

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

2015 was a busy but successful year for the Newton Board of Selectmen. The Board continued to manage the prudential affairs of the town.

Town Meeting took place on March 10, 2015 with a moderate turn-out. The main item on the ballot was consideration of a new tanker truck for the Fire Department. This was overwhelmingly approved winning 3/4th of the votes.

In March, the Board welcomed newly elected Selectman Lisa Gonyer and the re-elected Matthew Burrill. The new board found itself to be a successful blend of talents and knowledge. This allowed the Board to better share responsibilities and draw on each other's strengths.

In May, Newton honored its men and women who served this Country, with its annual Memorial Day parade and ceremony. There was a change in the course of the parade. This year the route was from the Central Fire Station, over Highland Street and down Whittier Street to the Willow Grove Cemetery. The ceremony highlighted Newton resident William (Bill) Thomas, a decorated Veteran of The Korean Conflict.

Town Day was held in October with live music, exhibits, food and vendors at 8 Merrimac Road. The successful day was the work of our dedicated Recreation Commission who should be applauded for their efforts.

Concerning the new fire truck, at the start of the summer, the Board received notice from the State Department of Revenue of a problem with the warrant article concerning the newly ordered fire truck. While the Board believed this was a simple Lease/Purchase of a new vehicle, the State decided we were issuing a bond (something they failed to mention when they approved the warrant in February). After much back-and-forth between the Board and the State it was decided that a Public Hearing and revote would correct the problem. The revote passed by a 90% margin.

As the year drew to a close the Board was presented with a proposal for a new Fire Station. The product of the Fire Station Committee, the plan is for a "No-Frills" station to be built on the property of 8 Merrimac Road. The Board decided to place this on the 2016 warrant and supported this unanimously.

The Board is presently working to combine and update all the Town policies to lay the groundwork for the Town's future.

We encourage all voters in town to come to the polls on March 8th, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,
James L. Doggett, Chairman; Matthew Burrill, Vice-Chairman;
Robert S. Donavon; Lawrence B. Foote; Lisa L. Gonyer
Board of Selectmen

POLICE DEPARTMENT

To the Residents and Taxpayers of Newton,

They were right! The older you get the faster they go!

We first came to Newton in 2002; subtract from 2015 equals thirteen (13). Thirteen (13) years as members and in service to this community. Holy Cow! We've enjoyed almost every minute of it and we're indebted and thankful for all the support that has been shown to the Newton NH Police Department. During this time we, as a department, have truly tried to demonstrate that we are good, positive and integral community partners.

Two (2) of the most tangible things that we have accomplished during this time has been the building of a new police facility and the attainment of National Accreditation. Two (2) nice achievements that have reflect credit and community achievement by the Newton Police Department and the residents and taxpayers of Newton.

I think that most agree; that no one likes to pay additional taxes but, the move from the old "doublewide" on Amesbury Road was much needed and in the best and common interest of the community. Anyone who is business minded understands operational flow and the value of "organization," especially in 24/7/365 public safety environment.

After providing a physical plant that allows for operational flow and the ability to organize properly the next component is accountability. Without going into too much boring detail, I think that most would also agree that accountability is difficult without the first two (2) components. However, while working towards the approval of an updated facility, we focused on increased professionalism through training and working toward eventual accreditation through policy and cultural development.

We first achieved, what was State Accreditation in 2007 and then reaccredited in 2011; but our eyes were always on the big prize of National Accreditation which we, as a community, achieved in December of this year. As such, we are only one (1) of five (5) per cent of the police departments in the country to be nationally accredited.

The new facility and national accreditation are both meaningless however unless they somehow equate to a strengthening of respect and an increased quality of understanding between community members, partners and the police department. In the years ahead, my hope would be that the existing bond between the "community" and the police department continue to strengthen and grow towards total community strengthening and betterment.

Thank you...

Respectfully submitted,
Lawrence E. Streeter
Chief of Police

POLICE DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

ARRESTS:

All Other Larceny	2
All Other Offenses	10
Burglary/Breaking and Entering	1
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	5
Driving Under the Influence	7
Drug/Narcotic Violations	21
Drunkenness	12
Liquor Law Violations	6
Sex Offenses	1
Simple Assault	12
Traffic, Town By-Law Offenses	34
Trespass of Real Property	3

TOTAL ARRESTS 114

CALLS FOR SERVICE:

911 Hang-up/Abandoned Call	25
Administrative	304
Administrative, Other	1,077
Alcohol Related	4
Alarm	163
Animal Complaint	223
Application to Peddle/Solicit	1
Assault	6
Assist Motorist	19
Assist Officer	57
Assist Other Agency	161
Assist Rescue	154
Attempted Suicide	1
Business Check	238
Burglary	7
Child Car Seat Assist	7
Church Traffic	1

Civil Dispute-Domestic Related	4
Civil Problem	88
Civil Standby	45
Community Service	6
Court	90
Criminal Mischief	26
Criminal Threatening	5
Criminal Trespass	10
Cruiser Maintenance	670
Death, Unattended	1
Directed Patrol	4,799
Disturbance	19
Domestic Related	40
Domestic Disturbance	22
Despondent Person	9
Drug Related	19
Drug Take Back	3
Dumping, Illegal	14
Emotionally Distressed Person	2
Escort/Transport	34
Field Interview	4
Fire Department – Assist	56
Fingerprint Non-Criminal	17
Follow-up	911
Fraud	18
Fireworks Complaint	4
Harassment, Other	15
Harassment, Phone	9
Juvenile Problem	15
Lockout, Residential	1
Lockout, Motor Vehicle	4
Mental Incompetent	2
Message Delivery	27
Missing Person	6
Motor Vehicle, Abandoned	11
Motor Vehicle Accident	56
Motor Vehicle, Other	90

CALLS FOR SERVICE Continued:

Motor Vehicle, Speed/Reckless	50	Serve Dog Fine	73
Motor Vehicle Stop	808	Serve Dog Summons	9
Mutual Aid	16	Serve Warrant	35
Natural Disaster	1	Sex Offenses	5
Neighbor Dispute	15	Sex Offender Registration	14
Noise Complaint	35	Smoke/Fire Investigation	4
Non-Criminal	45	Soliciting/Sales	3
OHRV Complaint	9	Suicide	2
OHRV Maintenance	7	Suicide, Threatened	5
Parking Complaint	11	Suspicious Circumstance	98
Pistol Permit	5	Suspicious Vehicle	68
Police Information	390	Theft	28
Prisoner Transport	1	Town Permit	2
Property Damage	12	Traffic Enforcement	82
Property Lost	14	Traffic Hazard	41
Property Recovered	20	Training	2
Prosecution Related	125	Tree Down / Wires Down	22
Road Agent	14	Truancy Check	19
Reported Hazard	31	Underage Drinking Patrol	1
Restraining Order	14		
Restraining Order Violation	4	Unattended Death	2
Report Writing	627	Unsecured Building	1
School Crosswalk	205	Unwanted Subject	7
Shoplifting	1	Vacation Watch	191
Speed Enforcement	381	Vin Verification	90
Serve Paperwork	127	Weapon Related	6
Safe School Act	6	Well-Being Check	68
Special Event	7		
Rescue Assist	154	TOTAL CALLS for SERVICE	13,584
Public Assist	124		

Respectfully submitted,
Lawrence E. Streeter
Chief of Police