




AYER POLICE DEPARTMENT

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William A. Murray
Chief of Police

MEMORANDUM

To: Town Administrator Pontbriand
From: Chief William A. Murray 
CC: file
Date: September 20, 2015
Re: August Monthly Report

During the month of August 2015 the Police Department logged 566 events requiring 66 incident reports and 16 arrest reports. We assisted the Fire Department on 66 medicals and 18 fire alarms. Here are some of the highlights:

Offense	Total
Animal Complaint	17
Assault	11
Assist Other Agencies	6
Civil Complaint	0
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	4
Disturbance	14
Domestic	10
Fraud	1
Larceny	8
Motor Vehicle Accidents	16
MV Stops	158
Motor Vehicle Theft	0
Sex Offender Violations	0
Shoplifting	0
Vandalism of Property	5
Weapons Law Violation	0

From last month:

Over the years the Department has been plagued with inadequate radio communications that we have been able to mitigate but with the narrow banding of the communication channels those efforts are no longer sufficient. At the heart of our concerns is officer safety and as we lack the technical knowledge to proceed with corrections we will be hiring a consultant to assist us. We have also been in a long battle with the Town of Windham New Hampshire who was given the same frequency assignment as us, though we received it first. This was not an issue until the narrow banding but now with their stronger and better equipment they are interfering with our use of portable radios. We have involved state and federal agencies to move Windham off our frequency but the progress is slow going.

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As a follow-up: we have interviewed a consultant who will assist us with determining what we need for equipment and are waiting for a quote for services back from him. There is nothing new from Windham but we continue to push for a resolution.

Additional follow-up: the hiring of a consultant has fallen through and we are back where we started with no prospects to get assistance. This is very disappointing news as we do not possess the expertise to rectify our communication issues and problems continue to exist.

Our recently appointed Animal Control Officer, Julie Thomas, continues to be very proactive in her duties despite the minimal stipend she receives to perform the job.

On the 31st SRO Bigelow put on a safety presentation to the faculty of the school district in preparation for the beginning of the school year. The focus was on staff and student safety and the need for everyone to take charge of their (and their students) own safety by evaluating their classrooms and other areas. She stressed to the staff that they need to evaluate their individual situations and how they should respond to a lockdown, emergency evacuation and a threat confrontation. The message was well received and we believe we are ready to begin the new school year with a new focus on safety and security.