

MADISON DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

May 14, 2020 – 5:30

Meeting and Minutes via Teleconference - ZOOM

Attendees: Chairman Ed Dowling; Vice Chairman Marietta Lee; Commissioner Thom Cartledge;
Commissioner Steve Shaw; Commissioner Ann Rumberger

Also Present: Chief Jack Drumm; Capt. Joe Race; Al Goldberg, Board of Selectmen Liaison

Absent: John Iennaco, Town Engineer; Ken Kaminsky, Board of Finance Liaison; John Picard, Board of
Finance Liaison

CALL TO ORDER

Opening and Call to Order at 5:50 PM by Chairman Dowling.

Pledge

We are live streaming – Ed welcomed the commissioners, Chief and Capt. Race. Appreciates the full dedication to the BOPC ; just came out of executive session.

REGULAR SESSION

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Ed asked for members of the public; they will be muted on entry, can leave a comment in the Q & A section; currently there are none. Chief makes sure they state their names and address. If anyone viewing this tape they can submit to the MPD and they will be incorporated as part of the minutes of the May meeting if someone has a question. None

MOTION by second by to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 13, 2020. All in favor. None opposed. So moved. Lee; Thom

CHIEF'S REPORT

BUDGET/FINANCIAL: Chief Drumm outside of labor are where we should be this time of year; asked that everyone take the financial printout – he will walk through some of the labor lines. Always at this time of the year there are concerns – backfiling of officers for vacancies – we currently have 3; 2 are recent with last 6 months. OT Replace – we are currently 91,000 over that budget line as of 7/19. Some of the factors are overages internally we had Sgt. Replacement, lost 1 half way through year – cost 1 pay period to replace; took a senior officer as acting in charge – paid entry level Sgt. Pay. One officer on injury, excess of 6 pay periods; paid her sick time and replace average of 6 shift for 6 pay period; also had 2 officers resigned in fall replacing 17 pay periods; each period is essentially 3 days at 1.5 shift/ second officer resigned currently back filing 144 ½ pay periods – estimating 9 weeks, COVID has cost us 19,000 to date to accommodate resque=uest in town, emergency management. For police for requests for services OT additional officers. Our understanding is 75% w/ FEMA will be reimbursed. Also looked because 1 officer out for 17 periods and second for 4 1/3 their wage become suncomers – that will be applied to offset the 91,000; Hodge is working part time for Madison; her rate dropped; have not fill position unencumbers 38,000. 102,000 will be line transferred to the end of June to mitigate the expense.

Ed – to date we have 18,000 related to COVID; is that an ongoing cost? Chief it will be until end of fiscal year; that's the impact for beach roads and Hammonasset at request of selectwoman. Ed that 18K will increase going

forward – that’s a year to date figure to increase. Chief – approximately 700-800 through June based on current structure of patrol sw are proving .. still fluid.

Highway construction – is what we pay at time and ½ for private vendors – att & t, etc. In 2 months a lot of construction companies, because of fewer people on roads, increase in actual construction. The town bills out to the vendors for time and one half, vendors, etc. That makes approximately 20-40K for Madison. Overall expense rests 50-75K; town takes in 98,000 to 100,000 K. Al concurred as BOS.

Ed – the sense is this year will be a little different giving some of the challenges over the last month and one half regarding code and response to volume pedestrian traffic, other responses due to the current quarantine situation. On the other hand we will not have a memorial day influx; we might see some issues relative to Hammonasset. Question is, we have 1 ½ months to end of fiscal year; some of the expenses are still unsettled based on the demands that unfold over the next 6 weeks. Chief – a lot of directive out of the state capital. Governor’s office. We are dancing on a moving rug – it is fluid. Scheduling in phases to reopen life as we know it. Always changing. We know we people have been home; a lot are trying to get to the beaches and hamonasset. HAM has reduced to 600 spaces; camping delayed; that puts anything over 600 into the town of maedison. We have done our best to mitigate. Swaview, MB, MBE, surf club – as it gets warmer we have seen enough people to be a July day. Social distancing has caused a lot of calls for service to the police. Lot traditional calls for fraud, burglary, etc.; we have a lot of service calls to people, and seniors. As it gets warmer, we will see the external dining we will see more challenges on the PD and no clarity to that; no definitive answer from anyone external to the town of Madison. Next few weeks we will see the demands on the infrastructure for the town – police, ambulances, etc. PPE challenges – as suits file against PDs for not performing fingerprints for firearms. Last one dismissed by Judge Shea; law enforcement hopes it is difficult to operation at 100-%. A lot of people working remotely. Challenged with exposure issues, a pandemic. We have challenges and still have to maintain a safety of police, ambulance, etc. Based on now, 7-88,000. I

