

DURHAM PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting, June 5, 2007
Revised

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM. In attendance were Frank DeFelice, Jim Rossi, John Szewczyk, Dan Murphy, Mal Pierce, Bill Smith and Resident State Trooper Pete DiGioia. Also present was Resident State Trooper Supervisor Sgt. Robert Brennan. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted.

Dan Murphy made a motion, seconded by Bill Smith, to recommend the town contract with the State of Connecticut for an additional Resident State Trooper. The committee discussed the motion and it was rejected by a vote of No, 4 (DeFelice,Pierce,Rossi,Szewczyk)-Yes-2(Smith, Murphy) Some of the reasons members gave for their votes were-1) Data from the State Police show the crime rate has dropped, 2) The committee feels that the Board of Selectmen should have more oversight of the trooper, 3) Recommendations of the committee from 2006 concerning public safety options have not yet been implemented, 4) Adequate police presence is apparent in town at this time, possibly due to Durham's central location and the fact that three state roads feed into Durham from the south, 5)\$26000 in grant money is available now for State Police overtime. The committee voted 4 Yes (DeFelice,Pierce,Murphy,Szewczyk) 2 No (Smith,Rossi) to present the previous recommendations to the Board of Selectmen in addition to the present recommendation. The committee voted 5 Yes (DeFelice,Pierce,Rossi,Murphy,Szewczyk) 1 No (Smith) to have the chairman present the recommendation to the Board of Selectmen.

The committee discussed the standard operating procedure (SOP) for traffic issues. A motion was made and passed 6 Yes, 0 No, to continue discussion at the next meeting.

The house numbering program was discussed. Dan Murphy will explore options for placing a sign on town property asking people to mark their houses and mailboxes for emergency purposes.

Correspondence to the committee was read. A letter from the commander of Troop F to the committee and Board of Selectmen was read. The committee was dissatisfied with the comments presented in the letter and voted 6-0 to authorize the chairman to respond in writing.

A motion was made and approved 6 Yes, 0 No, to request Department of Public Works place a sign, location determined by the Resident State Trooper, stating "Slow-Children" on Carriage Drive. The committee and Resident Trooper discussed the location of the SMART machine on Tuttle Road and Saw Mill Road. Jim Rossi will contact the writer of the letter and get her opinion of where to place the machine and pass it on the Resident Trooper. There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted, James M. Rossi

