

Final
Temple-Greenville Police Joint Board
Minutes of the Public Meeting
February 1, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 5:00PM by Chair Carla Mary of Greenville. Also attending the meeting were Gail Cromwell and George Willard of Temple, Douglas Reardon of Greenville, Chief McTague and Sergeant Needham. Visitors to the meeting were Temple Selectman Ken Caisse, John Kieley of the Temple Budget Committee, Connie Kieley of the Temple Capital Improvements Committee, Darel Oja, Emily LaCroix and Wendy Legere of Souhegan Valley Ambulance, and Ashley Saari of the Monadnock Ledger-Transcript.

A motion by C. Mary, seconded by G. Willard to accept the minutes of the January 18, 2016 meeting as written was passed.

A motion by C. Mary, seconded by D. Reardon to approve the contract "as is" for a two year term and to approve the proposed and previously tentatively approved 2016 budget of \$594,887.00 passed unanimously.

G. Cromwell inquired about Greenville's warrant article wording. C. Mary read the warrant articles. The proposed annual budget for a Greenville stand-alone police department is \$530,000, with a \$50,000 start-up cost.

D. Reardon stated that the general feedback in Greenville is that residents don't feel that they are getting the service that they are paying for. He specified that the perception is that officers are always in Temple, and not that the department is not doing its job. The Temple board members concurred that their residents felt the same, but that officers spent more time in Greenville.

G. Cromwell stated that if the Towns opt not to renew the contract, there are 30 days to disband the current department, and questioned how Greenville proposed to allocate the inventory. C. Mary responded that Greenville's counsel would contact Temple if the merger is discontinued.

Darel Oja of SVAS reported that there has been an increase in drug overdose calls since he last came to the board, and that police availability has declined, rather than increased, as he requested during his previous meeting with the board in August. (It was noted that T-GPD is currently short two officers.) He reiterated that the wait times for response from the State Police were unacceptable, and that this is a safety concern for the ambulance crews as well as a potential liability issue.

C. Mary stated that this was one thing that would be addressed if Greenville had a stand-alone police department. J. Kieley suggested that this could be handled jointly as well. C. Mary asked the Temple board members if this was something that they would consider. A discussion of having on-call employees ensued.

Chief McTague stated that there were additional expenses involved in on-call work. If officers are restricted to be available to handle calls, there is an hourly on-call wage, as well as a minimum call out time of 2 to 3 hours. He pointed out that the on call officer would need to take a cruiser home for their time on-call, to be able to readily respond.

C. Mary asked if Officer Lamarre would be willing to do on-call hours. Chief McTague said that he would ask her. He also stated that Officer Rousseau, who lives in Temple would be the only other officer available for on-call hours.

G. Cromwell asked how often the ambulance has after-hours calls that have been a problem. D. Oja responded that he doesn't know, but that he senses that the number of calls has been increasing. J. Kieley asked if Greenville was considering a 24 hour schedule for their proposed stand-alone department. C. Mary responded that the plan is to have on-call personnel.

The board requested Elizabeth to email the additional cost of on-call coverage, in hopes that a decision could be made via email, rather than holding another meeting. D. Oja requested that he be informed of any decision made on this topic.

A motion by D. Reardon, seconded by G. Cromwell to allow (pending approval of on-call time) on-call officers to take a vehicle home during on-call hours was approved.

A motion by C. Mary, seconded by G. Willard to accept a donation of \$50.00 by J. Lemire, was passed.

A motion by C. Mary, seconded by G. Willard to adjourn the meeting at 5:26 was passed.

The next meeting will be held on March 7, 2016 at 5:00 PM in Greenville.

These minutes were prepared by E. J. Maxcy-Humphrey