

To: Brattleboro Selectboard
Via: Peter Elwell, Town Manager
From: Michael Fitzgerald, Chief of Police
Date: 07 June 2017

SUBJ: MAY 2017 MONTHLY REPORT

Summary of Major Activities /Work Projects:

Officers responded to 1066 calls for service/incidents along with making 62 arrests resulting in 89 criminal charges. 87 motor vehicle citations were issued along with 480 verbal warnings. Officers also spent approximately 213 hours on walking patrols in the downtown district and other areas of the Town.

Cases of Interest:

Brattleboro Officers located and stopped a vehicle reported as being stolen. Subsequent investigation led to the arrest of Delmas Ortiz and Kathleen Fuquay for possession of crack cocaine, operating without consent and attempting to elude. Crack Cocaine and a large sum of cash were seized, as well as materials consistent with the distribution of drugs. Ortiz and Fuquay were arrested, processed and lodged at the Brattleboro Police Station and ordered held on bail.

The Brattleboro Police Department received a tip about drug activity at a residence on South Main St. This information led to a motor vehicle stop, and subsequent investigation led to Megan Stephens being issued a citation for Possession of a Controlled Substance. Stephens will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division at a later date to face the charge.

Brattleboro Police responded to the area of Pleasant Street and Estey Street for a report of a fight in progress. Subsequent investigation led to the arrest of Tonya L. Camolli for Disorderly Conduct.

A male subject attempted to rob Dottie's on Flat Street in Brattleboro. The robber displayed a knife and demanded money from the clerk. The robber did not get any money and fled down Flat St. towards Main Street. The clerk was not injured in the attempted robbery. As the investigation developed, a suspect was identified as Bryan Houle, age 28, of Brattleboro. A search warrant was applied for and was granted. The search resulted in the seizure of several items determined to be of evidential value and Houle was arrested at his residence. Houle was transported to the BPD and held on \$2,500.00 bail pending his arraignment in Windham Superior Court, Criminal Division.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department observed a suspicious vehicle in a local parking lot on Canal Street. Investigation led to the arrest of Corey Crosby (28 of Brattleboro). Crosby was later released and issued a citation to appear at court at a later date and time to answer to the charge of Possession for Heroin.

Brattleboro Police met with a 22 year old male regarding a robbery that had occurred on Elliot Street. The male stated that Gabriel B. Britton approached him, threatened him harm and demanded all his money. Britton was located and arrested for the offense of Assault and Robbery. Britton was issued a citation to appear in court at a later date.

Brattleboro Police took several complaints for motor vehicle break-ins in the area of Orchard Street, Macintosh Lane and New England Drive. One of the victims was able to trace his stolen tablet into the Town of Guilford later in the day. With the assistance for Vermont State Police the tablet was located in a vehicle at the Guilford School. After an investigation took place police arrested Nathaniel Hurley for the charge of petit larceny.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department responded to a business on Canal St. for a reported fight. Subsequent investigation led to the arrest of Larry Barrows on an outstanding warrant for Retail Theft. Barrows will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division at a later date to face the charge.

Brattleboro Police responded to a call of stolen property in the area of Arch St. in Brattleboro. Upon investigation it was determined that Shawn Guerin had possession of the stolen property. Guerin was arrested, held till sober and issued a citation to face the charges. During the investigation with Guerin, George Gravatt was discovered to have an unlawful trespass. Gravatt was issued a citation to appear in Windham Superior court at a later date.

While foot patrol in the downtown district, officers of the Brattleboro Police Department located several people trespassing on Arch Street. Phyllis Parent was found to have been in violation of a previously issued trespass order. Parent was issued a citation and released to appear at court at a later date and time to answer to the charge of Unlawful Trespass.

