HOOKSETT POLICE DEPARTMENT

Presented by Chief Janet Bouchard,
Officer Jordan McCluskey and Sergeant Michael Zappala
K-9 Unit
The Hooksett Police Department has not had its own K-9 since 2008. Since then the need has increased.

We are forced to rely on surrounding agencies for K-9 services. While our neighboring departments are helpful, they are also busy and there can be a significant time delay while waiting for the K-9 to arrive on scene.

Since it can be a burden to other agencies, we only request when absolutely necessary.

Having our own K-9 will allow for MUCH more use.
WHAT WILL OUR K-9 DO?

- **Search & Rescue:** lost or missing people.
- **Detection:** of illegal drugs and contraband and evidence.
- **Apprehending:** fleeing suspects.
- **Community Service and interaction:** demonstrations at National Night Out, Old Home Day, etc.
WHAT IS THE PROCESS?

- Creating a job description.
- Identifying a handler.
- Creating a policy.
- Raising funds.
- Purchase a dog.
- Outfit a vehicle.
- Purchase all related supplies.
- Training and certifications.
- K-9 goes to work!
JOB DESCRIPTION & IDENTIFYING A HANDLER...

► **Job Description:**
Completed and will be submitted for approval and acceptance.

► **Identifying a handler:**
► Officers were asked to submit memos of interest.
► Oral boards were held.
► Officer Jordan McCluskey was chosen as the handler.
► Sergeant Michael Zappala was designated as the K-9 Unit Commander.
CREATING A POLICY & RAISING FUNDS.

Creating a policy: In progress.

Raising funds:
- Plan is to have the unit be completely funded from private donations. This has been extremely successful in other communities.
- A couple in town has already committed to a $2500 donation.
- Plan for the unit to be privately funded for the duration.
- Several area business have expressed interest in sponsoring the K-9 unit.
PURCHASING A DOG & OUTFITTING A VEHICLE.

- **Purchasing a dog:**
  - Currently researching. We feel a Belgian Malinois or German Shepard will best fit our needs.
  - Approximate price $12,000-$15,000

- **Outfitting a vehicle:**
  - We will retrofit a vehicle we already have. We will NOT be adding a vehicle to our fleet.
  - Approximate cost to retrofit is $5,215.
  - This includes specialized heat/cold alerts, water dish, panels and fan.
PURCHASE ALL RELATED SUPPLIES & TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS.

- Purchase all related supplies:
  - Food, Crates, collars, leads, specialized training suites and sleeves.
  - Veterinarian (immunizations, yearly care).
  - Grooming.

- Training and Certifications:
  - We are still in the research and planning phase. Most training is done with the Boston Police Department.
  - Training is 14 weeks long.
K-9 GOES TO WORK..
SPONSORSHIP AND FUNDRAISING

- Agway in Hooksett has agreed to donate a 40lb bag of food every month.
- Four Paws Only in Dracut, MA has offered free grooming.
- Deerfield Veterinary Clinic in Deerfield has offered complimentary veterinarian services.
- Other area business, including Tuckers have expressed interest in sponsoring the K-9 program.
- Monique and Pedro Melendez have graciously offered a generous $2,500 donation to begin our fundraising effort.
- The Hooksett Police Association has offered to sponsor and fundraise for the program as well.
FAQ’S:

Q: Will a K-9 affect our insurance, what kind of liability is there?
A: There is no added cost. We will be working with Primex for best practices.

Q: Will Officer McCluskey be available to be called in?
A: Yes, Officer McCluskey lives in town and will be available 24 hours a day.

Q: Will training cost overtime?
A: While that is possible, it is not expected to. Ofc. McCluskey will attend training on his normal work days.

Q: Will this take an officer off routine patrol?
A: No, there will be the same amount of coverage.

Q: What is the yearly cost and maintenance of the K-9?
A: That is TBD, we are in the process of accumulating all costs.

Q: Where will the K-9 live when he is not working?
A: With his handler, Officer McCluskey.