

Stoddard Selectmen
Special Meeting Minutes

DRAFT

01-17-24

Meeting began at 6pm at the Nelson, NH Town Office with the Nelson Selectmen and Stoddard Selectmen Terri LaRoche and Bob Fee. Also in attendance were the Nelson Executive Administrator Edie Drinkwater and Stoddard Town Administrator Michelle Pong.

Discussion about Police Patrol routes. Noted that private roads in Stoddard would not be included in any regular patrols but would be accessible to respond to residents.

Discussion about the Police Commission, comprising of dual members from both Selectboards. The goal is to move toward a full partnership of a joint police force, with a practice run for this year.

Cruiser discussion centered around capital equipment, dual access and funding to keep all equipment viable for the next year. Consideration was made for including all upkeep and maintenance in this year's "dual" budget, excluding uses for Animal Control in Stoddard exclusively, but keeping newer vehicles in good shape to manage a dual force going forward.

Animal Control coverage was discussed. Determined that this would be a separate cost for Stoddard, with only Stoddard coverage, and would be discussed as a part of a dual police presence going forward if needed.

Nelson Selectmen mentioned that they have a candidate for the position but will be advertising the position to make sure the department is getting the best candidate. They also have a person that is willing to serve as the Administrative Personnel Officer/Consultant for the department. That person is a former officer that can take a lot of paperwork and office detail off the shoulder of the Patrol Officer and may be able to serve in an official police capacity in the future. This is NOT a part time officer at the moment.

Budget adjustments were discussed. All aspects of "shared services" are included in the budget for contract with Nelson after adding Stoddard Prosecutor expenses. Phones and internet at the Stoddard office are included in the contract with Nelson on the 60/40 split. Details to facilitate payments of invoices will be worked out in the contract. Totals for Stoddard policing budget to be discussed at next regular meeting.

Submitted by:

Michelle L. Pong