Brattleboro Police responded to a motel on Putney Road for a report of a subject that was found unconscious in one of the rooms. Upon arrival, that subject was provided medical attention by members of Rescue, Inc. Investigation was conducted, and another occupant in the room identified as Tasha Fuquay was subsequently arrested and issued a citation for possession of Crack-Cocaine. She was ordered to appear in Windham County Superior Court at a later date.

The Brattleboro Police Department responded to 178 Linden St for a report of a disorderly female. The female was determined to be highly intoxicated and uncooperative. The subject became loud and belligerent with staff and police on scene and was arrested for disorderly conduct.

Information regarding property stolen from a business on Canal St. during a burglary led officers to a residence on Canal St. in an attempt to locate Charles R. Cassell, Jr. Cassell fled on foot upon officer's arrival. Cassell was caught on Homestead Place and arrested for Possession of Stolen Property and Resisting Arrest. At the residence on Canal, Kevin W. McGirr, 35, of Brattleboro, lied to officers in an attempt to deflect the investigation. McGirr was charged with False Information to Law Enforcement. Both subjects will appear in court at a later date to face the charges.

Brattleboro Police, Brattleboro Fire and Rescue Inc. responded to Marlboro Road for a female subject that had struck a fire hydrant with her vehicle. There were no injuries from the collision. Upon arrival, Brattleboro Police met with Emma R. Ethier. Subsequent investigation led to the arrest of Ethier for suspicion of driving under the influence. Ethier was issued a citation to appear in court at a later date.

Brattleboro Police responded to the Vermont Country Deli on Western Avenue for a reported burglary alarm being activated. Investigation showed that a burglary had indeed taken place. Physical damage was done to the business both inside and out and items were stolen, to include money. Investigation led to the identification of a suspect. Police located Charles R. Cassell Jr. (25), of Brattleboro, at a local residence and arrested him in connection to this burglary. Cassell was held in the Brattleboro lockup on \$1,000 bail.

Brattleboro Police stopped a motor vehicle for a traffic violation on Clark Ave. Subsequent investigation led to a Citation being issued to Richard Gero for Possession of Cocaine. He was ordered to appear in Windham County Superior Court at a later date.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department responded to a motel on Putney Road, for the report of a domestic disturbance. During the course of the investigation Officers located what they believed to be cocaine. After serving a search warrant on the motel room officers seized approximately 36.74 grams of cocaine. During the course of the investigation officers arrested Michael Polcari for felony possession of cocaine. Polcari will appear in court at a later date to answer to this charge.

Brattleboro Police Department responded to a residence on Western Avenue for a report of a fight in progress. Subsequent investigation led to the arrest of Moses Akot (37 of Milton). Akot was also found to be in possession of the keys to a nearby vehicle, which had been reported stolen from Williston, VT. Akot was held in lieu of \$1,000 bail and ordered to appear at court at a later date and time to answer to the charges of Domestic Assault and Possession of Stolen Property.

Brattleboro Police Department responded to Elliot Street for a report of a male that obstructed a female's path while making lewd comments to her. The male was immediately located and identified as Alexander Kasser. Kasser was arrested for disorderly conduct and simple assault. Kasser was issued a citation to appear at the Windham Superior Court, Criminal Division at a later date and time.

Brattleboro Police were called to Prospect Cemetery on South Main Street by maintenance crews for someone who was driving over gravestones. When police arrived they found that Peggy Strobeck had driven across a part of the cemetery knocking over three separate gravestones, the gravestones were from the early 1900's or earlier. Strobeck was issued a citation for vandalism of gravestones to appear in court on a later date and time.

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 and finalize the FY 2017 budget.

Staffing:

The Department is currently down five positions. Lt Michael Carrier retired after 19 years of service in the Brattleboro Police Department.

We have one officer that is currently attending the post basic course Vermont Police Academy. Upon completion of the post basic course they will report for the 12 week FTO training at the Brattleboro Police Department.

We have 2 candidates enrolled to attend the 16 week basic course at the Vermont Police Academy in August.

Interviews for the remaining opening positions will be held in June.