

FY 2019 Budget Questions & Answers Finance Committee

Dept. Number, Name + Account	Questioner's Name/Question	Response
210 Police	Galvin: In reviewing the goals, why is there no specific mention of the police role in reducing opioid abuse in town?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goals are very general Narcotics currently moved to Patrol due to short staffing in patrol area Staffing issue
210 Police	Galvin: Please explain the increase in the psyche and med testing account. (+\$3,330)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Price increase for services Added intermittent hires
210 Police	Galvin: Please explain the increase in the vehicle maintenance account.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No increase
210 Police	Galvin: Please explain the increase in the communications equipment account- will this transfer over to the new dispatch center next year? (+\$500)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will not transfer to Public Safety, this line item is for police portable radio repairs & scanner replacements Increase based on FY17 actual (\$2k for Nashoba antenna + \$475 for CyberComm) to increase radio coverages
210 Police	Galvin: Please explain the increase cost of postage. (+\$200)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mailing detail invoices weekly Now mailing FID cards (prior years picked up in person)
210 Police	Galvin: Please explain the increase cost of vehicles. (+\$42k)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newport Materials settlement paid for an SUV in June '17 (5 cars added in FY17) Therefore only 3 new line cars authorized for FY18 Budget goes back up to typical 4 new line cars for FY19
210 Police	Galvin: Please explain the increase in non-criminal complaints.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need clarification
210 Police	Galvin: Do you have policy of prioritizing calls and if so could you please explain it?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, Dispatch manages all calls on an individual basis Code 1,2 or 3 assigned based on nature of call, staffing & available units, and service required

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210 Police	Galvin: Is it possible to pool your maintenance worker with other departments?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently do this with Town Hall & School Dept for coverage and specific tasks • Our Maintenance worker primarily focuses on building issues (plumbing, HVAC & general upkeep), no car maintenance included
210 Police	Galvin: Can you please explain the training wage?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory training includes: Firearms, Pepper spray, Baton, Defensive tactics, CPR, First responder, Legal updates, Active shooter, Taser • Also includes backfilling vacant shifts
210 Police	Galvin: Would please identify, who on the department is authorized to take cruisers home with them when off duty and why?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief-only one approved to use for personal use per standard employment contract • 2 Command staff (Captains), 1 SWAT, 1 K9, 3 Detectives - all for police business only • These officers are on-call 24/7 • Contractual, would have to negotiate to change
210 Police	Galvin: Please explain what your understanding of the phrase in the Town Manager's budget summary means: " increased calls of a very complex nature,". This was made in support of an increase in the compliment of uniformed officers on the WPD?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Longer times on scene • More officers on scene for domestics & Section 12 commitments (Per DAs office; preferred response is 2 officers + 1 supervisor) • Domestic and Section 12 calls have increased

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210 Police	Galvin: Can you provide an explanation to support having both a Deputy and two Captains on the Department?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice for 20 years that works • Split shifts so extra supervisor on some night shifts • Increase in complex calls
210 Police	Galvin: How frequently do you officers qualify with their firearms?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pistols – twice/year • Long arms – once/year
210 - Police	Shankar: Please outline any pro-active measures implemented to reduce opportunity to commit crime (part of mission statement)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 98% of our shifts are at minimum manning, leads to a decrease in pro-activity • Federal grants (apply for all we can) help here (traffic, underage alcohol, texting, click-it-or-ticket) • Town Manager is the only one who can change minimum manning standards (in CBA), not Police Chief • Issue with overtime
	Shankar: Firearms supplies – why is there a \$12,000 increase in the FY19 request compared to FY18 or FY17?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To replace 25-year-old rifles that are breaking down
210 - Police	Elizabeth: How often do we have calls for the K-9 unit? What does that officer do when not responding to K-9 calls?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Called out several times per month • NEMLEC • K-9 unit is assigned to detective unit, doesn't deplete patrol force when he is called out. • Monthly training with dogs • K-9 backs up patrol when not called out or training

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210 - Police	Elizabeth: In the study about staffing levels for Police & Fire, the numbers indicate the police force has doubled in the period of time that our population has doubled. Why hasn't our minimum/scheduled staffing kept up and why can't we do that within the current force?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of overtime money for coverages • Town Manager sets minimum manning • Specialty assignments have increased (detectives, SROs versus patrol) • Personnel shortages may lead to over-worked staff, which we experienced this year with officers leaving and IOD • May create Order Ins (at double time per CBA)