

September 22, 2015

A Joint Meeting of the Nunda Village Board of Trustees and Nunda Town Board of Councilmen was held on September 22, 2015 with the following present:

**Village Board: Mayor Robert Cox
Deputy Mayor Fritz Amrhein
Trustee Darren Snyder
Trustee Jack Morgan**

Village Deputy Clerk-Treasurer: LeRoy Wood

**Town Board: Supervisor Thomas Baldwin
Councilperson Doris Marsh
Councilperson Dave Thompson
Councilperson James Forrester**

Town Deputy Clerk: Cheyenne DeMarco

**Citizens: Marlin Hopkins
Bill Mann
Mike Hillier**

Call to Order

Town Supervisor Baldwin called the meeting to order at 7:07 P.M.

Roll Call

Village Trustee Jeff Essler absent.

Town Councilperson Kirk Brickwood absent.

**Citizens: Marlin Hopkins Mike Hillier
Bill Mann**

WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

Supervisor Baldwin welcomed everyone and stated that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the shared services of the Nunda Police Department jointly funded by the village and town equally. Reports received back from Police Commissioners. Mayor Cox asked for the Police Commissioners to present their agenda.

POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Budgetary

- a. Village Cost of Department - Town Police Commissioner Marsh presented the agenda. Commissioner Marsh discussed the costs of the police force being lower than other local townships within Livingston County. The 50/50 split in cost sharing is working well for both the town and village. Village Police Commissioner Snyder stated that shared services are a great thing.
- b. Town Cost of Department – Reviewed in the same manner as Village.
- c. Sheriff's Department Cost - Costs compared with the Livingston County Sheriff's

Department are comparable due to county not always being able to provided a vehicle for calls. Councilperson Forrester asked how the Sheriff's Department was reached for availability, is there an assertion to time.

- d. Hours Served per Week – Commissioner Marsh stated the police force now works 60-70 hours per week. However, hours are extended for special circumstances, such as, STOP DWI Program and Nunda Fun Days.
- e. Taxes-Being Cost Effective – Discussed within other agenda items.
- f. Use of Second Vehicle - Commissioner Marsh stated that our current costs are effective as compared with other townships. Councilperson Forrester asked with whom did we do a comparison with, relative as to the cost comparison with other townships – we do not have those numbers to draw a comparison does not mean we are running a cost effective force. Commissioner Snyder stated lots of people do not like the extra car, due to cost. Councilperson Forrester stated the extra vehicle costs nothing in regards to? Observation, damaged vehicles, extra vehicles, the way we are using the vehicle now spreads out the longevity of both vehicles.

Organizational

- a. Professionalism – Commissioner Marsh stated concern has been addressed in evaluations, preparation, and training by the Chief. Commissioner Snyder stated this has been an awesome job.
Evaluation of Officers – Commissioner Marsh stated recommendations have been made. Councilperson Forrester asked was this process incorporated from the Fall meeting? How have things been done in the past? Chief Wilcox stated officers are now given a six month evaluation. Councilperson Forrester asked are evaluations for improvement or informational purposes? Chief Wilcox explained the new concept of the evaluation process. Councilperson Forrester asked what benchmark instruments of other agencies are being used in this process? Chief Wilcox stated the form is not by the number of arrests, however on a rating scale. Town Supervisor Baldwin asked Chief Wilcox is this something you created yourself? Chief Wilcox responded with a yes.
- b. Evaluation of the Chief – Commissioner Marsh stated this concern has not been addressed in conversation with the chief. Sheriff Daugherty has been contacted and what they use at the county level is a start in building a format to be used here. Councilperson Forrester asked how long Chief Wilcox has been on the job. Chief Wilcox stated nine years. Councilperson Forrester asked have you ever been evaluated. Chief Wilcox answered, not in written form. Councilperson Forrester asked the Police Commissioners if they are going to address this concern. Commissioner Marsh stated a format will be created with the chief's input.
- c. Joint Police Task Force Committee/Commissioners from Both Boards – Commissioner Marsh stated task force will be a continued item of discussion. Commissioner Amrhein stated there are many things to keep looking at. Commissioner Snyder stated training is a major item. Councilperson Forrester mentioned turnover. Commissioner Snyder stated continuity in the police force. Councilperson Forrester stated there are not a lot of officers, what is the benchmark of other townships related to the pay and guaranteed hours. Councilperson Forrester stated he has been an outspoken critic of the turnover concern. Commissioner Snyder stated that we are not a training ground.

