

**MADISON DEPARTMENT OF POLICE**

**May 14, 2020 – 3:00  
Executive Session**

**Interviews via Teleconference – ZOOM**

Attendees: Chairman Ed Dowling; Commissioner Thom Cartledge; Vice Chairman Marietta Lee (arrives at 4:00); Commissioner Steven Shaw; Commissioner Ann Rumberger

Also Present: Chief Jack Drumm; Capt. Joe Race

**CALL TO ORDER** Opening and Call to Order at 3:00 PM by Chairman Dowling.

**MOTION** by Dowling, second by Cartledge to enter Executive Session adjourn at 3:01 PM. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Present:** Dowling, Cartledge, Shaw; Rumberger; Lee

**Also Present:** Chief Drumm; Capt. Race

**Discussion:**

- **Interview and Assess Police Officer Candidates**
- **Discuss Status of Labor Contract Negotiations (Not discussed)**

**Return to Open Session at 5:15 PM**

**MOTION** by Dowling, second by Cartledge to extend a conditional offer of employment to Robert O'Neill and Odino Rasile by the Madison Police Department based on POSTC Standards and funding for the patrol officer positions for FY 2020-21.

**All in favor. None opposed. So moved.**

**MOTION** by Dowling, second by Cartledge at 5:20 PM to adjourn.

**All in favor. None opposed. So moved.**

**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

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Dowling began the meeting by noting we are live streaming; he welcomed the commissioners, Chief Drumm and Capt. Race. He added that he appreciates the full dedication of the Board of Police Commissioners who just came out of Executive Session.

**REGULAR SESSION**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Chairman Dowling asked for comments from the public. Capt. Race explained they would be muted on entry and would be able to leave a comment in text format in the Q & A section; currently there are none. Another option is they can raise their hands as attendees to the meeting. Chief added, make sure they state their name and address. If anyone viewing this tape has any questions they can submit them in writing to the MPD and they will be incorporated as part of the minutes of the May meeting. No comments at this time.

**CHIEF'S REPORT**

**BUDGET/FINANCIAL:** Chief Drumm said outside of labor we are where we should be at this time of year; asked that everyone look at the financial printout – he will walk through some of the labor lines. We currently have approximately 3½ pay periods until the end of June when we close out the 19-20 fiscal year. Always at this time of the year there are concerns with both internal and external factors that affect the budget, also the backfilling of officers where we have vacancies. We currently have 3 vacancies in the Madison Police Department - 2 are within the last 6 months.

On the printout you will see the OT Replacement account (1320-635); we are currently approximately \$91,000 over that budget line which was earmarked in the original budget as of 7/1/19. Some of the factors that go with that overage of \$91,000 are because internally we had a sergeant replacement - we lost a sergeant half-way through year which cost 1 pay period of backfilling that position. However, we put a senior officer in the role of acting officer in charge (OIC) for which we paid entry level sergeant's pay. We had one officer out on injury for an excess of 6 pay periods and we had to pay her sick time and replace her at 1.5 time for an average of 6 shifts for 6 pay periods; that was a factor. We also had 2 officers resign in the Fall which required replacing 17 pay periods – each period is essentially 3 days at 1.5 the hourly rate. A

second officer resigned and we are currently backfilling 14½ pay periods, essentially 9 weeks. The influence of COVID has cost us approximately \$18,000 in overtime to date since February to accommodate requests from the Selectman's office or Emergency Management for services, OT requests for additional officers. Our understanding is 75% of that cost when we file with FEMA will be reimbursed. We had 1 officer out for 17 periods with a resignation and a second officer for approximately 4½ pay periods: their wages will be unencumbered. The wages for those officers, approximately \$65,000, will be applied to offset the \$91,000. In addition to that, Mrs. Hodge who is with us tonight, retired and is working part-time for the Town of Madison, such as at this meeting; her rate dropped and we haven't filled that position yet which unencumbers \$38,000. The total \$102,000 will be line transferred at some point near the end of June to the overtime line to minimize and mitigate that expense. He asked for any questions so far on that line.

