

Final
Temple-Greenville Police Joint Board
Minutes of the Public Meeting
January 4, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 5:00PM by chair Carla Mary of Greenville. Also attending the meeting were Douglas Reardon of Greenville, George Willard and Gail Cromwell of Temple, Chief McTague and Sergeant Needham. Visitors included part time officer candidate Michael Heikkila, Temple Budget Committee members John Kieley and Ken Sullivan and Temple Selectman Ken Caisse.

A motion by Gail Cromwell seconded by G. Willard to accept the minutes of the December 14, 2015 meeting was passed.

The sealed minutes from the non-public session on December 14, 2015 were signed.

A discussion of the proposed 2016 budget was conducted. The fuel oil line was reduced by \$500.00 to \$3,000.00.

The allocation of administrative fees was discussed, with a proposal by G. Cromwell to add the fees into the general budget, and to apply any revenues, which currently go solely to Greenville, to the general budget. G. Cromwell questioned the cost of administration by the Town of Greenville. Kelley Collin's revised breakdown of costs was reviewed. The annual total is \$3,160.00. G. Cromwell requested more time to study this matter.

Chief McTague introduced Michael Heikkila to the board. Heikkila will be attending the part time academy that starts in February.

A motion by C. Mary, seconded by D. Reardon to appoint Michael Heikkila as a part time officer was approved, with all in favor.

The board signed pay change request forms for Officer Eric MacDuff and Officer K. Maxwell, who are both full time certified, to bring their pay in line with other certified officers. A pay change request for Michael Heikkila, with a rate of pay of \$10.00 per hour while he attends the academy was also signed. An increase will be requested when he graduates and becomes certified.

CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS:

The upcoming contract was discussed at length. G. Cromwell asked about the results of Greenville's meeting with MRI. C. Mary responded that a report was being prepared. C. Mary stated that Greenville expects a substantial increase to run an independent department, but it can be structured based on the amount the Town wants to spend.

Greenville will be presenting two to three warrant articles to the town in March:

- Continue police services as is
- Discontinue the merger and have an independent police department

- (with agreement from Temple) Have an independent police department that contracts services to Temple.

G. Cromwell stated that Temple has also studied the cost to have an independent department. G. Cromwell stated that she believes that the towns have mutual reasons to continue the cooperative police department.

D. Reardon stated that changing the current rate of funding (39% Temple and 61% Greenville) to the 35/65 split proposed by Temple is a non-starter for Greenville.

The board discussed the contract term, with D. Reardon suggesting a 1 to 2 year term, rather than locking in to a longer term. J. Kieley suggested that contract could be written for a longer term, subject to re-addressing the funding split on a shorter term.

C. Mary stated that they had a responsibility to meet the needs of the Town of Greenville, which are very different from those of Temple.

The Greenville Selectmen were willing to forgo the request for rent payments for the station.

OLD BUSINESS:

The board revisited the issue of paying Chief McTague to cover one shift per week. The chief stated that he didn't have a problem covering a shift to give the full time officers a day off, but that putting the State Police on call was also an option. A discussion of peak activity led to a decision to put the NH State Police on call on Sundays until the open full time shift is filled.

C. Mary inquired about the process for hiring a full time officer. Chief McTague replied that there have been a couple of inquiries, but that it will be difficult to fill the position due to concerns about the future of the merger, and the fact that many departments in the state are short staffed. He also stated that the time it takes to interview, conduct oral boards, and perform background checks will be a drain on an already understaffed department.

Chief McTague noted that the Police Academy is looking into charging for the academy, which will increase the practice of "poaching" certified officers.

A motion by G. Cromwell, seconded by C. Mary to accept the preliminary budget with a \$500.00 reduction of the Heating Oil line was passed.

G. Willard stated that Temple would consider contracting with Greenville for police coverage, but that more information would be necessary before it could be discussed.

A motion by D. Reardon, seconded by G. Cromwell to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 PM was passed.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on February 1st, at 5:00 PM in Temple.