



# Epsom Police Department

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Wayne B. Preve  
Chief of Police

## **WARRANT ARTICLE #5 – NEW POLICE OFFICER**

The Epsom Police Department is looking to add an additional full time officer (salary and benefits) if the warrant article should pass. The Board of Selectmen recommended and the Budget Committee didn't recommend the hiring of a new officer. The reasons for the request of the new officer position are as follows:

The call volume is greater in Epsom than many of the comparison towns. Attached you will find a comparison of all the towns that border the Town of Epsom, their population, number of full time and part time employees along with their calls for service by months. You will find that Allenstown, Deerfield, Pittsfield and Pembroke all have more full time officers than Epsom does. Northwood has an additional two part time officers.

The department spent approximately \$22,731 dollars in overtime in 2008 and has spent approximately \$25,898 dollars in 2009. The majority of the overtime was to fill vacant shifts from officers who have resigned. This overtime is a result of only having six officers (including the Chief of Police) to maintain 24 hour coverage. The addition of another full time officer would allow the schedule to have 2 officers on the majority of the time, resulting in less overtime to cover vacant shifts, sick days, vacation days and training days.

The additional officer will allow the potential for an officer being assigned to "investigations" for a portion of the work week, to follow up on cases, conduct interviews and other investigation matters. This would allow the officers assigned to "patrol" to spend more time "on the road."

In the past five years the Epsom Police Department has seen an increase in calls for services and has handled more serious cases than in the past; cases that involve stabbing victims, drug houses, serious motor vehicle accidents, floods, a tornado, as well as the day to day activity within the Town.

If anyone should have questions please feel free to contact me @ 736-9624.

Wayne B. Preve  
Chief of Police