

Tell Our Elected Leaders:

MIDDLEBURY DESERVES WORKING POLICE RADIOS

In July, the Board of Selectmen unanimously voted to recommend the funding to replace the Police Department's antiquated communications equipment, and sent the matter to the Board of Finance for approval. Five months later, the Town's police officers are still relying on radios that malfunction all too often, putting all of our lives needlessly at risk.

**Middlebury told
communications system on
'life support'**

Waterbury Republican-American
July 21, 2009

The Issue

Middlebury's elected leaders have been playing a game of "hot potato" with the department's faulty radios since then. Both the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance have allowed a communications equipment vendor that did not meet the required specifications on their bid for a new system to stall progress.*

Take Action

Tell the Board of Selectmen you support the upgraded radio system the Police Commission's consultant has recommended. Tell them to put the safety of the public -- from our children to our seniors to our officers -- first, and allow Town voters to approve this critical upgrade:



(203) 758-2439



**Middlebury Board of Selectman
1212 Whittimore Road, Middlebury, CT 06762**



**First Selectman Thomas P. Gormley: firstselectman@middlebury-ct.org
Selectman Elaine M. R. Strobel: estrobel@middlebury-ct.org
Selectman Robert C. Desmarais, Sr.: rdesmarais@middlebury-ct.org**

**For more information contact Danny Medress at (800) 894-9479,
or visit the Union's website at www.csea-ct.com.**

* Voices News, System Upgrade Meeting Planned in Middlebury, September 30, 2009

Middlebury's Police Officers:

WE SHARE THE SAME VALUES AS THE PUBLIC WE SERVE



MIDDLEBURY BEE-INTELLIGENCER

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Letters to the Editor

Public radios are a safety issue

To the Editor:

With the upcoming 2009 elections the problems with the police radio system in the town of Middlebury has become a hot topic. I wish that this serious problem had been addressed four years ago after I made the first complaint regarding the poorly functioning police radio system.

The town of Middlebury recently hired a radio consultant to evaluate our current radio system. In his report, the radio consultant described the system as old, outdated and antiquated. Furthermore, he believed that the system functions properly only 50 percent of the time.

So my question to any person out there is, would you take a 50 percent chance knowing that you may not make it home to your family that night because you were unable to receive essential communication from fellow officers or dispatch? Why should police officers in the town of Middlebury work under these conditions daily? What is a Middlebury police officer's life worth in comparison to the amount of money that has to be spent to upgrade the radio system?

The current radio system not only impacts the safety of police officers in the town of Middlebury, it also impacts the safety of the public that we are sworn to PROTECT and SERVE.

Officer Alton L. Cronin
Middlebury Police Department
Union President, CSEA/SEIU Local 2001

