

Orono City Council approved & accepted the Police Department Community Service Dog (K-9) "Xerxes".

This is a first time in the country that a Police Department has teamed up with a private enterprise to provide a trained service dog. The cost is about \$25,000 to provide a trained service dog and [Can Do Canines](#) has donated "Xerxes", a trained Community Service Dog, to the Orono Police Department. The ongoing cost to maintain food, vaccinations etc. is about \$2,500 per year. Ritchie Anderson of NorthShore Marina has stepped up and donated the first 4 years of this cost with an option for the 5th year as our official sponsor of our new addition to the Orono Police family. Thank you Can Do Canines as well as Ritchie Anderson of NorthShore Marina.

The Orono Police Department has made it a goal to integrate creative and functional ways to engage the community. By doing so they have been able to create lasting bonds with our community members and local businesses while giving a high level of service that our community expects. They pride themselves on helping people within our community to the best of their abilities and are always looking to find ways to improve. One area of improvement is a partnership with [Can Do Canines](#). Can Do Canines would work with providing a community service dog as a member of our department.

Recap: Last night the Orono City Council made a motion to establish a partnership with Can Do Canines in implementing and establishing a Community Service (K-) program and to accept the donation of Xerxes a 3 year old black lab, as our Community Service Dog. Xerxes is pictured with the City Council members, Orono Police Officers, and Can Do Canine representatives.

