

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT 2015

“Efforts and courage are not enough without purpose and direction” JFK

New personnel and a new direction defined the year for your police department. Back in January, as I took the oath of Chief, I began to put together my agenda for the oncoming months, and beyond.

My agenda, first included hiring and training one full time officer, one part time officer, delegating to the ACO more responsibilities in a part time role, and continue to train the full time officer already on staff. The newly hired officer's would need to fit into Jackson's community and, once trained, understand and practice my principles regarding Law Enforcement. Furthermore, I wanted to immediately get these officer's out into the community to start building and expanding opportunities for mutual respect, trust and open communication while maintaining a professional and approachable demeanor.

Secondly, identify, and address your safety concerns as they related to vehicle speed and operation in various parts of town, and commit to increasing patrol activity in those areas of concern.

Thirdly, to look outward, reaching beyond our town, I was adamant that we needed to create a better relationship with our neighboring town of Bartlett. That relationship would adopt an ideal of cooperative communication and training to maximize the safety of both agencies.

Officer Ryan McDonald was already on staff bringing his personal knowledge and experience to bear while acclimating to the town's people and getting to know the various streets and addresses. Officer McDonald continues to prove to be a good communicator who is both empathetic and tenacious in his commitment to serving the town.

Officer Andrew Koplín, joined the department in March and after extensive on the road training, attended the police academy for certification. During his training at the academy, Officer Koplín demonstrated impressive aptitude for handling firearms, defensive tactics and a comprehensive knowledge of constitutional law and its application.

Officer Lauren Orsini was added to our part time roster with the intent that she becomes more active with departmental duties and maintains her role as the Jackson animal control officer. A good thing too because, as we all know, this was a good year to see bears, whether you wanted to or not, it seems the bears took a liking to the area. Officer Orsini is showing an excited and dependable aptitude for prosecution and will continue in that direction through next year. She has proven to be an asset to this department and the town, demonstrating a level of dedication way above what I expected due to her part time status.

We started the year with some pretty clearly defined objectives, put our noses to the grindstone and, I believe, ended the year with success. We hired a new department, trained them, and increased our availability and exposure to the school and community while striving to continuously build new relationships. We increased our patrols to concentrate on areas of concern and talked with the businesses about their concerns and how best to address them, all the while attending to our expected daily duties. We established a solid relationship with our bordering town, which increased the safety and response to emergencies through mutual cooperation and on several occasions contributing to solving crimes through the increase in information sharing. This was no small task as they too were undergoing major personnel and policy changes.

This truly was an unusually busy year and although I have put my best efforts forth, I wouldn't have been able to accomplish what we did without the help and encouragement of Chief Jay Henry and the Jackson Fire Department, the town's road crew, the Selectman, Rick Murnick, Tom Grieg and the Bartlett Jackson Ambulance crew, Bartlett Police Chief Janet Champlin, Julie Atwell, and Julie Hoyt in the administration office. To all of you I say Thank you, and I look forward to the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Douglas Jette