“New Norfolk Police Cruiser”

A new black and white police cruiser with a new look is currently in use at the Norfolk Police Division. According to Mike Bauer, Norfolk Police Captain of Support Services, the 2012 Chevy Impala was driven by Norfolk detectives last year and then put into service for patrol officers this fall. Three cruisers in all will be added to the Police Division in the next month or so. Bauer said the company that provides them with the 911 software provides a service in which a car is revamped into a police car. A local auto detailer adds the white vinyl wrap and decals to the car.

“The new cars will have LED light bars that use a lot less power. It makes a big difference because not as much electricity is pulled from the car battery,” Bauer said.

There are directional markers built into the light bar that is programmable from inside the cruiser. One electrical panel is in the trunk of the car and another is in the console. Both panels have to have enough juice to power the mobile data terminals (laptops), scanners, dispatch radios and light bar in the car.

Bauer said each car will be in service for the Police Division for about four years and during that time will rack up around 100,000 miles on the odometer.