

# Dover Warrant Committee

January 25, 2010

Members in attendance: David Stapleton, Chair; James Kinder, Vice Chair; Peter Smith, Secretary; Kate Bush; James Dawley; David Melville; Andrew Waugh; Jane Wemyss

Others in attendance: Joseph Griffin, Chief of Police

*Mr. Stapleton called the meeting to order at 7:35 am*

## **Budget Presentation — Police Department**

The budget request is \$1,792,335, an increase of 3.45% over the fiscal 2010 budget as adopted.

Chief Griffin explained how the department is staffed, how the shifts are organized, and how he covers for vacations, court appearances, and other absences. Training time has not changed, but some of what used to take place at the State Academy can now be done using distance learning, saving on travel and time away. Private details are paid via a revolving fund, not through the budget. Quinn Bill reimbursement by the State has been slashed; the Selectmen and the Police Officers Association are negotiating as to how the Town will accommodate this, but for now the Chief is budgeting for the full cost to be covered by the Town. Grant money is tight this year; in particular, the community policing grant was cut by the State. Vehicle maintenance is up due to longer retention, and because less maintenance can be performed in-house due to computerized vehicle control systems.

With regard to the proposed reconfiguration of the dispatch area at the Protective Agencies Building (which some members of the Committee toured the previous Friday), Chief Griffin explained that much has changed since the 1970's when the area was laid out, notably the introduction of computers. Further, he noted the poor traffic flow and the inability to hold a private conversation. Finally, the windows placed to provide solar warming in winter provide too much in the warmer months, requiring air conditioning in spring and fall; and being single-pane, allow significant heat loss in winter. These would be replaced with energy-efficient glass in frames that could be opened to let excess heat escape.

*Mr. Kinder moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Smith;  
the motion was agreed by consensus at 8:25 am  
the next meeting will be January 27 at 7:30 pm*

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter Smith, Secretary

*approved February 24, 2010*