ACTIVITY / STATISTICS REPORT: Generalized the actual activity above – were unable to run a report; next one will be the end of June. ½ of third quarter and 4th quarter report. Accident summary by Baxter – that itself shows a reduction in some of the accidents – traffic is dropping but those out there are going faster – people are driving more. Uptick in interpersonal crimes.

Chief pointed out we have 21 officers assigned to route 1 and route – beach roads, surf club and Hammonasset. There will be a reduction of vehicles being allowed in Surf Club – Al agreed. There will be a push back on vehicles; we will try to mitigate that. Part will be the use of an officer on a bicycle; a certified motorcycle officer will use the Guilford motorcycle in peak hours on the beach roads.

Ed – we just need to be prepared when some Madison residents, friends, neighbors, start to see a motorcycle officer on BMW; the need to not get nervous that the MPD bought a motorcycle. We have certified Moto in the department and are sharing a resource w/ Guilford. Not dissimilar with how we use Clinton’s marine boat at some times. He said to Al – the selectmen need to be aware the MPD did not purchase a motorcycle. As part of our shared services arrangement on the hotline.

TRAINING: Most on line ; continue with POST so they do not lose their recertification dates; they have offered private vendors to accommodate the officers to making their recertification. First responder, MRT or weapon training would be separate; if we go to the we have to use PPE protocols.

TRAFFIC:

COMMUNITY CALENDAR: Chief Drumm stated Memorial Day parade has been cancelled. There will be a service on the Green with the color guard and placing of the wreath. Not encouraging people to go; sign on with the VFW site to enjoy the decorations. Secondly, the parade, fireworks, concert have been moved to the Labor Day weekend – the 5, 6, 7. Fireworks Saturday, parade on the 7th; waiting for confirmation on the concert. Perhaps run fireworks on that Friday. Smaller events – runs, bikes, most have pushed back to the fall or cancelled for the year. Any questions regarding special events.

Ed – everything is going to be very tentative on how the state starts to reopen. Will anticipate nothing much will happen in town of significance until Labor Day weekend. Al – important for residents to understand the executive authority lies w/ the governor. 169 towns implement the blueprint the governor puts forth. Very little local decisions on these events. Don't count on Labor Day at this point – it is maybe 50-50. Chief concurred – some are anxious for us to be out of this; Took time to ramp up will take time to ramp down. This is the new normal – a lot of people don't want to hear that but this is something this world has never ever faced except in 1918; we are all working our way through it. Some things will have to be put off or changed. Reschedule them as we can. As Al said, don't be surprised if it is moved again or cancelled altogether.

Steve – signed off at 6:18

Ed asked the Chief – appreciate the comments in the packet – it gives us the flavor of the people's concerns. Have we seen a significant increase in calls to the PD? Chief not even 1% of people called to disagree. A lot of people call for clarification from the governor's office of the local level. We try to get the Governor's orders to everyone – we call the state's attorney's office to clarify. We assure them they are safe; we are trying to get them back to our daily lives. A lot of people are not satisfied, a lot praise us and a lot are looking for guidance from their officials.

Chief – we meet via ZOOM on a regular basis w/ with local emergency ops center, our regional partners or on the level of the state capitol – attorney, general, governor. The cooperation and what we've learned from each other – a tremendous opportunity has come from this – 110% cooperation with service in Madison and beyond. We've learned from other agencies and how we can assist them. Times are challenging – have a cohesive group with our mutual partners – speaking with Gilrod and Clinton. We chat every day. A lot of positive will come from this even and we will be a lot stronger because of it. Madison is a hardy group – a lot of seniors. We came out very strong post 911; some equipment disappoints for nurses and doctors, EMT, nursing homes. Concerning about the supply chain. When this first hit it was very challenging; we obtained what we needed to get the job done.

Al – feels the needs on behalf of BOS to extend our appreciation to the leadership to the BOPC, chief, captain. This department has performed above and beyond what anyone could expect in a time like this. Characteristics – empathy, honesty and competence. The people of Madison have benefited from this department being able to ...

