

City of South Burlington

FY 2023 Proposed Budget: Police Department



Shawn P. Burke – Chief of Police

City Council
December 20th, 2021

Overview

- The Department has 39 total **police officer** positions, currently we have 4 vacancies.
- The organization hosts emergency **dispatching services** for the City's police and fire departments – 7 full time employees.
- The **Community Justice Center** is located under the Police Department's umbrella. The CJC provides an array of services involving restorative practice, parallel justice, and victim support – one full time Executive Director and two part time employees.
- The Department also relies on our team members in **supporting roles**; records, administration, and victim advocacy – 4 full time employees.

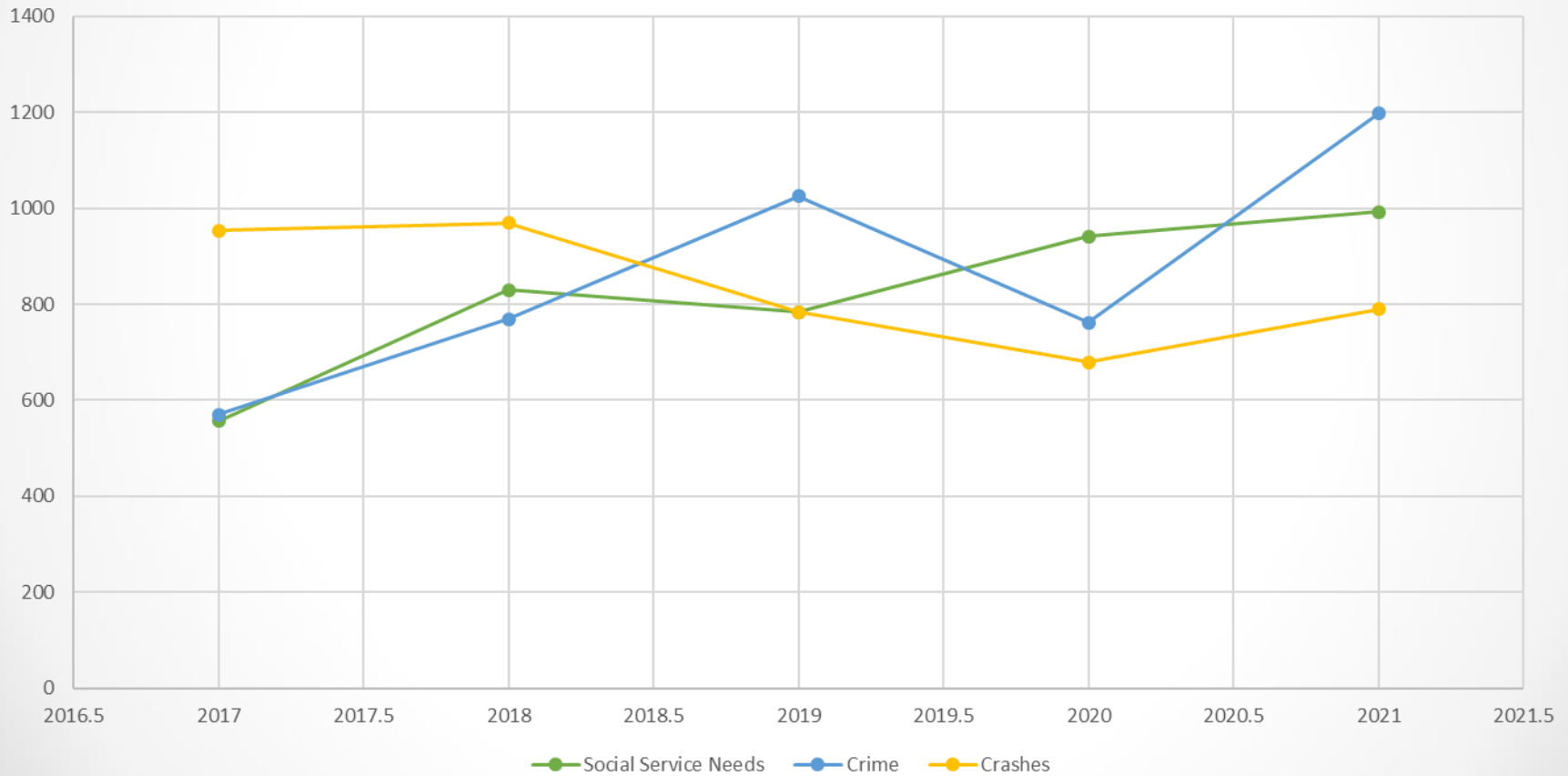
Operations

- The **Dispatch Center** handles over 16,000 incidents for the police and fire department each year.
- The **Police Department** responds to an average of 12,000 calls for service per year – thousands of which are criminal in nature. The department refers an average of 800 people a year to criminal court to face charges.
- Sworn members of the South Burlington Police are assigned to Patrol, Detectives, and Youth Services.
- **The Community Justice Center is grant funded.**



