

North Greenbush Police

Creation of Police Dept-1954 (Troy Times Record Aug 13, 1958)

Two men named: Ernest Robillard and Edward Bradley

Mr. Bradley resigned after four months and J. Leslie Dickinson named to succeed him

Apr 1958 Wesley Verbraska named town officer

Troy Record Nov. 11, 1961

North Greenbush has three active Constables: Ernest W. **Robillard**, chief constable (for five of the ten years he has been a peace officer; Sgt. Wesley A. **Verbraska** and Theodore H. **Sprague**. Each man uses his own automobile, but they have two-way radios, flashing red lights and sirens. Each man carries a service revolver. Each is thoroughly trained in law enforcement, having attended schools to obtain training. Every night from 7:30 pm to 1 am the next day, at least one of the cars is patrolling the countryside (covering 65 miles of town road). On Fridays and Saturdays, and often on Sundays, two and possibly all three cars are in service. Ten years ago(sic) the town realized the need for police protection. Chief Robillard was first named and then a little later, Edward Bradley who resigned six months later. Verbraska has been on the force four years and Sprague two. Before this, for seven years, J. Leslie Dickinson served as constable. All these men had full time jobs and served part time as constables. Approximately 300 vehicular and traffic summonses are issued yearly. In the last four years more than 100 accidents, three of them fatal, have been investigated. The men answer all fire alarms in the town.

June 21 1971

Town Board Resolution. Whereas Town of N. Greenbush will become a Suburban Town on Jan 1, 1972; Whereas it is the public interest and welfare that law enforcement be maintained, Therefore pursuant to Sec 150 of the Town Law of the State of NY, the Town of N. Greenbush does hereby establish a Town Police Department effective immediately. All Town property being used by the Town Constables is hereby deemed to be transferred to the Town Police Department. Also, effective this date, the position of Constable and all appointments thereunder in the Town are hereby abolished.

Town Policemen

Chief	Theodore H. Sprague Jr.
Assistant Chief	Robert A. Helwig
Sergeant	Charles F. Gundrum
Sergeant	Douglas A. Ruso Sr.
Patrolmen	Elsworth Martin Michael C. Danaher F. Paul Barbagallo Leo H. Ruffinen

Bruce W. Baker
George Sheldon Jr.

Times Union Mar 9, 1979

North Greenbush appoints new police chief

Sgt. Bernhard Peter, a seven year veteran of police work was appointed the department's first full time sergeant last summer and in his new position as chief, will command 11 part time officers. Police Chief Robert Helwig retired March 8. Helwig joined the department in 1963 as a patrolman, and served as assistant chief for seven years before his promotion to chief last year, served on a part time basis. Chief Peter will serve in the new position at a salary of \$13,000 per year. A **police commission** was also created at this date consisting of William Dedrick, Art Dell and Robert Helwig.

From Town Board minutes

Constables appointed:

Jan 13, 1948

Milton Whaley
John Hoffman

Same appointments in 1949,1950

Jan 12, 1951

John Hoffman
Ed Bradley

Note: They were paid \$50/yr and "can collect and retain for own use fees, mileage, poundage (?) and other compensation.