

CORRECTED AND APPROVED

Emergency Services Committee

Monday, April 1, 2024

6:00 p.m. - 7:50 p.m.

Present: David Kimbell, Brenda Field, Anissa Morrison, Robert Childs, Doug Giles, Loretta Stalnaker

Royalton Police Chief Stalnaker shared responses to the committee's questions.

What hours/days does your department provide on-duty coverage? Would there be on-call coverage or would emergencies during off hours be dispatched to the VSP?

When Royalton is not on duty VSP covers Royalton. When VSP goes off-duty Chief Stalnaker goes on call. Royalton responded to Button Hill shooting as VSP was not on duty. Staffing goal is to attempt to make coverage more less predictable.

We would appreciate knowing more about your team. Could you share your current staffing levels? (number holding level 2, or level 3 and other qualifications your officers may have) Are there certification areas not represented in your department? (animal response for example)

Full-time level 3 certified two individuals, Four part-time officers, one of which is level 3, another level 2E. When needed a level 2 offices stabilize situation until Level 3 officer arrives on scene. Another part-time officer just joined the department, currently at Academy.

We plan to have VLCT edit or create a contract. Is that an issue for you?

Royalton previously used VLCT to create current contract.

What is Tunbridge's liability if we contract with you?

VLCT contract for Royalton covers insurance because they contract with VLCT

How much control would the selectboard have over how you spend your time in Tunbridge? Can the selectboard suggest that you spend a certain amount of time patrolling on Rt 110, vs back roads, etc?

Work with selectboard when possible but resources limited or roads have challenges it may not be possible to patrol dirt roads. Presence on a dirt road is good but sitting for traffic on a dirt road may not be an effective use of time.

We plan to contract for a certain number of hours. Will you respond to, and how will you bill us, for emergencies beyond those hours, especially in cases where VSP will not respond?

Currently 3 hours a week with current contract. Leeway to switch to Tunbridge time rather than just hours of traffic. If on a call in Royalton when a Tunbridge call comes then VSP would need to respond. Good relationship with VSP. Currently bill at the end of the month but can be flexible. \$60 per hour for however many hours worked. Checked VINs for Tunbridge resident in December. Case numbers on bill, traffic stops numbers warnings/tickets not goal to create revenue by issuing tickets.

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Will you, or do you, sign on with VSP Dispatch to coordinate coverage?

Dispatch with Hartford. Listen to VSP Dispatch so can hear calls when available. Royalton does not formally sign on with VSP. Royalton is willing to sign on with VSP, if preferred.. VSP has sent some cases to Royalton like suponeoas

Do you have staff to respond to animal complaints?

Animal cruelty investigation, yes. Tunbridge does not have an animal control officer, only a pound keeper. Royalton cannot transport animals but would work with Tunbridge pound keeper as needed.

Under what circumstances do you turn over a call or investigation to VSP?

Royalton's level 3 members could investigate a homicide or attempt homicide but would turn this type of case over to the VSP. Domestic changes need to be handled within 24 hours, appear before a judge. A domestic incident can quickly use a weeks hour allotment pretty quickly. Aware and already work with differing arraignment days for Orange and Windsor county.

When you send reports to the Town, will you document your hours by what was done, e.g. patrol on Rt 110 in Tunbridge village, and when you have been on duty in Town, and by officer/deputy?

Hours/Officer/What focus of the work

Can you include within the patrol hours, time for attending some school and Town events to promote "Officer Friendly" and provide some guidance for such things as kids safe bicycle riding, proper use of child seats, kick drugs, etc."

Will host a car seat event a OCPCS. Goal of department to be present at town events as available. Values connecting with community.

Chief Stalnaker left the meeting. The committee discussed what they heard from both departments. Robert Childs advocated for Windsor County Sherrif to do patrols. All others supported Royalton Police department. Consensus was reached to recommend Royalton Police to the selectboard in April.