

TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE

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RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE IN SUPPORT OF POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL

WHEREAS, The quality of life within a community should be the highest priority for the public officials who lead the city or town. Public safety is vital to the quality of life within our community. This includes personal safety as well as safety to the property within the community; and

WHEREAS, The Burrillville Police Department and Public Safety personnel are instrumental in maintaining safe neighborhoods and schools; and

WHEREAS, The Burrillville Police Department and Public Safety personnel create a solid foundation within our community upon which our residents and businesses can prosper; and

WHEREAS, The Burrillville Police Department and Public Safety personnel are exposed to dangerous and sometimes life-threatening situations at any given moment of their workdays; and

WHEREAS, The Burrillville Police Department and Public Safety Personnel often deal with people when they are at their lowest. Notwithstanding the inherent dangers of the job, responding to mental health and domestic violence calls are the most difficult. Officers are trained to de-escalate volatile situations. They are uncertain of what danger they will find when they respond to many of these calls; and

WHEREAS, The Burrillville Police Department officers and Public Safety Personnel performed their jobs at the height of the COVID pandemic, without concern for personal safety, despite the multiple unknowns of this virus. They have counseled, educated, and shown great discretion through this very difficult period; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the normal law enforcement and safety related duties performed daily, the Burrillville Police Department is involved in so much more inside our community:

Narcan administration / Addiction response – Every officer carries, and is trained to administer, Narcan when responding to a drug overdose. They have saved 42 lives since 2014.

Addiction Assistance and Substance Abuse Program known as BAAP and BPAC – Embedded within the Burrillville Police department are programs to build a bridge between Burrillville residents, students and families offering addiction prevention, treatment solutions and recovery support services. Multiple officers on the Burrillville Police Department have made the extra effort to get someone suffering from addiction in this community into the BAAP program.

Support other first responders – Burrillville police officers work alongside fire and rescue personnel during emergency calls for those services, protecting our residents and our first responders.

National Police Accreditation Program – The Burrillville Police Department has undergone extensive training to achieve and maintain the highest standards and practices in policing, achieving and since renewing its accreditation status.

Canine Program – The Burrillville Police Department has established a canine program to assist not only our community, but surrounding communities. The canine program is used in incidents related to drugs, crime and those that become lost in our wooded surroundings.

Off-road policing – The Burrillville Police Department goes beyond our roads with routine bike and ATV patrols to keep our rural recreation areas safe.

School Safety Program – The Burrillville Police Department has coordinated efforts with the Burrillville School District to coordinate crucial school safety programs, including physical and on-site protection, as well as preparation for active response needs.

School Resource Officer – This special officer from the Burrillville Police Department engages in multiple school and after-school programs throughout the Burrillville School District and has been recognized on multiple occasions for student involvement and appreciation by Burrillville students, school staff and parents. While the SRO is actively involved in one school, Patrol Officers will make walk through appearances in the other schools to maintain a safety presence throughout the academic day.

Highway Safety – The Burrillville Police Department is a leader in highway safety programs that include distracted driving, impaired driving, occupant safety and speed enforcement programs.

Emergency Management – The Burrillville Police are ALWAYS on duty working in the community regardless of weather events.

Computer crimes – The Burrillville Police Department Detectives have aggressively pursued and prosecuted those who prey on our most vulnerable in the community, our elderly and our youth. They have presented educational programs at both BHS and BMS on the dangers that lurk online.

Search and rescue – The Burrillville Police Department are quite often leading searches for missing children, elderly, those with mental health issues and hikers in some of RI's most wooded areas. The Canine program now is a key asset added into this challenging area.

Law Enforcement Advocate – The Burrillville Police Department supports and provides training to personnel in issues of sexual assault and domestic violence. These personnel can provide crisis intervention when needed.

Citizens Police Academy Programs – The Burrillville Police Department shares hands-on experience, demonstrating the wide range of duties and responsibilities that police perform on behalf of our community. The Burrillville CPA is one of the longest running such programs in the state and is often consulted with by other Police Departments for insight on how to establish and run such a program.

Christmas gift program – Since 2014 the personnel of the Burrillville Police Department have volunteered to organize, manage, partially fund and distribute gifts, food and other items that over 40 Burrillville families may not typically have during the holiday season, enhancing Christmas morning for over 110 children of this community.

B-SAFE – A direct outreach program to our seniors, disabled and others in need. The Burrillville Police Department personnel stay in constant communication with, offer assistance to, and make personal "check-up" calls when needed to a unique population set within our town.

Awards Ceremony – The Burrillville Police Department holds this annual ceremony for the police and members of this town, recognizing heroes and extraordinary service in our community.

Elderly shoveling program – The Burrillville Police Department assist seniors, those with disabilities, or those dealing with an injury preventing them from being able to shovel snow. The program is run with the help of student volunteers from Burrillville High School.

E-Commerce - The Burrillville Police Department provide an E-Commerce Safe Zone at the station where anyone engaging in online transaction may do so in the safety of the lobby or on the grounds of the Burrillville Police Station.

Special Events - The Burrillville Police Department's members engage every year in the Special Olympics Plunge, Special Olympics Torch Run and the Fierce Five Running festival in honor of a 19 year old Burrillville girl killed on Rt. 102 in 2013.

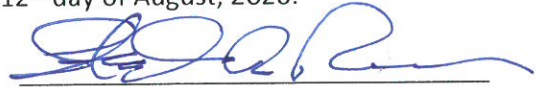
Local Youth Sports - The men and women of the Burrillville Police Department are always at the lead to celebrate a Burrillville School Department sports team or recreational youth team achievement with a return to Town parade celebration.

In 2014 the Burrillville Police Department took the lead in helping a young boy, who was battling cancer, achieve his wish for a card from First Responders on his birthday. This initiative grew to a national outpouring of support from Police and Fire personnel from throughout the country, culminating in a massive rally held at Wrights Farm. Further, a playground was eventually built through the efforts of the Burrillville Police Department and multiple agencies located in the northeast on a lot next the Burrillville Police Headquarters.

WHEREAS, Public safety for all is our sacred duty to those we represent. Compromising those basic principles is not an option for any Town Council or other Administrative body.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Burrillville Town Council and the Town Administration, wish to emphasize and reinforce their commitment to the funding and personal support to the Burrillville Police; and thank each member and their families for their dedication and service.

PASSED AS A RESOLUTION of the Burrillville Town Council this 12th day of August, 2020.



Stephen N. Rawson, Vice-President
Burrillville Town Council

ATTEST:



Vicki Martin, Town Clerk

