaboration, developed a plan for a safety complex as part of a broader municipal project. The final project is very impressive and, if passed, would serve this community for many years to come. It is also an inclusive project that recognizes the needs of the Police, Fire, Recreation, and the Town Hall. I am hopeful our residents will see the thought and completeness this project offers when making a decision to support it in March.

By December, we had delivery of our body cameras and completed the initial training for deployment. As we began 2022, our Officers are now equipped with the cameras on patrol.

In July, following the resignation of Town Administrator Peter Flynn, I was asked by our Select Board to serve as interim Town Administrator, while also serving in my capacity as Police Chief. While honored by the request, it also resulted in a very busy fall serving both capacities. I am thankful for the opportunity and trust they demonstrated in me.

In August, we obtained a speed sign board through a grant to address the numerous speed complaints we receive. We deployed it in October and our residents should note it throughout 2022 and we move it around town to address the continuing speed problem.

Throughout the year, we were faced with several significant felony investigations and I am proud of the initiative and efforts demonstrated by our Officers while investigating these crimes.

Statistically in 2021, we noted some decreases in both offenses and arrests. What is important to recognize is the impact the pandemic and our staffing shortages had in reviewing those numbers. With that consideration, overall, I would consider 2021 to be an average year.

Finally, the continued support from our residents does not go unnoticed and is sincerely appreciated by our staff. We will always be faced with challenges, but with your support and collaborations, we will always land on the right side of them.

We look forward to continuing that partnership in 2022.

