

To: Brattleboro Selectboard
Via: Peter Elwell, Town Manager
From: Michael Fitzgerald, Chief of Police
Date: 10 February 2017

SUBJ: JANUARY 2017 MONTHLY REPORT

Summary of Major Activities /Work Projects:

Officers responded to 846 calls for service/incidents along with making 42 arrests resulting in 58 criminal charges. 107 motor vehicle citations were issued along with 550 verbal warnings. Officers also spent approximately 199 hours on walking patrols in the downtown district and other areas of the Town.

Cases of Interest:

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department responded to a residence on Oak Grove Ave for a report of a underage drinking party. Subsequent investigation led to Arik Clark and Bethany Martin being issued citations for enabling the consumption of alcohol by minors. Clark and Martin will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division at a later date to face the charge.

Brattleboro Officers responded the Brattleboro Memorial Hospital regarding a disorderly, intoxicated man. Upon arrival, Alex Symanski, 26, was arrested for Disorderly Conduct. Symanski will appear in court at a later date to face the charge.

Brattleboro Police responded to a business on Putney Road for a theft. The two suspects involved were seen running from the scene on Putney Road. Police were able to identify one of the subjects and locate both of them a short time later on Putney Road. Police identified the male involved as Thomas Supernois. The female, who at first gave a false name, was identified as Stacy Olmsted. Both subjects were found to have active arrest warrants in the State of Vermont and were arrested. Supernois was charged with retail theft and Olmsted was charged with retail theft and false information. Both subjects were transported to Southern State Correctional Facility on the warrants and they were issued citations to court for a later date and time on their new charges.

Officers received a report of an incident that had occurred at a residence on Brook Street, involving a domestic disturbance. Investigation revealed that Neal Bolster caused injury to a female acquaintance. Neal Bolster was subsequently arrested for the offense of Aggravated Domestic Assault and lodged at the Brattleboro PD in lieu of bail. He was cited to appear in Windham County Superior Court.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department responded to a residence on Elliot Street for a threatening complaint. Subsequent investigation led to the arrest of Victor Monette (59 of Brattleboro). Monette was later issued conditions of release and released on a citation to appear at court at a later date and time to answer to the charge of Simple Assault.

Brattleboro Police were informed of an erratic white colored vehicle traveling West on High St. The vehicle struck another vehicle and left the scene. Police located the vehicle on Forest St. where it was stuck in the snow. Upon investigation, the operator, Agnes Seville was arrested for DUI and cited to appear in Windham Superior Court: Criminal Division.

Brattleboro Police conducted a motor vehicle stop on Green St. The operator of this vehicle, Anthony P. Farnum, was subsequently placed under arrest without incident for the offense of DUI. Farnum was lodged at the Brattleboro Police Department and will appear in the Windham Superior Court: Criminal Division to answer to this charge.

Brattleboro Police responded to the intersection of Canal Street and Belmont Ave for a report of a motor vehicle collision involving a motorcycle. Rescue Inc. and the Brattleboro Fire Department also responded. Robert J. Stack, 68, of Brattleboro was operating a black Toyota SR5. Arthur N. Givens, 55, of Brattleboro was operating a green Keeway moped. Stack made a left turn onto Canal Street from Belmont Ave and did not see Givens on his moped traveling south on Canal Street. Givens and Stack then collided in the intersection. Givens was transported to Brattleboro Memorial Hospital for minor injuries. Stack did not complain of any injuries. Stack was issued a traffic citation for failing to yield the right of way to oncoming traffic. This section of Canal Street was closed for approximately 15 minutes until the investigation was complete and vehicles were removed from the roadway.

Brattleboro Police Department responded to a residence on Canal St. to investigate a report of an assault. Subsequent investigation led to the arrest of Mark J Caslin, 28 year old male of Brattleboro for Unlawful Trespass, in that he was located inside a residence which he was currently trespassed from. Caslin was taken into custody and transported to the Brattleboro Police Department where he was processed, cited and released with conditions to appear in Windham County Superior Court at a later date.