Chairman Dowling noted, to date we have \$18,000 related to COVID? Chief said yes, to date. Chairman Dowling continued, is that an ongoing cost? Chief said it will be until the end of the fiscal year; that's the impact for beach roads and Hammonasset at the request of the Selectwoman. Chairman Dowling said that \$18K will increase going forward because that's a year to date figure. Chief answered, approximately \$700-800 from now through June based on the current structure of patrols we are providing. There may be a change for more or a change for less – it is still fluid and we don't know.

The Chief continued with Highway Construction overtime which is always to the negative. This is how bookkeeping is done with the Town of Madison. The line represents what we pay at 1.5 time to work for private vendors – AT & T, Frontier, etc. Due to the reduction of people on the roads, in the last 2 months, there has been an increase in actual construction. That figure is the amount we pay officers at 1.5 time. However, the town bills the vendors for 1.5 time plus workman's comp. plus insurance, plus the vehicle. What that means is at the end of this fiscal year generally that makes approximately \$20-40K for the Town of Madison. Overall expenses for highway constructions rest somewhere between \$50-75K; the Town always takes in on the other side of the books, the General Fund, approximately \$98 to \$120K. As the Board of Selectmen liaison, Mr. Goldberg concurred. There were no questions on the financials.

Chairman Dowling said the sense is this year will be a little different than other years given some of the challenges over the last 1½ months regarding coverage and responses to the volume of pedestrian traffic and 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 State Park. We have 1½ months to the end of the fiscal year. It does sound like some of the expenses are still unsettled based on the demands that will unfold over the next 6 weeks.

Chief said a lot of directives are coming out of the Governor's office. We are dancing on a moving rug – it keeps changing – it is fluid. We know they are scheduling in phases to reopen life as we know it. Some of that has changed since the last statement of 24 hours ago. We know people have been home; a lot of folks are trying to get to the beach roads, the Surf Club and most certainly Hammonasset. Hammonasset has reduced parking to 600 spaces for a park that had the capacity for 20,000 people. Although camping is delayed, that affects anything over 600 to our roads in Madison. We have done our best to mitigate that with the additional patrols. In addition to that, on the town beach roads - Seaview, Middle Beach, Middle Beach West, West Wharf and

the Surf Club – as it gets warmer on weekends, I don't want to say to capacity, but we've had enough people already for it to be a July day. The difference is social distancing has created a lot of calls for service. We've lost the traditional calls for frauds, larcenies, burglaries in people's homes, etc. We have changed our mission to a lot of service calls assisting people in regard to seniors; things that maybe weren't normal to what we did previously. We've also seen ourselves take a more hands-on role in the community in high traffic areas. As it gets warmer, we will see more as the restaurants open up and we see external dining. We will see more challenges to the Police Department in an area where fortunately we've never been before; there is no clarity. We've had no definitive answers from anyone involved in those systems external to the Town of Madison giving us direction other than making a statement, i.e., if you do this, then you could be that. It's very hard to operate that way. I think as the next few weeks pass we will see demands on the infrastructure for the town – police, fire department, ambulance, etc. They are out every day and we're out alongside them. There are challenges for what we have for PPE equipment. Right now we're being challenged – there is a suit that's been filed against police departments for not performing fingerprints for licensing of firearms. Last one filed was dismissed by Judge Shea; law enforcement hopes that the next judge sees that this is a difficult time for communities to operate at 100%. A lot of people, not necessarily in the Police Department, but the government are working from home remotely. We are still challenged with a pandemic, exposure issues. These are challenges we have to meet and still maintain the safety of police, ambulance, fire, etc. So to put a dollar figure on that, based on what we're doing, \$7-8,000. If this thing turns into where I have to start ordering people for coverage because of certain events it's going to be a challenge.

**ACTIVITY / STATISTICS REPORT:** As to activity, as a generalization I explained what we are dealing with. As to the actual report, we were unable to run one with all the input from people who haven't been here and are working remotely right now; next report will be for the June meeting for one-half of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter and the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter; as you recall we went to a 3-month reporting of activity for the town in the interest of brevity at the meetings. An accident summation report filed by Sgt. Baxter which is in the packets shows a reduction in some accidents. It's interesting; traffic is dropping but those out there are going faster – people are drinking more. There is an up-tick in interpersonal crimes. That's all for the Traffic Report.

