

## BUDGET SUB-COMMITTEE--POLICE

The committee met on October 21 at 3:30 p.m. In attendance were Chief Bean Burpee, Deputy Chief Kelly, Lieutenant Parent, Angelo Farruggia and Dorothy Piquado.

### **4210-101 to 133**

These all dealt with staffing and contractual obligations According to town population, approximately 23 officers are needed to optimally serve the town. Gilford PD has been approved for 20 officers but they currently have only 17 with an additional officer to begin in November bringing the number to 18. Attrition, resignations and applicants unable to meet GPD standards are the main reasons for the staffing shortage. Additionally there is a need for 1 new communications specialist as four is not enough to adequately cover all shifts and it has been necessary sometimes to move people from other areas such as IT to fill in. The staffing shortage has also created a need for more overtime.

### **4210-225: Computer Expenses \$40,680 requested. Recommended is \$23,015**

This is an increase of \$1,365 over 2021. The biggest expense is for **Dragon Law Enforcement Dictation Software** of \$17,665. This software would be installed in the vehicles and enable officers to dictate reports faster, safer, more efficiently, more immediately and in more detail. This price is for the first year to obtain all the licenses, microphones, training, maintenance and support. After one year the price will drop to \$2,100. Other software requests and costs are outlined in the book.

### **4210-451: Equipment and Supplies**

This reflects an increase of \$2,370 over last year. The department, rather than replacing a dated photocopier with a purchase of a new one has chosen to lease one for five years for an initial cost of \$2,620 and \$218/month. This new one also scans and includes a maintenance agreement.

### **4210-463: Communication Equipment Expenses**

The communication and radio antenna site maintenance contract has an increase of 23% to \$17,340, the first increase in 7 years. Expenses also include \$7, 160 for Motorola portable radios & programming fees. Each one costs \$3,580 and is in line with annual replacement procedures.

### **4902-725: Tasers and body worn cameras**

The \$38,450 reflects year 2 of a five year TASER Assurance Plan and includes new TASER 7s and BWC Flex 2s with the accompanying equipment as well docking stations, deployment assistance, hardware and unlimited offsite data storage. \$4,800 represents year 2 of a five-year Virtual Reality Simulator package (headset, tablet, software, sensors etc.)

### **4902-735: Police Vehicle Expense \$108,910**

This is a decrease from 2021. The department will replace 2 SUVs at an initial cost of \$33,000 each (total \$66,000). Modifications add \$47,910 for equipment, lettering, radar unit etc.

It was noted that money collected by the PD such as fines for violations goes into the general fund and not back to the PD.

The total budget request is \$3,412,913 with a BOS recommendation of \$3,395,164. This reflects a 6.6% increase over last year.

The meeting ended at 4:30. The sub-committee voted to approve the budget.

Dorothy Piquado