

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Newlin; Councilmembers Bax, Edwards, Johnson and Pacioni; Finance Officer DiRamio; Village Mayor Soluri; Village Trustees Collesano, Geiben, Kenney and Marra; Police Sgt. Previte; Police Commissioner S'dao, Press and Clerk Donna Garfinkel.

Supervisor turned meeting over to Sgt. Previte. At this time there are two part-time vacancies in the Police Dept. Part-time positions are important because they fill in, vacations, afternoons and midnight shifts.

Justin Palumbo has applied for a position in the department. Palumbo has completed the Academy, on his own time and at his own expense. He has been riding with officers for about 1 ½ years, on his own time. He is a life-time resident of Lewiston, and a Lewiston-Porter graduate. Palumbo would like to become a full-time officer. Before working independently, Palumbo must complete a 10-week field training program and a firearm training course.

Palumbo is recommended by Previte and Winkley. He has been interviewed by both and they feel he will be a positive asset to the force. S'dao feels it is commendable that Palumbo went through the Academy on his own time and at his own expense.

Newlin said Palumbo is a gentleman of high-quality. The local community speaks well of him. It is nice to bring a local guy on to the force.

**Geiben MOVED to hire Justin Palumbo as a Part-time Officer, Seconded by Johnson and Carried 10 – 0.**

The largest complaint of residents in Lewiston is speeding, stop sign violations and pedestrian walkway violation. There are 5 - 10 calls daily. Previte said the Department can not respond to these call adequately now, the way things are. Residents feel the department is not responding to their complaints. An officer is sent to the complaint area, but if another call comes in the officer must leave.

Previte proposes hiring a full-time traffic officer in January. This position is not being created to make money. It will pay for itself. This will address the community need and safety issue.

In speaking with Chief Winkley, permission was given for Previte to say that Winkley is retiring in September 2007.

Therefore, Previte proposes, if the Board is leery about this; to give him the opportunity to show this will work. This can be done by tracking everything financially, from the beginning. Previte would not make this recommendation if he was not sure this would support itself. There already is a car available. There is a part-time officer at this time, already on the list. She has already completed the field training officer program. It would give the force the opportunity to bring a female on the force. This will cost nothing. She already has her equipment and uniform. It was suggested the officer be notified it may be temporary.

If this does not work, it can be done under a Sunset clause. If it is not working by September (2007), the traffic car goes away, and the department is in the same position as it was. There will still be the same personnel, statues quo, and the department would be happy with that.

Newlin knows there is an increase in traffic in Lewiston, and having someone keep a sharp eye on that is important. On the financial hand, Newlin is hesitant on taking on a full-time employee. There is a long-term financial liability for full-time employment. Newlin suggested two part-time employees. If it is shown to be a success, the Boards could consider a full-time employee.

Previte said the problem with part-time is they usually have another job. The results may not be a true example because the department is at the mercy of their schedule. Geiben agrees there is a need for traffic control, but is opposed to a quota system. Previte is opposed as well. There has never been, nor, will there ever be a quota system.

Geiben recalls this being addressed before with a grant application. Previte said yes. This has been said before with an officer that was coming in, and it did ring true, but it is not a fair test. The only true test of this is to have an officer devoted to traffic. Previte believes this is a win – win situation.

Johnson meet with the DOT, Chief Winkley and Senator Maziarz to discuss the intersection of Model City Road and Ridge Road. This is a dangerous intersection. The signs have been placed to notify drivers of no driving on the side. Previte said signs are good, but not as good as enforcement.

When officers work at Niagara University or Lewiston-Porter they are not being paid by the department and their only responsibility is that geographical area. They do not answer calls.

The distributed outline of the rate of pay and revenue shows a 33% retirement and benefit figure. DiRamio believes it would be closer to 45%. There would be no replacement, until at least September or the set Sunset date, of the part-time officer moving into the traffic officer position.

Newlin said the court needs to be asked if the increase of tickets will have them incur more staffing costs.

Board members thanked Previte for the updates.

Johnson suggested the Town and Village have a representative present during union negotiations. A negotiator should also be hired.

The Parkway Preservation Committee meets every other week and Soluri said there hasn't been a representative from the Town. The next meeting is September 14<sup>th</sup> - 8:00 a.m. – Key Bank.

Discussion on the need for more “Welcome to Lewiston” signs.

Soluri said the Village has not received the grant for a salt barn, some notification should be received next month. At this time the Village salt is located at the Town highway garage. Reiter developed a price to build a salt barn at approximately \$35,000.

Discussion on the Greenway dollars. Newlin has the position – not to develop projects until the plan is implemented. Therefore, the Town's focus has been on implementing the plan. The project shouldn't drive the plan, the plan drives the project. The Greenway Commission is putting the project out first.

**Soluri MOVED to enter into Executive Session regarding a Contractual matter, Seconded by Bax and Carried Unan.**

**Edwards MOVE to exit the Executive Session, Seconded by Johnson and Carried Unan.**

No action taken.

**Newlin MOVED to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Soluri and Carried Unan.**  
6:35 p.m.

Respectfully Transcribed and Submitted by,

Donna Garfinkel  
Deputy Town Clerk