Chief pointed out we have 2 officers with the regular patrol assigned to Route 1 and south, namely the beach roads, Surf Club and Hammonasset. There will be a reduction of vehicles being allowed into the Surf Club due to social distancing – Mr. Goldberg agreed. We anticipate there will be a push back of people in vehicles and they will park wherever they can. We will try to mitigate that because we have enough neighbors who live in that area who are concerned. Part of that is going to be the use of an officer on a bicycle; one of our certified motorcycle officers who came to us by way of New Haven Police will use the Guilford Police Department's patrol motorcycle during peak hours on the beach roads. In addition, we will have a unit in a vehicle. We are trying to mitigate the effect for folks, not only from this town but other towns on the shoreline roads and beaches and most certainly Hammonasset's impact on Madison.

Chairman Dowling noted we need to be prepared when some Madison residents, friends, neighbors, start to see a motorcycle officer riding on Middle Beach/Middle Beach West; they need to not get nervous that the Madison Police bought a motorcycle. Because we have a certified motorcycle operator in the Department we are sharing a resource with Guilford Police.

Not dissimilar with how we use Clinton's marine boat at different times. He said to Mr. Goldberg if that question comes up to the Selectmen, they need to be very much aware the Madison Police did not purchase a motorcycle; this is a part of our shared services arrangement along the shoreline with neighboring communities.

**TRAINING:** Most online training continues with POST Council so the officers do not lose their recertification dates although that's been extended; POSTC has offered private vendors to accommodate police departments with multiple users online to maintain their recertification. Only exception would be hands-on for First Responder, MRT or weapons training which would be separate; for that of course we have to use PPE and safe protocols.

**COMMUNITY CALENDAR:** Chief Drumm stated the Memorial Day parade has been cancelled. There will be a service on the Green with the Color Guard and placing of the wreath. There will be less than 10 people attending; it will be on Zoom. They are not encouraging people to go; they are encouraging people to sign in on the Town's website to the VFW site to enjoy the presenting of the colors and the dedications. Secondly, the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade, fireworks and concert have been moved to the Labor Day weekend – the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, & 7<sup>th</sup>. Fireworks on Saturday with a rain date if needed; parade on the 7<sup>th</sup>; waiting for confirmation on the concert. Perhaps they will run it in conjunction with the fireworks or run it on that Friday night; we have not heard back yet on the concert. Smaller events – runs and bike events, most have pushed back to the fall or have been cancelled for the year. There were no questions regarding the special events.

Chairman Dowling said it sounds like 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 at least, from what you're saying, Labor Day weekend. Mr. Goldberg added, it is important for residents to understand the executive authority lies mostly with the Governor in Connecticut; 169 towns implement the blueprint the Governor puts forth and there is very little local decision-making regarding these events. As it looks right now, don't count on Labor Day too much – it is maybe 50-50. Chief concurred, you're right. Although some people are anxious for us to be out of this, some people lose sight of the time it took to ramp up to this and it will take equal that time to ramp down if that's even in sight. Doesn't think a lot of questions will be answered in the next few months if not until next year. This is the new normal – a lot of people don't want to hear that but this is something this world has never 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 Mr. Goldberg said, don't be surprised if it is moved again or cancelled altogether.

Commissioner Shaw signed off at 6:18

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Chairman Dowling noted he appreciated the comments in the packet – it gives us the flavor of the peoples' concerns. Have we seen a significant increase in calls to Dispatch or directly to the Police Department over the last month or so? Chief replied if you take the population of the town less than 1% of people called to disagree with policies or procedures that the Governor put in place or that we on a local level put in place; very small. A lot of people call for clarification for what they heard from the Governor's office or the local level. We try to get the Governor's orders to everyone and look for interpretations if we can. If we can't figure it out we try to call the Attorney General's office or the State's Attorney's office for clarification. We assure them they are safe; we are trying work through this also and find the path to get back to our daily lives.

