

## Police Regionalization Study Committee Minutes

17 Nov 2010 Mtg

1. Present: Dennis Moore, Douglas Brisebois, Mary Krapf, Members of the Public.  
Absent: Angela Jack.
2. Old Business: There was no old business.
3. New Business: Mr. Moore reviewed a conversation with Ashby dispatcher Joyce Hopkins. She provided an overview of current dispatch operations and also a short review of meetings she has attended on behalf of the town in regard to regionalization of dispatch services with area communities that would possibly include Gardner, Winchendon, Ashburnham, Templeton / Philipston. The study for regionalization is being done by Matrix Consulting Group of Andover [MA.] At the present time none of the communities has moved forward.

Mr. Moore also spoke with Chief Marshall of the Townsend PD to get a sense of the “history” of how the idea of regionalizing the two departments came about. Chief Marshall said that originally he approached Ashby about regionalizing communications and that it was DOR that had returned with the concept of also combining the two police departments. Lillian Whitney was recognized and indicated that it was also her understanding that the Commonwealth was the original source of the idea and that the state is encouraging small communities to regionalize services.

There was a brief discussion of some of the challenges of regionalization including change of unions, salary plans, adopting policies and procedures, standardization of call taking, records functions, citizen access, impact on FD and Highway Dept. Some positive aspects would be improved career opportunities, emergency preparedness and response.

The next meeting is scheduled for 5 January 2011.

Motion to adjourn by D. Moore, 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Brisebois. Meeting adjourned @ 8:15 PM.