




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: January 20, 2016
Re: December Monthly Report

During the month of December 2015 the Police Department logged 556 events requiring 34 incident reports and 11 arrest reports. We assisted the Fire Department on 53 medicals and 10 fire alarms. Here are some of the highlights:

Offense	Total
Animal Complaint	13
Assault	1
Assist Other Agencies	16
Civil Complaint	1
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	6
Disturbance	13
Domestic	2
Fraud	2
Larceny	6
Motor Vehicle Accidents	18
MV Stops	151
Motor Vehicle Theft	0
Sex Offender Violations	0
Shoplifting	0
Vandalism of Property	2
Weapons Law Violation	0

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.

December 2015 Monthly Report

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.

Radio follow-up: We have found another consultant who charges reasonable fees that is willing to work with us on the project and will contract to stay to the end to oversee the project. This is great news for us!

This month we graduated both our Citizen's Police Academy and our Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) classes. Two totally different types of interaction with the community but both equally important to the mission of policing. Though too early to determine, due to budgetary constraints these may be the last classes of their kinds that the department will have the opportunity to offer.

Once again Sgt. MacDonald out did himself and the community themselves with the annual Christmas Toy Drive to benefit the Loaves and Fishes on Devens. The generosity of this Town to those in need is unequalled and absolutely heartwarming!

Police Chiefs from seven local communities met in Pepperell to discuss the feasibility of hiring a shared clinician to address the challenges of lending assistance to those with a drug dependency other than arrest or criminal proceedings. The meeting was extremely productive and we will be meeting again in the following months to put together a presentation to our respective communities.