There are some people not satisfied – a very small number. A lot praise us and a lot are looking for confidence in their appointed and elected officials. Chairman Dowling concluded, it is a challenging time.

Chief Drumm continued, we meet via Zoom on a regular basis almost every morning either with local emergency operational center officials, our regional partners, which has been tremendous, or on the level of the State Capitol – Attorney General’s office, Governor’s office. There is a spirit of cooperation in what we’ve learned from each other in this process. Through all of this has come a tremendous margin of opportunity on how to work through this. We’ve seen nothing but 110% cooperation with services in Madison and beyond. We’ve learned from other agencies; things that they do and how we can assist them. Times are challenging and it’s brought us closer together as a cohesive group and also with our mutual partners. Probably a day doesn’t go by that he is not talking with officials from Guilford or Clinton or other towns. Same thing with the services. We chat every day; Sam DeBurra and I talk every day. A lot of positive will come from this event and we will be stronger because of it. Madison is made up of a lot of seniors – they are a hardy group from the greatest generation. We came out very strong post 911 and we’ll do it again and be prepared for the next event. There are some equipment disappointments in what was needed, especially for first responders, nurses and doctors in the hospitals, EMTs, even in the nursing homes. He was concerned about how to obtain equipment through the supply chain but now it’s very robust. When this first hit it was very challenging and some very innovative things were done by some very innovative people in this community and others. We obtained what we needed to get the job done. I’ll speak to some of those in Correspondence.

Mr. Goldberg added he feels the need, on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, to extend our appreciation to the leadership, to the Board of Police Commissioners, the Chief and Captain. This Department has performed above and beyond what any of us could have expected in a time like this. I feel the Department has exhibited the three key characteristics which have been so important to our community: empathy, honesty and competence. The people of Madison have benefited from this Department by being able to exhibit those values and characteristics. So on behalf of the Board of Selectmen he wanted to express their appreciation.

Chairman Dowling added, let’s be clear – the folks who really deserve the credit are the officers, including the Chief on down in the Police Department. They are the people wearing the masks outside all the time with all the interactions. Obviously we’ve got some rocky issues and a great deal of uncertainty ahead but if we can stay connected, including with whatever means we can such as Zoom meetings, we will make fair, rational, good decisions how we tend to the public safety of Madison. He said he appreciated Mr. Goldberg’s remarks. He asked the Chief if there was anything else.

Chairman Dowling noted the Chief had covered most of the correspondence by incorporating it into the Regional Shared Services report and asked if he would like to cover anything else in his report.

The Chief thanked Mr. Goldberg and the Board of Selectmen for the kind words. Through this we’ve met some amazing people; a lot of the correspondence is included in the packet. When we receive an act of kindness we get a letter off to them right away; he kept the phone lines burning between himself and Mrs. Hodge. Although the ideas that I send to her may be reflected in the letters, it’s that Catholic school upbringing English major that sends it back to me. He talked

about the amazing people: Lina Dimassi of Angie Lou Tailors – he walked in to ask if she could do masks and she asked “how many do you want”? She refuses to get paid for the masks. She not only constructed and donated masks to the community but she also made and donated over 150 to Town of Madison employees so they can return to work in a safer environment. We do have surgical masks, N95s, 1095s, but she made the personalized masks on her own in a weekend. That goes beyond. Some people who live in town are associated with the media. Pem McEnery used to be with The Source, is now with The Patch – she showed up with coffee and donuts when it first hit, when it was that ‘unknown’. Grand Apizza showed up himself with a bunch of pies. Rodney Kilpatrick from Branford Stop & Shop, Chris Goodwin from the Pine Orchard Yacht Club, Shaun Kledaras from The Dollar Tree in Branford, Steve Milano from Richland Home & Auto in Branford – you say what does that have to do with Madison? My wife, who is working from home, went up and down 95 and found stores that would donate or where we were able to purchase supplies for first responders that we couldn’t get from the state or up the chain. God bless her for doing that because that got us through a tough bind in the very beginning. Those people stepped up. Pine Orchard gave us hand sanitizers because they weren’t opening until June.

