

Temple-Greenville Police Joint Board

Minutes of the Public Meeting

January 9, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman George Willard. Attending the meeting were Gail Cromwell of Temple, Carla Mary and Doug Reardon of Greenville and Chief McTague. Visiting the meeting was resident Connie Kieley of Temple.

A motion by G. Cromwell, seconded by C. Mary to accept the minutes of the December 5, 2016 meeting as written was passed, with all in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

The chief informed the board that the new carpeting had been installed, and that the installation went well. He reported that his particle board desk broke while being moved, and that he replaced it with an antique oak desk, purchased from Alan Gauvin for \$50.00, and refinished.

NEW BUSINESS:

The board discussed a warrant article proposed by the Greenville BOS to apply funds from the 2016 budget surplus to the Detail Revolving Fund to prevent future negative balances. At the end of 2016, the department had to shut down Asplundh crews due to the revolving fund running out of money. The Greenville general fund covered the deficit until payments were received late in December.

G. Cromwell objected to the article based on possible legal improprieties. She distributed copies of the contract, and questioned whether the proposed article interfered with the contractual disposition of the fund balance, (paragraph G, on page 6). She also objected on the basis that the article would cause an increase in taxes. She noted that the revolving fund balance was back up to approximately \$23,000.00 after recent payments, making a change unnecessary.

C. Mary stated that the warrant article was a way to prevent another shut down of details. She is in favor of preventing shut downs, as details are of benefit to the officers who perform them.

D. Reardon stated that preventing utility companies from performing work would lead to long term infrastructure issues, and increasing the detail fund balance would prevent this from happening.

Chief McTague specified that the main problem was with Asplundh, a company that has traditionally been late with payments. After they were prevented from working in our towns, the bills were paid fairly quickly.

C. Mary asked how much longer Asplundh would be working on the current project to clear lines. Chief McTague stated that the crew that was working estimated one to two weeks of work. C. Mary stated that the current balance in the revolving fund should cover that amount of work.

The board discussed alternatives to the warrant article, including increased late payment fees, disallowing work when a certain level of overdue invoices is reached and not making non payroll purchases (vehicle maintenance, equipment) when the fund reaches a set minimum balance. \$5,000.00 was suggested.

The proposed warrant article was tabled.

C. Mary asked that the Police Department communicate regularly with the Greenville Selectman's office regarding the detail fund balance.

2016 BUDGET:

The board was informed that the Property and Liability insurance lines for 2016 had been miscalculated, and that the year-end expenditures had been adjusted downward to reflect this. The department ended the year with a significant surplus, due in large part to not having a third full time officer for most of the year.

Gail Cromwell stated that she felt that the building valuation, which increased from \$390,000 in 2016, to \$415,000 was too high. She asked that Avitar be asked to reassess the building. C. Mary stated that the cost of \$347 to cover the property insurance was a fair amount. A motion by G. Cromwell to have the building reassessed was not seconded.

2017 BUDGET:

The 2017 proposed budget was adjusted downward to reflect lower than expected Property and Liability insurance costs.

Chief McTague asked that the training line be increased back to \$2,500.00. He requested approval to attend an ALICE training course, which will certify him to conduct active shooter training for schools and businesses in our communities. He also informed the board that

ammunition prices would be increasing, and requested to order enough for the entire year now.

A motion by C. Mary, seconded by D. Reardon to increase the training budget from \$2,000 to \$2,500 was passed with all in favor.

A motion by D. Reardon, seconded by C. Mary to approve Chief McTague's attendance at the Hudson Police Department's ALICE Training class was approved, with all in favor.

A motion by C. Mary, seconded by G. Cromwell to approve a proposed budget of \$619,759.00 was passed with all in favor.

The board signed a purchase order for \$595.00 for the ALICE Training class, and another for \$526.00 for ammunition.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Officer Heikkila has been at the full time academy for one week, and all seems to be going well.

Chief McTague reported that the department is starting 2017 in good shape. Accidents are down due to mild weather.

The statistics for 2016 were slightly down from the prior year.

A motion by G. Cromwell, seconded by C. Mary to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 was approved, with all in favor.

The next meeting will be held on February 6, 2017 at 6:00 PM in Greenville.

These minutes were prepared by E. Maxcy-Humphrey