

My name is Jack Foote I live at xxx xxxxxxxx xx and I am currently the president of the Gloucester Police Patrolman's Association, MassCOP Local 344. I'm here today to voice the memberships concern over the lack of a new collective bargaining agreement with the City of Gloucester. The most current agreement expired on June 30, 2002.

Four years and seven months that's how long the Patrolman have been without a new agreement.

Four years and 7 months during that time water and sewer bills have soared property taxes have risen, trash disposal fees have increased, health insurance has increased, fuel hikes, utilities, groceries and on and on and on!!!

Talks with the City for a new agreement began in 2003. Following our last meeting on November 1, 2006 we felt positive that an agreement was near and a fair and mutually beneficial resolution was attainable. We were told that we would hear from the City within on week. This has not happened and follow-up correspondence has gone unanswered. At this point police contract talks are seriously stalled.

We have patiently stood by while other unions have received contracts from the administration. Our members are selfless employees to this City, performing their duties without fail. Despite what we perceive to be unfairness and disregard from our employer, THE CITY OF GLOUCESTER.

In my 26 year career with the GPD this is the longest by far that we have been without a contract. In fact, we know of no other Police Union throughout the State that has gone longer. In closing, it borders on the ridiculous that the men and women who patrol this City, who investigate crimes in the City and who staff the emergency E-911 system in the City do not merit a new contract.

Four years and seven months.

Someone needs to do the right thing.

Thank You