We’ve restocked and have been able to return some of the donations – gloves, masks, aprons for medical calls. These folks stepped up. Lisa Deane from Brother Mike’s has made sure people were fed; Lenny & Joe’s Fish Tale again to make sure people were fed, as well as Bradley & Wall and The Maniatty Family who have donated food for the officers. Bob and Amy Stefanowski donated thousands of masks, not just to the services but to the communities beyond Madison. The Silver Shield of New York - an attorney from NY got in his car and drove up here and delivered 2,000 masks to Madison as well as 100,000 masks to the NYPD and NYFD. Thank you to all these people in those letters you see and to the media people who wrote us letters saying ‘bravo, bravo’ for protecting us and looking out for us. A lot of people didn’t want to make a decision in these times. Our job is to save lives and mitigate it. We may say something that is unpopular or put something on a billboard that is unpopular but the point is we need to protect our people, our seniors who are most vulnerable and the children. He said to Mr. Goldberg – you’re ‘spot on’ how this thing happened. To all those people in community - great people - he said he learned a lot about them and himself and others. At one time we were down 9 officers and 1 dispatcher due to exposure to COVID which meant they had to go in quarantine in the beginning. In the first few weeks we had 5 officers out. In spite of that and with the Captain, myself and others, everyone stepped up and worked tirelessly through this on their days off to make it happen. Thank you, for them. The firefighters and the ambulance have been outstanding.

## **TRAFFIC**

Mr. Goldberg said it would be very helpful to the Selectmen if we could have a short focused discussion about Middle Beach Road. While the Selectmen have some executive authority during this crisis he still thinks the Board of Police Commissioners as the Traffic Authority need to help the Selectmen reason through how we can deal with the increased vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle traffic on Middle Beach. There have been a number of discussions over the last few weeks in which he knows Chairman Dowling and the Chief have participated. The Selectmen are looking to possibly get a more formal discussion from the Commissioners that we are perhaps on the right track in what we are trying to do to manage this situation on Middle Beach. Not a long elaborate discussion, he’s looking for some kind of short consensus if possible from this Board. You may want to describe what you’re going to be trying next.

Chief Drumm said he thinks he explained that. We've increased patrols on the road – the traffic, even on the worst of days, is no worse than any given July day. The difference is the social distancing. We have assigned three officers, two officers at time and ½ who are on all those roads, including the beach roads, taking up the slack for the Recreation Department. We've added three officers to a stretch of road that is what, 1- 1 ½ miles, also to accommodate the influx from Hammonasset. Four people who live on those roads have written letters. It's a common theme saying make it one way permanently, residents only, local residents only. It's a public road – you live in North Madison or somewhere else you can drive down that road. It will stay 2-way – we've been through that before. Services need that road to be 2-way; east/west, north/south. We spoke with the Fire Department and the Fire Marshal - they say absolutely the road is 2 lanes. Are there challenges to it? Yes, right now because of obviously what's going on, but to restructure the critical infrastructure for what, a few voices? People in the bike groups think it's great. Traffic slows down, you yourself said it, because there's nowhere to go. The reason we're putting a smaller vehicle in there, the motorcycle, is because it will help to accommodate that. People complain there are too many cops on the road. In the summer, for 10 weeks, it's organized chaos. Doesn't see an extraordinary issue that we have to go beyond what we have set up. There are 2 additional officers on beach roads alone, a patrol vehicle covering from Hammonasset supporting them. Also in conjunction if anything, the slack we took up had to do with the Surf Club and the beaches. We have a Recreation Department; I believe that's their role. Not sure where the social distancing challenge will be for us. When the restaurants open – that's going to create an issue for us also. He will have to find officers from somewhere. We've had two studies done on the road. We've done signage changes, even as of last year, as well as a speed limit reduction. The road is what it is, a scenic road owned by the Town of Madison's residents which is a gem for people to enjoy. People have been cooped up in their houses. There will be more push back when he restricts people from other parts of the town trying to access them. We are just trying to be fair and put a measured approach to the issue at hand. He has 2 more officers there than any given July day.