Ed – let's be clear – the folks who really deserve the credit are the officers, the Chief on down in the police department. They are the people wearing the masks outside with all the interactions. Obviously we

have got some rocky issues ahead and a great deal of uncertainty we can communicate via ZOOM meetings we will make fair, rational, good decisions how we tend to the public safety of Madison.

Ed asked – chief anything else?

Chief – thank you all and thank the board. Through this we've met some amazing people. When we received when the ideas are sent, the English major sends – amazing people. Lena Dimassa – Angie Lou – asked for tailors – refuses to get paid for the masks. She not only donated masks, she did over 150 to the town of Madison so they can return to work in a safer environment in a weekend. That goes beyond. Some people live in town associated w/

the media. Pem McEnery used to be w/ Patch – she shows up w/ coffee and donuts when it first things. Grand Apizza with a bunch of pies – Kilsoot and shop, POYC; (list all the Brnafor names). My wife, working from home, she went up and down 95 and found stores that would donate or we could purchase for first responders that we couldn't get from the state or up the chain. That got us through a tough spot. POYC – hand sanitizer; we've returned. Masks, gloves. Lisa Dean Brother Mike's makes sure people are fed – Lenny's, BW, Martetta Fanukt = SGefanoski donate thousands of masks. Silver Shield from NY with 2000 masks; 10000-0 masks to NYPD. All these people and the letters – the media people who thank us for protecting us. A lot of people didn't want to make a decision. Point is we need to protect our seniors and children. Great people in this community. Learned about them and myself. At one time we were down 9 officers and 1 dispatcher; exposure to COVID. In spite of that and with the captain, everyone stepped up and worked through their days off to make it happen. Thank you for them. Firefighters and ambulance, outstanding.

Al – it would be very helpful to the BOS if we could have a short focused discussion about MB road. While we have some authority during this crisis still thinks the BOPS and traffic authority need to help how we can get through the increased pedestrian and vehicle traffic on MB. Could we possibly get a more formal discussion from the BOPC that we are perhaps on the right track to try to manage this on MB road. Not a long discussion – a short consensus from the Board. You may want to describe what you're trying next.

Chief – we've increased patrols on the road – the traffic is no worse than a July day. The difference is the social discussion. Two officers at 1 1/2; taking up the slack for the recreation department. Officers to accommodate influx from Hammond. 4 people write letters – make it one way, local residents only. It's a public road. It will stay 21 lane – services need that to be 2-way. FDs say absolutely the road is 2 lane. Changlens yes, but to restructure the critical infrastructure for a few voices? Bike groups said people slow down; the motorcycle will help to accommodate. People complaint too many cops on the road – organized chaos. Doesn't see an extraordinary issue that we have to go beyond what we have set up. 21 officer on beach roads along, motorcycle supporting them. They have a red cap; believe that's their role. Not sure where social distancing challenge will be for us – we've had studies done on the road – signage change, speed limit reduction. The road is what it is, a scenic road owned by the town of Madison residents. People have been cooped up. There will be more push back when people from other parts of town try to access. He has 2 more officers there than any given July day.

Ed – we can put this in the form of a note to summarize the chief's remarks. 1. There is increased signage down there in terms of social distancing, walk facing traffic, that has been their increased emphasis for patrol area; 3 is the expanded use of the introduction of a bike and motorcycle patrol unit. Those are interconnected actions – the signage, increase patrol and nature of patrol is a fairly comprehensive responses for a mile, mile 1/2. It will not eliminate the classic construction truck happening, waste pick up, delivery from UPS. Those three areas will provide more visibility and more immediate impact is a pretty comprehensive response short of we wanted to do something practical and could be sustained during high volume. He has made it a point to try to gauge – it's classic depending on the weather, time of day and as the Chief said given the nature of the beauty of that road it will certainly be an area the PD will pay attention to. At this time we have expanded it. Whether it's a report to the full BOS we can make a reasonable case that we've responded in a way that is going to be effective and not silence the absolutely shrill voices but a reasonable cost effective response we are going to. If the situation changes and more resource need to be dedicated to it we can assess that; if we need to have 22 hour a week patrol officer down there the town will have to address that. With this roster we've taken a pretty good step.

