



TOWN COUNCIL – AGENDA REQUEST FORM

THIS FORM WILL BECOME PART OF THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION USED BY THE COUNCIL AND PUBLIC

Please submit Agenda Request Form, **including back up information**, 8 days prior to the requested meeting date. **Public Hearing requests must be submitted 20 days prior to requested meeting date to meet publication deadlines** (exceptions may be authorized by the Town Manager, Chairman/Vice Chair).

MEETING INFORMATION

Date Submitted: 9-28-21

Date of Meeting: 10-14-21

Submitted by: Captain Eric Marquis

Department: Police

Time Required: 10 minutes

Speakers: Captain Eric Marquis

Background Info. Supplied: Yes: No:

CATEGORY OF BUSINESS (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

| | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Appointment: | <input type="checkbox"/> | Recognition/Resignation/Retirement: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Public Hearing: | <input type="checkbox"/> | Old Business: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| New Business: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Consent Agenda: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Nonpublic: | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other: | <input type="checkbox"/> |

TITLE OF ITEM

Approval to accept a grant from the NH Office of Highway Safety for "Distracted Driving Patrols"

DESCRIPTION OF ITEM

Accept a grant from the NH Office of Highway Safety for "Merrimack Distracted Driving Patrols" in the amount of \$2,494.00.

REFERENCE (IF KNOWN)

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|-------|
| RSA: | Warrant Article: | _____ |
| Charter Article: | Town Meeting: | _____ |
| Other: | N/A | _____ |

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Projector: | <input type="checkbox"/> | Grant Requirements: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Easel: | <input type="checkbox"/> | Joint Meeting: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Special Seating: | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Laptop: | <input type="checkbox"/> | None: | <input type="checkbox"/> |

CONTACT INFORMATION

| | | | |
|---------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|
| Name: | <u>Eric Marquis</u> | Address: | <u>Police</u> |
| Phone Number: | <u>603.420.1862</u> | Email Address: | <u>emarquis@merrimacknh.gov</u> |

APPROVAL

Town Manager: Yes No: Chair/Vice Chair: Yes No:

Hold for Meeting Date: _____



MERRIMACK POLICE DEPARTMENT

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www.merrimackpd.org

Brian K. Levesque
Chief of Police

Matthew J. Tarleton
Deputy Chief of Police

DATE: OCTOBER 7, 2021
TO: MEMBERS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
CC: TOWN MANAGER PAUL MICALI
FROM: CAPTAIN ERIC MARQUIS
RE: AGENDA REQUESTS/ ACCEPTANCE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY GRANTS

The three agenda requests before the Town Council for acceptance of the NH Office of Highway Safety Grants include “Driving Under the Influence Patrols”, “Distracted Driving Patrols” and “High Visibility Mobilization Patrols”.

The Merrimack DUI Patrols grant is for the amount of \$3,357.00 and would fund 12 four hour patrols between the hours of 9 p.m. and 3 a.m. These patrols would focus on detecting DWIs and would predominately be held on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights. We may schedule patrols around special events such as the Super Bowl and St. Patrick’s Day, which are known events that are focused around alcohol. This past year we conducted 10 patrols which resulted in 5 arrests. Officers stopped 118 vehicles during the patrols and issued 113 warnings for various offenses as well as 5 summonses.

The Merrimack Distracted Driving Patrols grant is for the amount of \$2,494.00. This grant would fund 9 four hour patrols between the hours of 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. This grant would focus on patrols to address distracted and negligent driving which may be caused from using a handheld electronic device, other distractions in the car, failing to clear snow from vehicle, etc. This past year we conducted 9 patrols. Officers stopped 105 vehicles during the patrols and issued 95 warnings for various offenses as well as 5 summonses.

The “High Visibility Mobilization Patrols” grant is for the combined amount of \$3,400 which would fund 12 four hour patrols consisting of “Join the Clique,” “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” and “U Drive, U Text, U Pay” mobilizations. These high visibility mobilizations are statewide coordinated events that are conducted on specific dates and times to enforce specific issues. This past year we conducted 9 patrols which resulted in 4 arrests. Officers stopped 109 vehicles during the patrols and issued 104 warnings for various offenses as well as 13 summonses.

All three grants require 25% In Kind Match or Soft Match from the Police Department.

The awarded funds for these highway safety grants is a valuable benefit for the Town of Merrimack. Generally, officers on patrol face a very high volume of “calls for service” which frequently diverts their attention away from enforcing motor vehicle violations. Instead of being out on patrol and attentive to motor vehicle issues, the officers are in the station or at residences and businesses handling calls for service. The grant patrols offer us the opportunity to deploy dedicated officers whose main focus is the enforcement of motor vehicle violations with the ultimate goal of improving the safety of the motoring public by lowering the frequency of fatal, personal injury and property damage related motor vehicle accidents.