

TOWN OF NEW SALEM

BOARD OR COMMITTEE: Police Future Committee

DATE: 4/20/22 **TIME:** 7:00 pm

LOCATION: Town Hall, 15 South Main Street

All committee members present

1. Committee has invited all residents to a meeting to discuss policing needs, recent changes in qualifications and the impact of those changes, possible reconfigurations of the department in staff or by contract to go forward in Fiscal Year 2024.
2. Share information from the current department operation.
3. Open discussion of any of these topics.

Nice showing of residents attending.

Lots of feedback about the survey itself, too vague and people don't know the information to answer the questions. Committee members explained that part of the information gathered by the survey is the amount of knowledge residents have about our current department and its workings.

One person expressed his dislike of the implied trade of taxes for more services.

Another liked ideas of community policing, officers present at meetings and gatherings, town meeting. More of a relationship between residents and police officers. What number to call for non-emergency? 413-625-8200 shelburne non-emergency.

Define community policing? Include speed enforcement in this, but not much other in addition to the comments above about attending community events.

Grants for community policing recommended.

Officer John Bonifini shared that ticket violation funds 50% comes to town if written on town road. Nothing comes to the Town as revenue if ticket written on a state road.

John B also offered explanation of how we will never have to pay for academy training. Claire pointed out that we have to plan for it as a possibility, and historically we average a new officer per year

Police department facility is "deplorable" (quote indicating opinion of a few) which should be addressed.

Adjourn at 8 pm