

Village of Goodfield  
Police Committee Meeting Minutes  
September 20, 2023 @ 7:00pm  
At Village Hall

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Todd Perry @ 7:00 pm. Present were Police Committee Members Todd Perry, Hank Melton and Terry Nohl, President Jim Edwards, Attorney Mike Gifford, Trustees Roger Mullins and Terri Kuebler and Bill Lally.

This meeting is to pursue and get as much information as possible to start our own police department. President Edwards asked the committee if they believe we need a police department, all said yes. He feels we do need our own law enforcement agency and we need to set it up with the enforcement we need. Attorney said you do not have to have a police and fire commission. In our case the Village Police Committee would be over the Police Department.

Bill Lally has been a police officer for 20 years, went to command school, has done patrol, investigation, command control and police chief. Bill also holds a PHD in criminology.

Todd asked where do we begin – what are our needs? Bill said there is a fine balance  
Start up phase – what does community see as immediate needs  
Intermediate phase - where would we like to see ourselves in 2-3 years  
Long term – where do we want to be in 10 years?

Need to have an officer on duty when the kids are in school and after school. We want the police presence to be known. Priority is the children. Secondary is going to be the businesses. Officer to do business checks and gas station checks. Thirdly is village ordinances. We have had transient person sleeping in the park. If there is a village ordinance it gives you a little more leverage to make them move on. How has the Saf-T act changed things?

Attorney Gifford asked about dispatching with Woodford and Tazewell. Bill thinks we could just go with one dispatch. Then there would only be one fee. These are some of the unknowns we would have to check into. We will still have to work with both counties – reports, etc. Both counties sometimes ask local village departments to respond to calls if the county is tied up, this will need to be addressed.

Woodford and Tazewell both agreed to try to patrol and help in Goodfield as much as possible. They would be glad to see Goodfield get their own department.

Phase I – office needed. Terry talked to Randy about next door. Some of the Trustees might want to walk through the building to see what we would want to rent.

Areas needed - Entrance area, reception desk, room for officers, interview room, evidence room, supply room, bathroom and chief's office

Equipment – computer, printer/fax,

Officers – part-time officers going rate \$23 -\$26/hour

Chief – chief going rate average full time \$60,000 - \$70,000

If hiring a retired police officer as chief we need to make sure they are small town oriented. For full time chief there is a HOPS grant. It is only allowed for additional full time positions that the dept. did not have prior to this. So many police departments are having trouble filling existing spots that makes the number of people applying for this grant to go down. We will not be competing with as many people. You cannot get rid of this position for 10 years. It is limited to full time officers.

There are Four main grants – COPS hiring grant , Edward BYRNE memorial grant for equipment, ILETSB Camera grant – we would buy them and then be reimbursed and they cover storage, Patrick Leahy vest grant – they give 50% of cost of vests –we would buy them and then be reimbursed.

The village needs to sit down and put numbers together on what we can afford. Also check with Randy and what he would charge for rent. Terri Kuebler asked out the

To establish a Police Department the Village would need an ordinance establishing Police Department positions – chief, patrols, etc. Once ordinance is passed contact ILETSB, they are the government body that regulates the training and state recognition of officers and give them an ORI #. Once in system chief has to send a form E which officially designates someone as a law enforcement officer. ILETSB will run a back ground check on the individual. Before officers hit the street you need a Standard Operating Procedures. This regulates everything from uniforms, firearms, procedures for disputes, etc. Then officers need to be qualified. Woodford County may do this for us. Now you have the authority for officers to go out to do the job. How available is surplus or retired equipment like vehicles? Asian Motors is the state’s largest provider of pre-used squad cars. Bill Lally has a breakdown of what it costs to equip a squad car. Right now the wait to have this done is about 1 year. Siren Equipment out of El Paso is a good option.

What do we need for a squad car just to get started? Do not need body cam until 2025, camera, badges, patches. Officers responsible for their own duty belt and firearm, boots & vest. Need to buy pants and shirts, maybe winter coat for officers. If office is not ready yet we would at least need a place to be able to interview people and a camera.

Terri Kuebler brought up another option would be to rent the old Soil Lab building just north of Goodfield.

What kind of coverage do we want? President Edwards gave an ex Chief would be M-F, and officers 4-10pm M-F, 3 -9 Sun, 11am -5pm and 5pm-11pm on Sat. 70 to 75% of budget is on personnel. Until we are established we may not need a full time chief or officer for a year or so. Offsets to the police department would be fine money for all tickets, impound fees, anything seized, dui fund and ordinance violation fees. Grants would also offset the department cost.

Is a police department worth it to the citizens of Goodfield? Input from the citizens will come back from the survey for the Comprehensive Plan.

There is a liability that goes along with a Police Department. Having the right Police Chief and officers helps to offset that.

Motion made by Perry, seconded by Melton to make recommendation to the Board to authorize the creation of an ordinance and to move forward with developing a Police Department. Motion passed with the following roll call vote: Perry – yes, Melton – yes and Nohl – yes.

There being no further business, motion was made by Perry, seconded by Nohl to adjourn meeting. Motion passed with a voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Todd Perry  
Police Committee Chairman