Chairman Dowling addressed Mr. Goldberg and said maybe we can put this in the form of a note if it would be helpful to summarize the Chief's remarks: 1. There is increased signage down there in terms of social distancing, common sense to be walking facing traffic; 2. increased emphasis for a patrol area for the Madison Police Department and, 3. expanded use of the introduction of a bike and motorcycle patrol unit which will be the emphasis. Those are interconnected actions. If you look at the three of them, the signage, increased patrolling and the nature of patrolling it is a fairly comprehensive response for a mile/mile and ½. It will not eliminate the classic construction truck happening, waste pick up, deliveries from UPS. Those three areas, the signage, the increased patrol emphasis and the assignment of staff and the nature of the vehicles that they're using will provide more visibility and more immediate impact. It is a pretty comprehensive response short of what we've talked about that we wanted to do something practical which could be sustained during a particularly high volume. He has made it a point of driving down there just to try to gauge – it's classic depending on the weather, time of day. As the Chief said, given the nature of the beauty of that road certainly during the summer it certainly will be an area to which the Department will pay attention. At this time, in response to some of the complaints, we have expanded it. Whether it's a report to the full Board of Selectmen, I think we can make a pretty reasonable case that we've responded in a way that is going to be effective and not silence the one or two absolutely shrill voices but a reasonable and cost effective response. If the situation changes and more resources are needed to be dedicated we can assess

that and come back at a later time. If we need to have a 22 or 24 hour a week patrol officer down there that's an expense that the Town will have to consider but at this point, with this level of our officer roster, we have taken a pretty good step in trying to deal with this problem.

Commissioner Lee noted the Department has done a great job stepping it up on that road – it's always been tricky. I think we also have to recognize that anyone who is going to go down to Middle Beach Road is at risk – if you are an elderly person you should not be walking on Middle Beach Road you should be in your house. You need to take responsibility for your own actions and there's little of that going on. There are elderly people out there screaming at people and they're walking on the wrong side of the road – they need to stay home. There are a lot of people from out of town and a lot of people who do not realize they have to walk into traffic and bike with traffic. If we can get a few more signs down there I think that would help. It's a little thing that we can do but there are people walking the wrong way and screaming at other people because they're too close. There's a little bit of education that needs to happen here. I've brought up to the Chief that there's a portion of Middle Beach that has the sidewalk up against the water; there's no real room to walk on the other side - that's an area where people need direction. They don't realize they have to walk into traffic and bike with traffic. If we could get a few more signs down there; they are screaming at other people because they are walking too closely. The portion of Middle Beach that has the signage, that's an area where people need direction because everybody assumes they're supposed to walk on the sidewalk when they should be walking on the other side so you're up against people in that area. It's an area where we can make a slight improvement with a few signs. We need to decide what we want to do there; it's definitely going to clog up the traffic because the road is too narrow there to be having people going on both sides of the road. The Police Department has stepped it up out there. There are few little corrections we can make but anyone worried they will get COVID and be at a high risk should not go down to Middle Beach Road.

Chief said we've had 2 studies on that road; it is suitable for traffic east-west-north-south (depending on how you would say it). That road was rebuilt with FEMA funds from the past 2 storms. In our studies the DOT has said they want to see additional changes like blinking signs, arrows on the curve down by the Beach Club and additional arrows where you enter over by the causeway. We do a pretty good job with measured responses. Doesn't want to hear that for the very few voices that have some concern there is a sort of exclusion to the rest of the town who want to go down and see that beauty or get out of their house. The Police Department has stepped up and we're giving 110% there. There are more signs ordered. A response is given to people about social distancing. That's a tough subject right now due to segments of this population that also don't agree and have a problem. They voice their concerns at 8 Campus and it winds up at 9 Campus and I hear it. People say they try to exclude us from using that road. I tell them no, we are trying to minimize, mitigate any threat from people who want to use the road. We've put a great response to it – thank you Commissioners for supporting that. There are 19,000 people in this town and then we have an influx of 5-10-15-20,000 at any given time. When we hear from 3-5 people that they have a dislike of this or they want to have an opportunity to make this road private – I have a problem with that. That's not correct or just for the people of this town. Thank you.

