MEDFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen
and Residents of Medfield:

I am pleased to present the 2020 Medfield Police Department's Annual Report which highlights the activities and accomplishments throughout the calendar year.

This has undoubtedly been a complex year, full of unprecedented challenges for our nation. The introduction of Covid 19 created State and National fear and concern. Shutdowns affected every facet of our lives including policing. The Police Department quickly established health and safety protocols to ensure our facility and vehicles were as sterile as possible. Stepping back from our community policing initiatives, we shifted to telephone reporting for non-violent offenses in an effort to minimize in person police/community interactions. In a true combined effort to work within the new normal, the public embraced our non-traditional reporting style and we were able to handle 13,778 calls for service without a single Covid case within our ranks.

As a Nation, we also saw civil unrest and mistrust of police spread across our country in response to the death of George Floyd. Medfield residents added their voice to the national conversation by holding a largely attended rally denouncing police brutality. The men and women of the Medfield Police Department stood along the streets in a show of solidarity against police misconduct and to ensure the safety of those who attended. The feedback we received from community members confirmed our professionalism and the overall sentiment of support from the residents. I am pleased to report that the Police Reform Legislation will have little impact on our delivery of services, as the Department has routinely held itself to the standards that have now been imposed. The new legislation will bring some changes to procedural aspects of our daily routines, but has virtually

no impact on our training, hiring, or use of force practices as we previously incorporated this higher criteria.

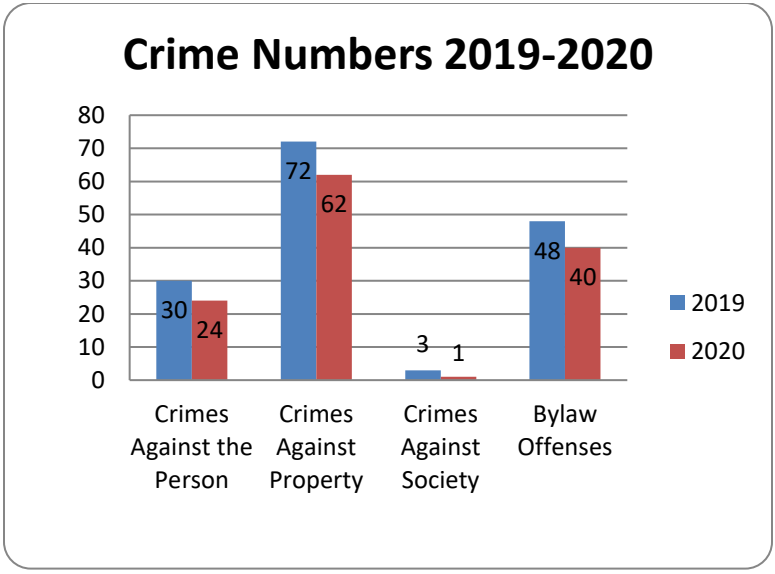
While navigating these challenges, the Department remained focused on updating our systems and operating procedures. We continued our pursuit of policy development to State Accreditation Standards and look forward to completing this enormous project in 2021. We also upgraded our State and National reporting guidelines. As you will note in our crime statistics, this has altered some reporting numbers, but reflects a more accurate picture of crime in our community. I am extremely pleased at the cooperative effort between the community and our officers to once again drive down crime in our Town. We saw reductions in every data category of State and local reporting.

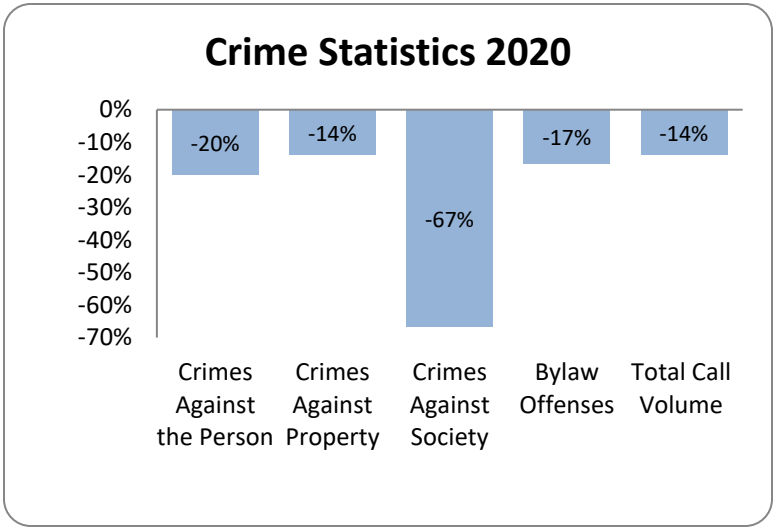
The Department also had several personnel additions, including Officer Garrett Ledbetter, Officer William Bento, Officer Michael Downing, and Officer Terrence Teehan. The addition of these fine, young men brings us closer to our full staffing levels. With the arrival of our fifth and final recruit officer in the Fall of 2021, we will have returned to a full complement of officers. I also had the pleasure of promoting Officer Ryan Maxfield to the position of Sergeant. Sergeant Maxfield has embraced new roles as our Crisis Intervention Supervisor and Field Training Supervisor. Lastly, we were able to add the valuable new resource of a Detective Unit with no increase to our budget. Congratulations to Detective Michelle Manganello and Detective Conor Ashe who assumed their new positions at the start of January of 2021. Our goal in creating this Unit is to resolve cases with higher success rates and more efficiency.

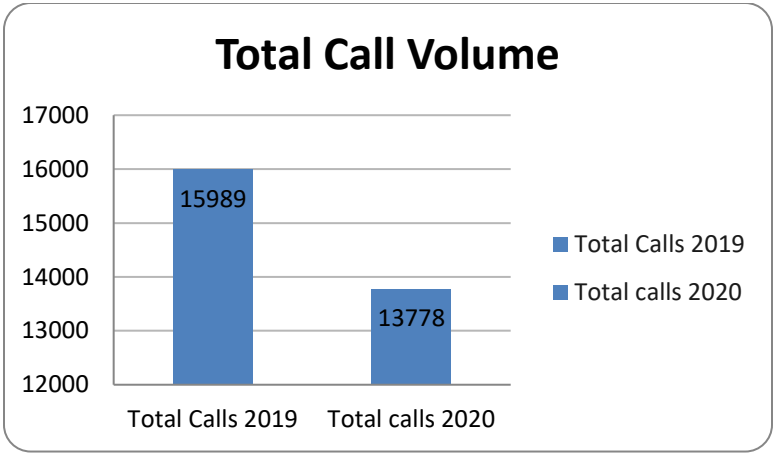
In closing, I would first like to thank the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, Board of Health and many others for their guidance and support during this difficult year. I would also like to express genuine appreciation on behalf of myself and the men and women of the Medfield Police Department for the unwavering support and cooperation of the community. We look forward to serving you again in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle D. Guerette
Police Chief


Crime Numbers 2019-2020
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
30
24
72
62
3
1
48
40
2019
2020
Crimes Against the Person
Crimes Against Property
Crimes Against Society
Bylaw Offenses


Crime Statistics 2020
0%
-10%
-20%
-30%
-40%
-50%
-60%
-70%
-20%
-14%
-67%
-17%
-14%
Crimes Against the Person
Crimes Against Property
Crimes Against Society
Bylaw Offenses
Total Call Volume


Total Call Volume
17000
16000
15000
14000
13000
12000
15989
13778
Total Calls 2019
Total calls 2020
Total Calls 2019
Total calls 2020