



NBPD STREET BEAT

Monthly Report from the Men and Women
of the
North Berwick Police Department



Est. 2019

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Issue 10

2019 – A Year in Review

As 2019 comes to an end the North Berwick Police Department has seen some changes. At the end of 2018 Officer Brian Donahue graduated from the Maine Criminal Justice Academy (MCJA) and in January 2019 started his career as a certified officer with our Agency. Officer Donahue comes to us with 13 years experience from the Maine State Prison in Windham where he was a K-9 handler. He is knowledgeable, very proactive and we are fortunate to have him as one of our officers.

In 2019 we also said goodbye to two of our veteran officers, Timothy Niehoff and Mathew Begin who moved on to other opportunities. Although we were sorry to see them leave, we wish both of them the very best luck at their new positions.

With two open vacancies we were faced with the not so easy task of finding qualified people to fill these roles. Again, we were very fortunate! First, we hired Officer Patrick Roy who came to us fully certified through the MCJA and 3 years full time experience with the Eliot PD. Officer Roy's experience and calm demeanor puts the most agitated individuals at ease allowing him to complete the task at hand without incident. The second vacancy was filled from within our Agency. Officer Robert Welch is a graduate of Arizona State University and had been a Reserve Officer with us for two years. Officer Welch is an ambitious and productive officer who is attentive to detail. Officer Welch will be attending the MCJA in May 2020.

We are very pleased with our "newer" officers and their dedication to the Town of North Berwick. The department now has a good mix of experience levels which allows us all to learn and grow from each other ultimately providing better service to the Town.

Officer Daniel Pelkey, as you are aware, is our K-9 Officer. In 2019 Officer Pelkey became certified as an Assistant K-9 Trainer by the MCJA. Officer Pelkey is one of only two municipal police officers associated with the Maine State Police K-9 Unit to currently hold this title. Officer Pelkey holds scheduled K-9 trainings every month for many of the southern Maine K-9 Officers.

In June 2019 Officer Jonathan Koelker was presented the "Apple Award" from the Choose to Be Healthy Coalition. This award goes to the Officer they feel has gone above and beyond the call of duty in contributing to their communities health.

In September 2019 Lieutenant James Moulton reached his 30th Year with the North Berwick Police Department.

Continued Labor Peace

The Officers of the North Berwick Police Department are "represented" by the North Berwick Police Benevolent Association – our Union. Officers contribute money from their paycheck to be used for a variety of activities. Some of which include providing a Scholarship to a Noble High School Senior who is pursuing a career in law enforcement as well as allowing us to make donations to charities. Our Association is responsible for "negotiating" our Contract with the Town. Our most recent contract was set to expire in June 2020. Recently, members of our Association sat down with the Town Manager and 2 Members of the Board of Selectman to negotiate a future contract. We are proud to say that we have come to an agreement on a future 3-year contract that is not only beneficial to the Officers of the North Berwick Police Department, but also to the Citizens of North Berwick. Our Association and Town have the longest continued "labor peace" in York County, and possibly the entire State of Maine. Never once have our Officers and Town Officials not successfully negotiated a contract, nor have we ever worked on an expired contract. In an era when it seems like Law Enforcement Agencies and Citizens are "battling" against one another we continue to be humbled by the support the Citizens of North Berwick constantly show us. Our Officers are proud to represent this Community and your safety and well-being are our number one priority. Thank You

Notable Arrests of the Month

Officers arrested and charged 20 subjects in the month of December relating to a variety of different complaints. Below are several of the standout arrests.

12.5.19 – Subject was arrested on Market Street for operating under the influence.

12.8.19 – Subject was arrested on High Street for operating under the influence.

12.14.19 – Subject was arrested for unlawful possession of schedule drugs and operating under the influence on Lebanon Road.

Monthly Stats of Note

- Officers conducted nearly 375 business and residential property checks.
- Officers initiated nearly 100 traffic stops for various violations.
- Officers responded to 25 motor vehicle crashes