



Chief of Police  
Jonathan P. Klarén

Town of Chilmark  
Office of  
**Police Department**  
Chilmark, Massachusetts 02535

Station (508) 645-3310  
Fax 645-3101  
Communications 693-1212

November 19, 2021

### Traffic Officer Notes

Traffic Officer Position is Town's Grade 5

#### Current/Returning Police Traffic Officer Staff:

Benjamin Levine FY22 G5/S3 \$22.72 (may not return Summer 2022)  
Andrew Lee FY22 G5/S2 \$21.96  
Matthew Morris FY22 G5/S2 \$21.96 (only worked 16hr/week in 2021)

Current FY22 Budget \$35,280 = \$12,211.37 spent + \$23,068.63 balance  
budget estimate based on 3 Traffic Officers \$22/hr/14wks/40hrs

#### Advantages of traffic program being moved to harbor dept:

- More efficient, work on harbor/parking lot improvements when traffic is slow, typically harbor responsibilities will be slower at end of day and employees will have more time to handle busier sunset traffic. (dual purpose/flexible employee)
- Direct & Constant supervision
- Harbor employees spend more hours/day in Menemsha than traffic officer, typically police traffic start at 1230p and parking lot may fill up by 1130a
- Past police difficulties of hiring and retention in the traffic officer position
- Precedent of a town dept. other than police enforcing parking already in place at the beach dept.

#### Actions taken by the police dept:

Police would remove the Traffic Officer line from FY23 budget  
Police would reduce FY23 uniform line by \$1000  
Police would donate old VHF radios for harbor staff to communicate.  
Police would still maintain a presence in Menemsha during busy times with a special officer to handle matters like minor MVA's, lockouts, assist medical runs, assist harbor dept, assist flow and enforcement of traffic/parking and any other LE incidents that may arise.

**Questions/Concerns:**

Supervision issues/questions from duty officer to new harbor/traffic department employees

AOR of Harbor traffic dept.

Live communications between police and harbor departments.

All town employees writing parking tickets would need to be 'sworn' to do so MGL 147s10F.