Marietta – the PD's done a great job stepping it up on that road – it's always be tricky. I think we have to recognize that anyone who is going to go down to MB – if you are elderly and walking on MB you should be in your

chouse. Ther are elderly peple down ther screaming at people – they need to stay home. A lot of out of toen pope are waling townthe ay and screaing at othe rpeole because they are walking too close. Theprotio nof MB hthat has the sigeaskm – that’s an are where people need direction. They shold be walking on the other side, not the sidewalk. It will deifintely clog up the traffic; the road is too narrow ther. The PD has steppe dit up out ther. A few little corrections we can make – anyone worried they will get COVID and be a hig hrish shold not go down to MB road.

Chief whe’ve had 2 studies ont hat road – it wouls rebiltin with FEMA fund from the past 2 storms. They have seid they blinking signs by the beach club, by the acausseway. We don’t a pretty good jbo w/ measures response. Doesn’t want to hear there is a exclusion to pthers in theis town. Ther are more signs ordered. A response that’s give to peple about social distahcing. That’s a tough subject right now due to part of the population has a probelme w/ that. Peole way they try to exclude us from using that road – not we are tyring to mitigate from peple trying to use the road. E’ve put a great response to it – thank you commissoners for supporting that. There’s 19,000 in this town with an invlude of ??? – peple who want otmake this wroad private e- that’s not right or just or for thepeole of this town.

Thom - Al this goe sin conjunction withwhat we’ve all said before – we certain;ly apprecatoin peple coming for resolution and clrity. Ther have beennumerous studies over the years – the studie shave resultined in making moficiataions to the road or signs, like GH, Copse, MB – we always go back to trhe resignts, ask to slow down, not drive that dlocse and on M B not walk 54 aberats – please if an officer stopsyou would you please smile and thank him for correcting the situation. Thinks the PD has done a lot –this would be a fabulours for the BOS to say you as residnets have a responsibility as well. All the rule sare there – pleas. Help the town to recrecotize what social distachinbg is and thanbk them, not write a letter.

Ed asked the Chief to summarize the correspondence – any key corensponds to review further. Wehave theinfo in our packets and if done we can move on. Chief – letter frm Chuck Saveage; requesting sutyd and sign at Rockland Preserive for peple to try to locate it. Willhave letter sent to LTA to MNr. Sawickig at DOT; doesn’t have a problem w/ the sign but needs to come from DOT. Chief will send a letter to DOT an cc BOPC to request a study.

TOM – long, challenging lets oncontine to work together

Marietta – Thanks again the PD for all the hard work and OT and powering through this. It shows what a great department we have – proud of what you are doing for the rsidnest and the comnity. Sees the chief out in his uniform every day. The citizens of Madison appreciatie it. Ther will alsywa be the grumpy one.s

Ann would like to say similar proud to be a M redisent and prod to see ohowq the PD is responding - thak you for shaing what average citizens are goind – howeve rwe can be or service ready to do that.

Ed – acknldged the effort and askd fellow comisisners to invest a little more inyour participation as a commissioner. We , and yo might recall, have had some promotional exams in terms of SG, LT and Ca possiotns; doesn’t necessarily mean we nwced to fill alla those p[ostions. We will go to an assessment part and a key paryt is our interviewing for the canedidates at those positons. Given the time frame we’ve west up comew in to a reasonable process we will be reaching out throu Chiefr or Race to acdcss your calendar by the enf of June to

accomplish those interviews.. This is another opportunity to devote even more time to your community. Thank you in advance for making yourself available. He understands everyone has personal occupational issues but these interviews and the assessment of these candidates will be very impactful on the department to help the chief and race building a cohesive leadership team. Thank you in advance as you see the invasion of your calendars in the next 6 weeks or so. It is a tough time – think the department has held together in a wonderful way given the challenges to all first responders. Thank you to chief and drace – please convey our thanks to all the officers in the department.

REGIONAL SHARED SERVICES: Chief Drumm reported once again nothing on the table right now.

CHIEF’S CORRESPONDENCE:

Adjourn at 6:53 thom/lee.

Have MINUTES REFLECT EXEC. SESSION.

Thank you – good to go

TRAFFIC:

NEW BUSINESS

- **Current Issues:**
- **Public Safety Protocols**
 - **Liaison with State Agencies**
- **Update: Ad Hoc School Security Committee:**

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

CHAIRMAN COMMENTS: None.

MOTION

Minutes Accepted: May 14, 2020