Chief

Continued from page A1

result in a lot of opportunities for advancement for officers

in the department. "And we have an excellent

police department. They do an outstanding job in the community, and I only see them getting better," Voll said.

Voll said bills in the State



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Assembly which would amend state pension and healthcare benefits have caused a lot of concern among public employees, including members of law enforcement.

"A lot of people are con-

cerned with the governor's changes, so there are a lot of retirements this year because people are not sure what the governor is doing. I guess a lot of guys want to get out before they are affected," Voll said.

Voll will have to make numerous recommendations for positions being vacated in 2011, including a replacement for Recreation Department Director Zach Zelwak. Voll agreed taking over as township manager at

this point was like getting on a train that was already mov-

But I'm on the train, and I'm the conductor, and I'll make sure we operate in a smooth and safe manner," he

Donohue's 30 years as a cop

Police Chief Ed Donohue is retiring after 30 years in law enforcement. A Cape May County native, Donohue has lived in Lower Township for over 30 years.

Donohue grew up in Stone Harbor, where his father, William B. Donohue, was Chief of Police. Donohue graduated from Wildwood Catholic High School and attended Atlantic Community College.

Donohue began his law enforcement career in 1981 when he became a member of the New Jersey State Police Marine Patrol Marine Bureau. He graduated from the New Jersey State Police

Academy in Sea Girt in 1982 as a member of the 173rd Municipal Police Class.

Donohue is a certified New Jersey Police Training Commission Instructor and taught for over 20 years at the Cape May County Police Academy, instructing crash injuries management and physical fitness to new

Donohue joined the Lower Township Police Department in 1984, where he served on various squads. He was then assigned to the Cape May County Narcotic's Strike Force in 1987, where he served undercover for

police recruits.

one year. He then served on the department's Tactical Squad and in 1992 was assigned to the Detective Division.

Chief Donohue became the department's first Detective First Class in 1994.

Donohue was promoted to Patrol Sergeant in August 1995 and obtained the rank of Lieutenant in April 1998. He was promoted to Captain in August of 2002 and served as the Team Leader for the department's Hostage Negotiation Team.

Donohue was promoted to Chief of Police in July 2005. Chief Donohue is a graduate of the New Jersey Certified Public Manager's Program through Rutgers
University and the West
Point Command and
Leadership Program through the New Jersey State Chief's Association.

He has attended the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glenkow, Ga., where he was certified as a Police Physical Fitness Instructor and as a graduate of the 2015 Session of the F.B.I. National Academy located in Quantico, Va.

Chief Donohue established the following programs within the Lower Township Police Department:

Physical Fitness/Wellness Program For Officers.

- Safe Neighborhoods Tip Line. Annual Awards

Ceremony/Recognition Night for Officers. - Motorcycle Patrol Unit.

- Integrated the police department's SWAT Team in cooperation with other Police Chiefs and the Cape May County Prosecutor's Office, into the new Cape May County Regional SWAT Team. Lower Township SWAT Officers are now part of the Cape May County's Regional SWAT Team's Mainland Unit.aa

Chief Donohue has headed up the SWAT Steering Committee for the Cape May County

Police Chiefs Association since the inception of the Regional SWAT Team. Chief Donohue is also the

Vice President of the Cape May County Police Chiefs Association and Chairman of the Cape May County Police Training Committee.

During Donohue's tenure, he introduced a totally new look for Lower Township

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Vehicles, going to black and white Dodge Chargers, with a new emblem on the vehicle, which now includes Ćape May Point Lighthouse, which is located in Lower

Township's jurisdiction and the wording, "Serving Ocean to Bay since 1955."

Chief Donohue also increased Grant Programs and Funding for the police department to include:

Cops in Shops Program – a grant which allows officers to work undercover in liquor stores to discourage the purchase of alcoholic beverages by minors.

Click It or Ticket It Grant Program – a grant that allows for extra patrol to enforce seat belts and other motor vehicle violations.

- Over The Limit, Under Arrest Program - a grant that allows for patrols to target motorist for DWIs and other violations.

The Burn Jag Grant – a federal grant which allowed the township to purchase a new Dodge Charger Police Vehicle and ammunition for the police department and SWAT Team members.

Driving Drunk Enforcement Fund - Annual fund which also allows for supplemental DWI patrols.

In 2009, the police department received over \$60,000 in grant funding for law enforcement activities. Chief Donohue stated that the police department is currently in the process of upgrading its communications capabilities including new computer aided dissoftware patch enhanced 9-1-1 capabilities.

The chief noted that the number one priority for the township's next Chief of Police would be ensuring that there are adequate police officers available to work the streets to maintain public safety.

Donohue said in 1995 the police department had 54 sworn officers.

"We are currently working with just 40 officers from the chief on down," he said.

Donohue fears that number could drop even further through attrition as up to eight police officers could retire by next year.

Donohue just recently asked the township to increase its Class II Officers from 10 to 12.

Donohue is also one of the last officers still working on the police department who investigated and subsequently arrested the person responsible for the shooting death of

Lower Township Police Officer, David C. Douglass, on Feb. 18, 1994.

Donohue was a detective at the time.

"It has been my privilege and honor to serve the residents of Lower Township for the past 27 years, while working side by side with the men and women of the Lower Township Police Department and all of Lower Township's excellent Emergency Services Personnel, including our firefighters and Rescue Squad members. them all the best of luck in

the future and will keep

them in my prayers."

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