Respectfully,

James R. Brace

Chief of Police

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2019** | **2020** | **2021** |
| ***Calls For Service (ALL)*** | 19786 | 21087 | 18166 |
| MOTOR VEHICLE STOP | 5234 | 5386 | 3598 |
| MOTORIST ASSIST/LOCKOUTS | 53 | 40 | 32 |
| OHRV COMPLAINT | 6 | 14 | 6 |
| DISABLED/ABANDONED MV | 51 | 49 | 36 |
| MOTOR VEHICLE COMPLAINT | 122 | 102 | 107 |
| PARKING COMPLAINT | 11 | 16 | 12 |
| PLOWING COMPLAINT | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| ROAD HAZARD (ALL) | 70 | 126 | 84 |
|  |  |  |  |
| SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE | 71 | 100 | 75 |
| SUSPICIOUS PERSON | 14 | 24 | 28 |
| SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY | 76 | 57 | 25 |
| UNWANTED SUBJECT | 4 | 3 | 4 |
|  |  |  |  |
| PAPERWORK SERVICE | 140 | 69 | 255 |
| SERVE RESTRAINING ORDER | 8 | 7 | 7 |
| CIVIL STANDBY | 30 | 13 | 25 |
| CIVIL ISSUES | 39 | 24 | 39 |
| DOMESTIC ORDER VIOLATION | 5 | 7 | 4 |
|  |  |  |  |
| DIRECTED PATROL | 4993 | 5323 | 4462 |
| BUSINESS/PROPERTY CHECK | 6018 | 6712 | 7074 |
| HOUSE CHECKS/REQUEST | 877 | 1096 | 506 |
| FINGERPRINTS | 15 | 14 | 14 |
| PISTOL PERMITS | 54 | 58 | 60 |
| SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION | 29 | 27 | 23 |
| VIN VERIFICATION | 51 | 46 | 51 |
| WELFARE CHECK | 86 | 73 | 79 |
| OPEN DOOR | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| CITIZEN ASSIST/GIVE ADVICE | 132 | 101 | 78 |
| ASSIST FIRE & RESCUE | 304 | 283 | 334 |
| ASSIST LAW ENFORCEMENT/OTHERS | 139 | 117 | 97 |
| ***Calls For Service -continued*** | **2019** | **2020** | **2021** |
| CRIME PREVENTION/COMMUNITY POLICING | 20 | 56 | 25 |
| 911 HANG-UP/ABANDONED CALL | 14 | 13 | 10 |
| ALARMS | 123 | 105 | 67 |
| ANIMAL COMPLAINT (ALL) | 166 | 146 | 157 |
| DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE | 39 | 29 | 35 |
| GUNSHOTS (REPORTED) | 20 | 26 | 7 |
| NOISE COMPLAINT | 19 | 20 | 16 |
| NEIGHBORHOOD DISPUTE | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| LITTERING/ILLEGAL DUMPING | 10 | 10 | 7 |
| FOUND/LOST PROPERTY | 23 | 35 | 58 |
| POLICE INFORMATION | 104 | 114 | 123 |
| MISSING PERSON/RUNAWAY | 10 | 16 | 12 |
| ALL OTHERS | 599 | 629 | 533 |
| ***Calls by Month*** | **2019** | **2020** | **2021** |
| JANUARY | 1529 | 1763 | 1438 |
| FEBRUARY | 1425 | 1793 | 1242 |
| MARCH | 1689 | 1516 | 1782 |
| APRIL | 1671 | 1391 | 1573 |
| MAY | 1785 | 1837 | 1757 |
| JUNE | 1518 | 2055 | 1751 |
| JULY | 2069 | 2031 | 1515 |
| AUGUST | 1709 | 2015 | 1376 |
| SEPTEMBER | 1386 | 1701 | 1290 |
| OCTOBER | 1637 | 1726 | 1402 |
| NOVEMBER | 1890 | 1704 | 1510 |
| DECEMBER | 1478 | 1555 | 1530 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** | **2021** |
| **ARRESTS** | 200 | 169 | 227 | 192 | 167 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL MV COLLISIONS** | 101 | 113 | 98 | 75 | 87 |
| **INJURIES** | 19 | 28 | 20 | 19 | 18 |
| **FATALITIES** | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ***Motor Vehicle Offenses*** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** | **2021** |
| Operating Without License | 42 | 31 | 52 | 60 | 13 |
| Habitual Offender | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| Suspended License | 36 | 39 | 70 | 65 | 34 |
| Suspended Registration | 11 | 18 | 30 | 15 | 11 |
| Unregistered MV | 89 | 69 | 90 | 193 | 104 |
| Uninspected MV | 598 | 190 | 332 | 497 | 578 |
| Speeding  | 4030 | 3464 | 3310 | 3500 | 2124 |
| Stop Sign/Fail to Yield | 136 | 101 | 69 | 73 | 61 |
| Highway Markings | 185 | 100 | 113 | 104 | 68 |
| Following Too Closely | 40 | 30 | 29 | 27 | 30 |
| Traffic Control Devices | 98 | 30 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Misuse / Failure to Display | 536 | 383 | 389 | 419 | 148 |
| Equipment Violations  | 807 | 840 | 903 | 720 | 506 |
| Use of Mobile Devices | 61 | 47 | 85 | 29 | 42 |
| Negligent Driving (Jessica’s Law) | NR | NR | 23 | 15 | 19 |
| Other Offenses | 268 | 272 | 271 | 434 | 347 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL WARNINGS** | 6224 | 5013 | 4910 | 5302 | 3026 |
| **TOTAL CITATIONS** | 681 | 575 | 788 | 759 | 617 |
| **TOWN ORDINANCE (CANINE)** | 47 | 69 | 74 | 17 | 9 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL CRIMES** | 410 | 372 | 480 | 487 | 420 |
| **TOTAL INCIDENTS** | 148 | 149 | 141 | 152 | 140 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ***Crimes*** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** | **2021** |
| Homicide | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Robbery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Assaults | 19 | 17 | 29 | 19 | 23 |
| Domestic Violence Offenses | 17 | 13 | 25 | 17 | 23 |
| Sexual Assault/Offenses | 1 | 14 | 8 | 4 | 5 |
| Burglary / Attempted | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Thefts (All) | 22 | 22 | 27 | 12 | 23 |
| Fraud/Forgery | 12 | 20 | 24 | 24 | 19 |
| Arson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Criminal Mischief | 18 | 23 | 20 | 27 | 13 |
| Child Abuse/Neglect/Endanger | 4 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 7 |
| Child Porn/Obscene Material | 2 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 1 |
| Criminal Threatening | 5 | 8 | 4 | 8 | 6 |
| Criminal Trespass | 7 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 5 |
| Disorderly Conduct | 1 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 2 |
| Reckless Conduct | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Protective Order Violation | 1 | 3 | 3 | 8 | 6 |
| Harassment | 0 | 7 | 3 | 7 | 3 |
| Stalking/Prowling | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Drug Violations | 95 | 56 | 58 | 61 | 46 |
| DWI | 18 | 18 | 21 | 20 | 30 |
| Liquor Law Violations | 44 | 27 | 28 | 21 | 41 |
| Traffic Offenses | 29 | 74 | 41 | 149 | 95 |
| Stolen Motor Vehicle | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Resisting/Hindering Arrest | 3 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 1 |
| Warrant (Arrests) | 16 | 8 | 19 | 21 | 23 |
| Protective Custody/IEA | 6 | 12 | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| Animal Offense | 10 | 13 | 12 | 12 | 13 |
| All Other Offenses | 23 | 20 | 27 | 49 | 22 |