

**There's a New Sheriff In Town**  
**By Jon Bondy**

Well. Not yet.

The proposed FY2021 budget includes over \$20K to fund a sheriff for 8 hours a week. Why did the Select Board propose this change and expense?

We were approached by a resident who wanted her children to be able to walk to school safely. It is common knowledge that people drive past the school much faster than the posted speed limit. We need to control this behavior to ensure the safety of our children.

We also received a complaint that too many people are ignoring the 4-way and 3-way stop signs, resulting in safety concerns.

The principal at the school said that he picks up used drug paraphernalia (needles) perhaps once a week. He also indicated that getting friendly law enforcement officers into the school would help kids to be more cooperative with and not fear such officers.

The point is that your Select Board is responding to resident complaints and suggestions. We have never funded the sheriff in the past, so we consider this to be an experiment. Just FYI, Fairfax funds the sheriff to the tune of about \$150K.