

Minutes from Public Security Meeting held Feb 6, 2017 Cabot Willey Building.

Attending: Michael Hogan-Chair, Tim Gochey, Bobby Searles, Steve Godin, Will Amaden, Rory Thibault, Kevin Lehoe.

- Public Comment: None
- Discussion on various items:
 - **Judicial System, Community Involvement, Social Media Uses**
 - Rory Thibault , Chief Deputy State's Attorney Washington County gave the group an overview of his department's effort's in trying to achieve justice in our communities. I have the handout which is very good!
 - He reviewed various cases and the challenges they face with case load and prioritization. Limited law enforcement, multiple agencies, rural nature of the county and societal problems driving crime.
 - There is a need to be proactive if we are to do anything about the criminal elements in our community.
 - Impacts can be made in a few areas: Arraignment's are held each Thursday before a judge. If they involve individuals who are from Cabot it might carry some weight with the judge in their disposition if people from Cabot (Selectboard, business owners, and others) show up and express the negative impact they are having on the community.
 - Utilize social media with Facebook to put out information on individuals who are causing problems in the community.
 - Mike Hogan and Bobby Searles will work on a Public Security contact sheet of individuals and agencies to alert when incidents warrant notification. We will publish them and have them in stores and other public locations and available on the towns' web site.
 - Utilizing local health officers and the State Dept. of Health to deal with locations that house criminal elements and have violations under VSA 18 §602a and 24CFR §982 HUD.
 - **Community Patrols shared with other towns.**
 - There is an economic cost to the town to expand its current coverage of Washington County issuing traffic violations to patrolling over a period of designated days and hours.
 - Greensboro pays \$250k annually for 24 -hour coverage.
 - Wolcott pays \$190k annually for 24- hour coverage.
 - Agreements would have to be made with various towns with financial sharing. Successes in Mad River Valley, and other areas of the state.
 - Lamoille County might be a consideration- Roger Marcoux-Chief.
 - **Constables- Next Steps**
 - Mike Hogan will speak with Rep. Kitty Toll on what legislation can move forward some initiatives to give Constables more authority. There has been some progress in Montpelier, but there needs to be some more action.
 - As towns, have less public safety coverage, new approaches have to be considered to protect the public.
 - **Excellent Meeting!!! Next Meeting Date TBD**