

**Dewey Beach Police Department Response to  
Request for Complete Accounting of Participation in  
Federal Surplus Property Program**

During the November 2017 Town meeting, the Commissioners unanimously requested that the Police Department provide the following list of items regarding the Department's participation in the Law Enforcement Support Office surplus property program:

- Description of the law enforcement use provided to the government to justify acquisition of the item
- Department's cost to acquire the item
- Source of funds used to acquire the item
- Physical location of item after Department took possession
- Actual use of the item by the Police Department
- Date placed into service
- Date removed from service, if applicable
- Disposition of item
- If the item was sold:
  - Was authorization required to sell the property?
  - From whom was authorization obtained?
  - Date sold
  - Sale proceeds
  - How were sale proceeds utilized?

The Commissioners received the Department's response the morning of the Town meeting on March 10. Some tables were received electronically and in hard copy; others were received only in hard copy. The files received electronically were in Acrobat pdf format:

- Information for each equipment line item was spread over three separate pages and had to be reassembled to see all provided data on each line item. Only the first page of information for each item was provided in hard copy.
- To examine the response, the electronic files had to be converted to Excel spreadsheets and assembled into a single spreadsheet.
- Both the law enforcement use provided to justify acquisition and the actual use of each item were requested, but only the use provided as justification was provided. This information was provided only on paper and was not compiled by the department. Instead, the department copied and submitted the information obtained by the Dover Post through a FOIA request to the Defense Logistics Agency, the federal administrator for the program.
- The Dover Post information was also converted to Excel spreadsheets. Each item's use must be matched to the other information about the item, and this matching process must be done manually. Because of the time-consuming nature of this matching process, only some of the use information is matched with the appropriate item in the main spreadsheet.
- The main spreadsheet includes four additional tabs that contain some summaries of the information provided. The justifications for each year are also included as separate tabs.

Summary information from the 2013 – 2017 data includes the following:

- The Police Department acquired multiple vehicles of several types including:
  - 27 trucks of various types
  - 2 forklifts
  - 3 vans
  - 1 Utility vehicle
  - 10 tractors
  - 13 trailers of various types
  - 1 passenger vehicle
  - 1 motorcycle
  - 11 all-terrain vehicles
- Clothing items include:
  - 50 pairs of boots
  - 25 cold weather hoods
  - 35 cold weather jackets
  - 16 men's outerwear
  - 32 cold weather overalls
  - 11 physical fitness pants
  - 16 extreme cold parkas
  - 50 cold weather shirts
  - 45 extreme (weather?) trousers
  - 10 men's pajama trousers
- Other items include:
  - 44 bunkable beds
  - 17 gas engines
  - 6 outboard motors
  - 25 generators
  - 47 intrenching tools
  - 53 spectacles of various types
- The intended use provided as justification to the LESO program to acquire large equipment and vehicles frequently cited storms, natural disasters, or other emergency situations
  - Raises question on how large equipment would be moved to Town for use in addressing emergencies, or who would operate the equipment
  - No information on whether equipment was used as indicated in the justification provided to LESO program
  - As noted by Dover Post, maintenance of "firing range" cited in multiple justifications beginning in 2014; range described as "newly acquired" in 2017. Location and status of range unknown.
- Acquisition costs for most items shown as "Manpower" and a few listed as "Hauling"
  - Assume that manpower indicates police officer time, but no information provided about the number of hours spent or whether time spent was regular pay, overtime, or off-duty
  - Hauling was generally listed for large equipment vehicles and presumably these costs were sometimes covered by exchanging equipment

- Sales of equipment and other items totaled \$138,370
  - \$44,780 was shown as deposited with the town
  - \$93,590 was shown as used for new patrol/police vehicles
  - Largest sales were:
    - Forklift \$9,700
    - Towed rotary sweeper \$7,000
    - Full tracked low speed tractor \$74,000
    - Full tracked low speed tractor \$36,500
    - Van \$3,800
    - Motorized cart \$2,650
- Seven pieces of equipment were exchanged for services rendered - value not provided
  - Wrecker truck
  - All-terrain vehicle
  - Tractor mounting earth auger
  - Outboard motor
  - Basic utility trailer
  - Fork lift Truck
  - Rough terrain fork lift
    - Department's data indicate fork lift acquired in February 2017, removed from service 2/19/2018, and exchanged for services rendered by Dirtworks
    - February 13 presentation at Commissioners Meeting indicates a fork lift traded for services from Dirtworks in April 2016
    - No April 2016 equipment exchange with Dirtworks shown in department's data
- 14 items were donated to the Scouts - value not provided
  - 11 tents
  - All-terrain vehicle
  - Clothes washer
  - Clothes dryer
- More than 90 pieces of equipment described as trash, junk, or otherwise unusable
- 42 vehicles still under department ownership – exact status unclear but presumed operational, being repaired, or to be repaired
  - 6 tractors, various types
  - 2 fork lift trucks
  - 15 trucks of various types
  - 8 trailers
  - 6 all-terrain vehicles
  - 1 utility vehicle
  - 1 van
  - 1 pickup
  - 1 passenger vehicle
  - 1 motorcycle
- One cargo truck and 2 utility trucks were turned in