



# 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:** July 20, 2016  
**Re:** June Monthly Report

During the month of June 2016 the Police Department logged 713 events requiring 44 incident reports and 9 arrest reports. We assisted the Fire Department on 56 medicals and 15 fire alarms. Here are some of the highlights:

Offense	Total
Animal Complaint	25
Assault	10
Assist Other Agencies	16
Civil Complaint	1
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	7
Disturbance	26
Domestic	4
Fraud	1
Larceny	6
Motor Vehicle Accidents	30
MV Stops	244
Motor Vehicle Theft	1
Sex Offender Violations	0
Shoplifting	0
Vandalism of Property	6
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.

## June 2016 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!

Radio follow-up: Working with the states of MA and NH, and Windham PD we have finally moved Windham off our frequency and have experienced no new interference from their transmissions. While great news this does not correct our ongoing problem of poor around town coverage. We have been having one challenge after another in trying to obtain the services of a consultant, the most recent being budget, but we believe we are finally ready to secure the services of one. It will require a Reserve Fund Transfer and we are hopeful the Board of Selectman and Finance Committee will agree that the need is immediate, necessary, and beyond what our current budget can support.

Radio follow-up: The consultant has been hired and conducted drive-a-longs and equipment inspections this month to assess our coverage and capabilities. He has already defined a need for improvements to our equipment shack and will be submitting a report on our needs next month.

Radio follow-up: A radio equipment structure to replace our current inadequate, rodent infested one has been ordered and awaits information from the DPW on where it will be placed before we can have it delivered.

We have moved into the summer months so other than making plans for the Town's July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration and the routine day-to-day operation of the Department there is nothing of note to report.