Brattleboro Officers responded to the Brattleboro Memorial Hospital ER regarding a suspect with an active extraditable warrant for his arrest. Upon arrival the suspect, William S. Bostwick, Jr., resisted arrest. Bostwick will appear in court at a later date to face the additional charges.

Brattleboro Police Department responded to Main St for a report of a driver who may be in need of medical services. Officers made contact with the individual, Gary Obrien. After contact and screening, Obrien was arrested for Driving under the influence and operating with a criminally suspended license. Obrien was issued a citation for both offenses, and was lodged at Brattleboro Police Department. Obrien will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division at a later date to face the charges.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department arrested Frank D. Merrell on an outstanding warrant from New Hampshire during a traffic stop. Merrell was charged as a Fugitive from Justice, and was held in lieu of bail. Merrell will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division at a later date to face the charge.

Brattleboro Police were dispatched to a business parking lot on Putney Road for a welfare check on an individual that was inside their vehicle for a few hours. Upon investigation, it was determined that Lisa Johnson, age 60 was in possession of Cocaine. Johnson was arrested, and cited to appear in court at a later date in time.

Brattleboro Police responded to a business on Putney RD. to speak with a female that was assaulted. Upon investigation, it was determined that Stephen Christain of Brattleboro did forth the offence of Domestic assault and violation of Abuse Prevention Order. Christain was arrested and cited to appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division at a later date to face the charges.

The Brattleboro Police Department responded to a residence on Westgate Drive for a report of a family fight. Subsequent investigation led to the arrest of Samantha Poirier (25 of Brattleboro). Poirier was later released on court ordered conditions. Poirier was issued a citation to appear at court at a later date and time to answer to the charges of Domestic Assault and Possession of Heroin.

Officers received a report of a man screaming in the downtown area. Upon arrival officers contacted Jacob 'Jacobie' Zaretsky, 47. When officers attempted to take Zaretsky into protective custody, he assaulted them. Zaretsky was arrested for Assault on an Officer and Disorderly Conduct. Zaretsky was treated at BMH for injuries, and then taken into custody by Probation and Parole Officers. Zaretsky will appear in court at a later date to face the charges. No officers were treated for injuries.

Special Meetings/Communications/Events:

Community Equity Collaborative: Their vision is that the greater Brattleboro area is recognized as an open and welcoming epicenter celebrating diversity free of prejudice and discrimination of all kinds. Their mission is to sustain existing and support new initiatives, activities and programs that unify and galvanize our community to achieve our vision. During the quarterly meetings we discuss the impact of current events between law enforcement and their communities, current BPD recruitment and hiring strategy and the celebration of Diversity.

Brattleboro Area Prevention Coalition: Monthly meeting consists of developing strategies in helping others to make smart choices in life. Attendees include representatives from BAPC, BPD, Vermont Department of Health, WCSD, Youth Services, and various mental health agencies.

District Leadership Team holds monthly meetings which are represented by a large audience made up from but not limited to; VT Dept. of Health, Law Enforcement, DOC, HCRS, BACP, Groundworks, Brattleboro Retreat, DCF and various rehabilitation agencies. The goals of the committee are many. To reduce addiction and the destruction it causes to the lives of the citizens in Windham County and help to connect those in need to the proper services.

Officer's and staff also made numerous appearances to meet and discuss the concerns of the citizens at the senior center, elementary schools and community centers. The topics included personal safety, crime trends, homelessness and internet safety. The Brattleboro Police Department continues to make great strides in educating and informing the citizens of our activity and to solicit their feedback on how we can improve our services.

Budget Concerns/Impacts:

Continue to monitor the FY 2017 budget.

Staffing:

The Department is currently down three positions. We have two officers in the Field Training Program and are expected to complete their training by the end of March. We have one cadet that is currently attending the Vermont Police Academy. Graduation from basic training is in May followed by a three week post basic course held at the Vermont Police Academy. We are currently conducting background checks on several applicants for the three vacant positions.