Commissioner Cartledge addressed Mr. Goldberg by adding this goes in conjunction with what we've all said before which is we certainly appreciate people coming to the Board of Selectmen asking for resolution and clarity. There have been numerous studies over the years and I've been

involved with the Police Commission and traffic for a very, very long time. The studies have resulted, when they're able to, to make modifications to the road or signs, like Green Hill, Copse, Middle Beach – we always go back to the residents and ask them to use common sense and observe the laws that are in place. Would you please slow down, not drive that closely and when walking on Middle Beach Road, please not walk 5 abreast. Please, if an officer stops you and asks that you to social distance a little would you please smile and thank him for the courtesy of stopping and correcting the situation. Thinks the Police Department has done a lot. He understands the pressure Mr. Goldberg is under but this would be a fabulous time for the Board of Selectmen to say you, as residents, have a responsibility as well. All the rules are really there – please help the Department to do their job and recognize what social distancing is and if an officer asks you to do something thank them and do it and not write a letter. Mr. Goldberg said this would be very helpful and he thanked Commissioner Cartledge.

Chairman Dowling asked the Chief to summarize the correspondence – any key correspondence to review further. We have the info in our packets and if we're done we can move on. Chief Drumm noted a letter from Chuck Savage, Stephanie Court, who is requesting a study and signs a few hundred feet out at Rockland Preserve for people trying to locate the entrance. We will have a letter sent from the Local Traffic Authority to Mr. Sawicki at DOT. The Chief concluded he doesn't have a problem with the sign but final approval needs to come from DOT because it is a state road. Commissioner Lee asked if a motion was needed or is the Chief going to reach out to DOT. Chief said he will send a letter to DOT to request a study and copy the Board of Police Commissioners in the next meeting packet.

#### **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Cartledge: This has been long and challenging and it's going to continue to be so - let's do the best we can and continue to work together

Commissioner Lee: Thanks again to the Police Department for all the hard work and overtime and powering through this. It shows what a great Department we have and everybody's rallying together – proud of everything you are doing for the residents and the community. She said she sees the Chief out in his uniform every day. The citizens of Madison appreciate it. There will always be the grumpy ones but as a community we're all rallying together. I think it's great.

Commissioner Rumberger: Would like to say similarly, I'm proud to be a Madison resident and to be a member of this Commission and be able to see firsthand how the Police Department is responding - as well as the other first responders. It's really something special. Thank you for sharing what average citizens are doing - it is really fantastic. However we can be of service we are ready to do that so thank you.

Chairman Dowling acknowledged the efforts and asked fellow commissioners to invest a little more in your participation as a Commissioner. We, as you might recall, have had some promotional exams in terms of sergeant, lieutenant and captain level positions; it doesn't necessarily mean we need to fill all those positions. We will go to an assessment part and a key element in our discussing and interviewing the various candidates for those level positions. Given the time frame we've set up to come into a reasonable process we will be reaching out through Christie and/or Capt. Race to access some time in your calendar by the end of June to accomplish those interviews. This is another opportunity to devote even more time to your community. Thank you in advance for making yourselves available. He understands everyone has personal and occupational issues but these interviews and assessments of the candidates will

be very impactful on the future leadership of the Department in terms of allowing the Chief and Captain Race to build a cohesive leadership team so it's an important investment of your time. Thank you in advance as you start to see the attempted invasion of your calendars in the next 6 weeks or so. It is a tough time – thinks the Department has held together in a wonderful way given the challenges to all first responders. Thank you to Chief Drumm and Captain Race for your efforts - please convey our recognition to all the officers in the Department.

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

**MOTION** to adjourn by Cartledge, second by Lee at 6:53 PM. **All in favor. None opposed. So moved.**

Minutes Accepted: June 11, 2020