

# **Temple-Greenville Police Joint Board**

## **Minutes of the Public Meeting November 6, 2017**

The meeting was opened at 5:00 PM by Chair Carla Mary. Also present were Gail Cromwell and Bill Ezell of Temple, Doug Reardon of Greenville and Chief McTague. Two residents of Greenville, Deb Spratt and Adam Mueller, as well as Greenville Town Administrator Tara Sousa attended the meeting.

A motion by G. Cromwell, seconded by C. Mary to accept the minutes of the September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting as written was passed.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Gail Cromwell reiterated her concerns over the safety of Richardson Road. The Greenville board members agreed to add it to the agenda for their next meeting.

### **Contract negotiations:**

G. Cromwell presented a proposal to amend the contract to allocate administrative costs to each town, rather than have Greenville cover the entire cost. (see Appendix A) Her suggestion of adding a \$3,000.00 line for such costs to the budget, and allocating the revenues to the police budget rather than Greenville's general fund were taken under advisement by the Greenville board members, who will determine the benefits/costs of the suggested change.

G. Cromwell again advocated for a 5 year term for the renewal, stating that the contract allows for either town to withdraw with a six month notice. C. Mary restated her desire not to bind a future board to a five year contract. D. Reardon stated that he understood the benefit of a longer term, but that he was comfortable with a three year term. B. Ezell stated that a three year term was acceptable to him. The board decided on a three year term for the upcoming renewal.

A motion by C. Mary, seconded by B. Ezell to expend \$7,982.00 from the Detail Revolving Fund to purchase a Microsoft SQL license and upgrade the department's Crimestar Database was passed.

The possibility of using further detail revolving funds towards the purchase of a new cruiser was also discussed. The board will discuss the matter further at a future meeting.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

A motion by C. Mary, seconded by B. Ezell to expend \$299.00 to send Officer C. J. Rousseau to a Drug Interdiction Class by SRR Training was passed.

#### 2017 BUDGET:

The department projects a small surplus of \$5,000 to \$7,000 in the budget by year end.

#### 2018 BUDGET:

There were changes in the insurance lines, with Health Insurance rates decreasing by 6 percent, and Property and Liability increasing by 7 percent.

C. Mary stated that because of a large tax rate increase in Greenville, the Greenville board is carefully considering a zero salary increase policy for 2018. G. Cromwell stated that the Temple board has considered the police department separately from other employees in the past, due to the high cost of replacing officers that may leave for higher paying departments. C. Mary stated that the policy of the Greenville board is unwilling to adversely affect morale by treating employees in a way that is seen as unfair. Chief McTague stated that the department needs to keep wages competitive rather than risk losing experienced officers and spending more money to train new ones. G. Cromwell asked if there was a way to look at each department member on a case by case basis and make individual adjustments rather than an overall percentage. Chief McTague replied that he would compare wages from similar sized departments from the Greenland wage survey that had been received recently.

C. Mary suggested increasing the training budget from \$2,000.00 to \$2,500.00, to allow for more training. The board agreed to this change.

C. Mary noted that the vehicle insurance line could be reduced by half, to bring it in line with amount expended in 2017.

The department will continue to seek quotes for window replacement. Deb Spratt informed the board that she had recently had good luck with replacement windows by Home Depot.

#### CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief McTague informed the board that he expected MV accidents to increase in November and December, as motorists become reacquainted with winter driving conditions. He reported that officers were currently being weighed down with big investigations, including two adult sexual assaults, and two juvenile sexual assaults, as well as increased juvenile cases. He spoke about the recent vandalism, and stated that historically, there are fewer cases than in the past. Several criminal mischief cases have been solved this year, but others are unlikely to be solved. C. Mary said that Greenville plans to install motion lights and cameras in the Town Hall back alley, where spray painting had recently occurred. Chief McTague suggested that the area be gated as well. He also informed the board that October and June are typically the most active months for spray painting, because of Halloween and Graduation. He stated that he was concerned with the drug references in the recent graffiti.

Chief McTague expressed frustration with the new marijuana laws, especially in contrast to alcohol laws, which carry much stiffer penalties. G. Cromwell asked if he had any suggestions for what the towns could do. Chief McTague stated that they should be looking ahead to the possible legalization of marijuana, and the possibility of having "Pot Shops" seeking to open in our towns.

D. Reardon inquired about the heroin epidemic. Chief McTague reported that there seem to be fewer overdoses over the past couple of months. He informed the board that the NH Attorney General is now looking at overdose deaths as criminal investigations, and requesting that phones be seized as possible evidence.

At 5:54, the board signed a pay rate change form for Jesse Hyam, who recently completed the part time academy.

The meeting was opened to audience questions.

Adam Mueller suggested the board consider giving a flat rate of increase across the board, rather than a percentage, as a fair way to give an increase in wages. He inquired about using revenues the department collects specifically for training purposes. He also mentioned that in the past, the Michigan State Police provided information on different vehicles suitability as cruisers. Chief McTague reported that a number of vehicles were being explored, and that he was unhappy with the long term performance of the Fords. A Toyota 4-Runner is looking like a contender, but there may be an issue with warranties.

Deb Spratt expressed concern with parking on sidewalks, specifically on Temple Street, where a vehicle has been parked on the sidewalk for months. C. Mary responded that the Greenville board had discussed this at a meeting recently, and instructed the police department to enforce all parking rules. Chief McTague informed the meeting that a ticket had been issued, and that it was in the process of being resolved through the courts. Both Deb Spratt and C. Mary questioned whether the situation had been handled effectively. C. Mary suggested ticketing the individual every day, but Chief McTague responded that that would not be acceptable to the courts. C. Mary inquired when vehicles were towed. Chief McTague responded that typically vehicles were towed only during snow or other public safety emergencies. He agreed that the process of ticketing and waiting for the courts was slow, but feels it is the right way to proceed. He agreed to follow up on the issue in the morning.

At 6:08, a motion by C. Mary, seconded by G. Cromwell to adjourn the meeting was passed.

## Appendix A

### Proposal for Administration Costs – November 6, 2017

Create a new budget line “Administrative Costs” \$3,000 to be added to the budget for 2018.

#### Changes to contract language:

7 D. Delete sentence beginning No additional fee....

Add: Greenville shall be reimbursed for these services as provided in the budget line item (on a quarterly basis?) Monthly? Other?

#### 9. Ordinances and Fees.

Change “shall be paid to Greenville” and delete all language remaining in that paragraph. To: shall be used as revenue against the budget with adjustment made to the final monthly payment from Temple.

Any ordinances prevailing in either town shall be enforced by the police retained hereunder. Fees and other charges collected as a consequence of any ordinance or process typically in place in either town, with the exception of detail fees, shall be used as revenue against the annual budget. The final monthly payment due from Temple shall be adjusted to reflect the final net budget for the year.

#### Previous proposal on Detail Fund in case of dissolution: add to para. 12:

After the payment of all expenses appropriately assigned to the Detail Fund, and the return to Greenville of its initial \$5,000 contribution, the remainder shall be distributed to the two towns in the same proportion as their current share of operational costs.