

**Final
Temple-Greenville Joint Police Board
Minutes of the Public Meeting
August 13, 2007**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM. In attendance were S. Blease and D. Bouley of Greenville, S. Fiske and J. Kieley of Temple, and Chief McTague. Also attending the meeting were members of the Nolette family, and several residents of Greenville.

The minutes of the July 5, 2007 public meeting were accepted as amended, after a motion by S. Fiske, which was seconded by D. Bouley.

Old Business:

The status of the revised inter-municipal agreement was discussed. D. Bouley reported that it had been forwarded to Greenville's attorney, who feels it is ok as written. S. Fiske will confirm that the contract was forwarded to Temple's attorney, and will seek a response. Questions remain regarding the necessity for warrant articles at the Town Meetings.

Budget:

The overall budget appears to be in line with projections, with overages in certain line items being offset by deficits in others. For example, the part-time budget is being spent more quickly than projected, but is being offset by the overtime budget. D. Bouley will seek information on the phone contract from an independent party. It remains unclear how an increase in dispatching at the station will affect future dispatch billing by Hillsborough County.

A request for 2008 preliminary budgets is expected from the Greenville BOS. Temple will expect a finalized budget by December.

Chief's Report:

Due to a technicality involving paperwork, Officer Needham will not be attending the NH Police Standards and Training Academy in August. The department will file for an extension of his full time status and register him for next session, which starts in January of 2008.

The antenna for the station roof has been ordered through the Greenville Fire Department and will be installed upon arrival.

New Business: The board heard a formal complaint against Chief McTague and the Temple-Greenville Police Department from the family of Marc Nolette. The family was represented by Nolette's mother Genevieve, and his sister Elizabeth.

In her overview of the complaint, Mrs. Nolette stated that her family has many questions regarding the department's lack of response to the family's report of Marc as a missing person. Mrs. Nolette feels that the department did little to help, and is at fault for not notifying NH Fish and Game or the New England Canine Search and Rescue that Marc was missing. Mrs. Nolette feels that because of past police involvement with Marc that the department was unsympathetic and insensitive. She feels that inaccurate statements were made to the press regarding her son's involvement in a sexual assault investigation. Elizabeth presented information from DCYS regarding this matter. The family questioned why Mr. Belanger, who was the last person to see Marc, was not questioned by the department.

At the conclusion of Mrs. Nolette's statement, S. Fiske offered Mrs. Nolette an opportunity to offer suggestions for improvement if a similar situation was to arise in the future. Mrs. Nolette stated that she would like a new police department.

Chief McTague explained that in the process of complaints against the Department before the Joint Board, he had the option of requesting a non-public session. He offered the same option to Mrs. Nolette, in consideration of the sensitive nature of the issues surrounding the case. Mrs. Nolette did not request a non-public session.

Chief McTague presented to the Board and Nolette family a calendar of events involved in the case, and explained each item. He was questioned by the board regarding the standard operating procedure for missing persons. Chief McTague explained that the department's policy mirrors that of the State Police, and that the policy was followed. He explained that there are varying scenarios with missing persons, and that each case is handled based on its individual facts. Chief McTague stated that Marc Nolette was entered into the NCIC system as a missing person by Officer Wolf. He explained that extensive searches were completed by various members of the department. He stated that he did not contact Mr. Belanger regarding the last sighting of Marc, because he felt that the details of the sighting were clearly related to him by Marc's sister Elizabeth when she reported it to him.

Chief McTague responded to the issue of the sexual assault charges, stating that there were two charges. The charge involving a household member was determined to be unfounded, while the charge involving a subject not living in the home was still active.

Chief McTague summarized by stating that the Temple-Greenville Police Department, as well as the Mason Police Department, and NH Fish and Game conducted numerous searches of the area with negative findings. All of the information regarding the searches was given to NE Canine Search and Rescue and based on areas that had already been searched, they were able to find Marc Nolette.

At this point, the Nolette family left the meeting, and the discussion ended.

New Business:

Debbie Bouley stated that she had been questioned regarding authorization for the Police Department to put "Police Parking Only" signs on the station. Her research of past minutes confirmed that the Greenville BOS authorized the signs.

Donnie Brazus and Christy Garland of 21 Main Street in Greenville addressed the board regarding ongoing problems they are experiencing with the apartments at 24 Main Street, across from their residence. They feel that the problems have not been addressed, and they feel unsafe.

C. Garland stated that just prior to tonight's meeting, she had called with a complaint, and that Officer Martino had told the suspects that she had made the call. C. Garland felt that this action jeopardized her safety. The couple again requested extra patrols on Main Street.

Chief McTague stated that many of the problems at the location are civil rather than criminal, and that he has no control over those issues. He stated that the landlord is being informed each time that there is police involvement at the location and that several arrests have been made recently.

Several suggestions were made by the Joint Board for long term solutions to the problem including: calling a town forum to discuss zoning issues, and talking to other towns about how they are solving similar problems, submitting zoning ordinances to Town Meeting to address the civil issues, and raising funds to buy the problem properties.

Brenda Bergeron suggested an ordinance to "take back our sidewalks".

Kelly O'Keefe asked if Main Street could be specifically addressed on nights when there are multiple officers on duty.

C. Garland stated that she is researching ordinances but is concerned about public safety in the short term.

Chief McTague asked the Greenville members of the Joint Board if they want the department to start writing citations to enforce ordinance 92-07, regarding standing in a group on a public way. Selectmen Blease responded that he did want the ordinance enforced.

The board stated that since there is no code enforcement officer, code enforcement is handled by the BOS. Chief McTague stated that no government entity, including the selectmen, building inspectors, or the police department may enter any private building without permission from the homeowner, or a court order.

D. Brazus stated that he does not want the joint police department dissolved, but wants solutions to his problems.

John Kieley returned to the issue of the Nolette complaint with the following list of items he would like to see addressed:

1. A copy of the SOP for missing persons.
2. Information regarding the availability of fish and game for search and rescue.
3. Institute a procedure for keeping the family informed.
4. Research of the breakdown in communication and dispatch issues.
5. Sensitivity training to address “crude” comments.
6. Research into allegations of harassment by Officer Wolf.

S. Fiske stated that the board will need to discuss the Nolette complaint in further detail and that a written response to the concerns of D. Brazus and C. Garland would be appropriate.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 when a motion by S. Fiske was seconded by S. Blease and voted in the affirmative.

The next meeting of the Temple-Greenville Police Joint Board will be held on September 5, 2007, in Temple at 7:00 PM.

These minutes were prepared by Elizabeth Maxcy-Humphrey.