Town Supervisor Baldwin stated there is a need for the task force to continue. Mayor Cox stated the continued continuity of this task force group and that he supports and would stay with having it. Town Supervisor Baldwin agreed with Mayor Cox.

Councilperson Forrester asked what are the goals of the task force? Will they be looking at turnover/gaps? Town Supervisor Baldwin asked the chief the cost of having 4 individuals on the force. Chief Wilcox stated it was a dollar and sense concern and having a fulltime officer cannot be addressed at this time. Chief Wilcox stated new recruits are looking for fulltime positions. Councilperson Forrester asked about the use of retired officers. Chief Wilcox stated the starting salary for an academy graduate is almost what the Chief makes. Commissioner Snyder asked civilian Bill Mann what is a new sheriff's deputy starting salary? Bill Mann replied \$22.95 per hour. Commissioner Snyder has reached out to retired officers. The pay would need to be \$20.00 per hour. Commissioner Snyder stated he believes new recruits are looking for a career and that we need to find a way of keeping people here in the community. Councilperson Forrester wanted to check on estimated revenues within the fund balance. Town Supervisor Baldwin stated he did not believe there is enough fund balance to increase the wages of the police force. Commissioner Thompson stated at one time there was enough in the fund balance to cover the replacement of a vehicle.

- d. Training Program Effectiveness – Commissioner Marsh stated that the number of officers trained under the chief's leadership and the training received has been superb. Commissioner Amrhein stated the accommodations received by the police force have come through the training they have received. Commissioner Snyder asked what is the need for two sergeants, where was Sergeant Rapp, does the chief need two sergeants for help. Chief Wilcox stated the availability of Sergeant Rapp has been about one day per month. Chief Wilcox stated Sergeant Rapp does a great service to the community, he knows the people.

Open Thoughts/Concerns

Town Supervisor Baldwin opened the floor to thoughts and concerns of the program. Commissioner Marsh stated a concerned citizen wanted to know why the Nunda Police Vehicle travels through the Town of Portage frequently. Commissioner Marsh then read a letter from Chief Wilcox to the concerned citizen. Commissioner Marsh commended Chief Wilcox on his eloquent message to our citizen explaining the need to travel through other local townships to complete the mission of the Nunda Police Department.

Commissioner Snyder discussed building a contract between commissioners. Town Supervisor Baldwin stated yes an appropriate contract. Mayor Cox stated there have been disputes between the two boards and that an agreement needs to be reached with working towards equal say and also looking for ways to resolve differences. Mayor Cox stated the questions, where do we think we want to be in the future?

Town Supervisor Baldwin stated what is the viability of a different paradigm of officer, fulltime people versus part time people? Councilperson Forrester stated what is the proposal with moving forward, options, and reductions, wage and salary benchmarks? Do we need to proceed with a benchmark using the sheriff's department?

Councilperson Forrester asked is there an annual appointment of the chief and where do the commissioners stand on this? Commissioner Marsh stated the concern has not been addressed at this time.

Mayor Cox stated the commissioners have been working well together in providing the boards with more information. Mayor Cox also stated there will be new members to the board in the near future and wishes them well.

ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Baldwin thanked the Mayor, the Boards and the public for their attendance.

With no further business to be discussed, the motion to adjourn was made by Mayor Cox at 7:49 P.M., seconded by Town Supervisor Baldwin. Carried unanimously by both Boards.

Respectfully submitted,

LeRoy J. Wood
Village Deputy Clerk-Treasurer