Police Data Trends

Incident Trend Overview



FY 23 Budget Items

- This budget represents a return to funding levels in FY 21 – restoring training and equipment reductions needed in the FY 22 budget.
- Body Worn Camera Technology – Cloud Based Digital Evidence Management.
- New dispatch radio consoles – ARPA funds
- Two new part time positions for Parks Patrol – recruitment and meeting residents expectations.
- Two new patrol vehicles – Hybrid technology.



FY23 Budget: Expenditures

AXON Solution

Funding for a platform that supports body worn cameras, cruiser cameras, and Tasers. Included in the investment – cloud based storage, intuitive solutions, and a fully supported suite of both hardware and software.

Transparency in operations.

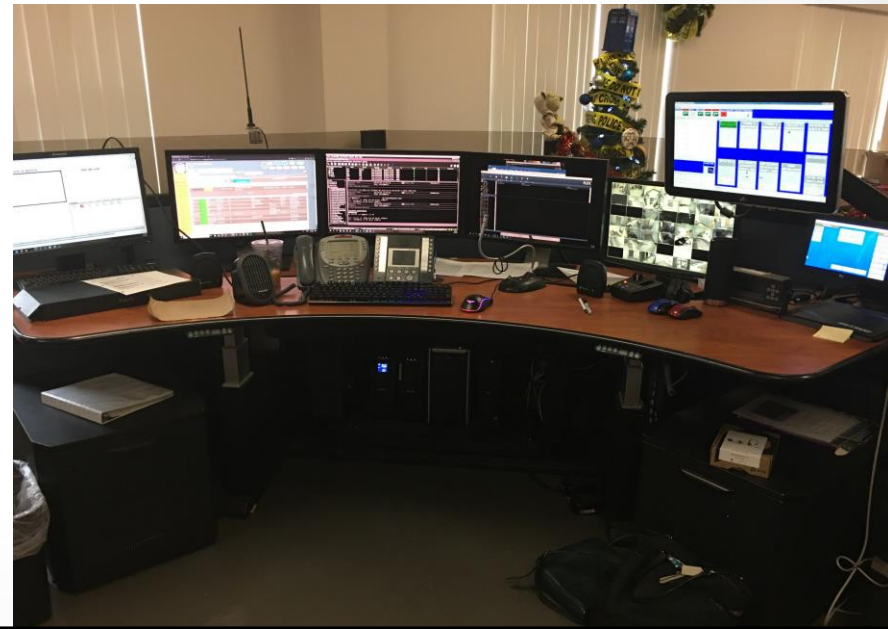


FY 23 Budget: Expenditures

Dispatch Consoles

The emergency dispatch center is equipped with three dispatch consoles. The consoles are approaching end of life and need to be replaced.

The consoles integrate all of the software and hardware solutions the dispatchers need when attending to calls for service.



Emerging Issues

Work Force Development & Retention

The Police Department has been losing approximately 10% of our sworn workforce per year. We have been able to hire one third of our need annually.

To fully train and certify a police officer takes approximately 40 weeks. Our attrition is far outpacing our ability to hire / train / deploy police officers.

Much of our attrition is retirement related. Others that have left report their reasons for leaving as higher salary, promotion, more diversity in assignment, and the common stressors related to municipal policing.

Due to staffing, the Department has had to reduce the number of school based officers and temporarily suspend our Traffic Safety position.



Spotlight

- This proposed police budget will advance the department's objectives toward operationalizing aspects of the 21st Century Policing Report – transparency and leveraging technology.
- This budget sustains our deep commitment to the Community Outreach Program.
- The reinvestment in training helps in advancing our objectives related to the use of force legislative mandates.
- These investments in the department aim to retain and hire officers. The department wants to return service levels to meet our communities expectations.

