

1 WESTTOWN-EAST GOSHEN POLICE DEPARTMENT
2 POLICE COMMISSION MEETING
3 August 24, 2016
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6 In attendance were East Goshen Township Manager Rick Smith, Westtown Township Manager
7 Rob Pingar and Thornbury Township Manager Judy Lizza. Chief of Police Brenda Bernot and
8 Business Manager Kathy Brill. Also present were East Goshen Township Supervisor Janet
9 Emmanuel and East Goshen resident Dave Milnar. Not present were Chair Charles Proctor,
10 Vice-Chair Mike Di Domenico and Thornbury Commissioner Jim Benoit.
11

12 **Call to Order**

13 The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM on August 24, 2016. It was noted for the record by
14 Ms. Brill that this was not an official meeting and no motions would be made.
15

16 **Pledge of Allegiance**

17 The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Smith.
18

19 **Moment of Silence**

20 Mr. Smith asked for a moment of silence for our troops and law enforcement personnel.
21

22 **Approval of Minutes**

23 Mr. Smith noted this was tabled until the next Commission meeting.
24

25 **Chairman's Report**

26 Mr. Smith noted that Mr. Proctor's Chairman Report was tabled until the next Commission meeting.
27

28 **Review of Approved Bills**

29 As reported by Mr. Smith, approval of the month's bills was completed previously by Mr. Smith
30 and Mr. Pingar. There were no questions by the Commission at this meeting.
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32 **Township Roundtable**

33 Thornbury Township: Ms. Lizza thanked the Department on behalf of Thornbury Township for the
34 continued traffic enforcement along South Concord Road and other areas. She noted the Township
35 is looking forward to reviewing reports regarding the numbers on citations and tickets issued.

36 Westtown Township: Mr. Pingar noted the first Westtown Day is September 17, 2016 and all are
37 invited to attend. The festivities are from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM and will include recognition of the
38 history of Westtown Township.

39 East Goshen Township: Mr. Smith noted the start of the school year on Monday and asked that
40 everyone be aware of school buses on the road. He added East Goshen Community Day is
41 September 27, 2016 commencing at 5:00PM with fireworks scheduled at approximately 8:00PM.
42 All are invited.
43

44 **Chief Bernot – Complimentary Letters and Complaints/Issues**

45 Chief Bernot stated she is working on the complimentary letters received this month and will be
46 sending them out at the end of the week.

47 **Complaint Updates:**

- 48 1. Regarding the officer on suspension with pay pending resolution on several IAs, she reported
49 that he is still on suspension and noted his most recent IME has been received, which

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52
53 indicated that the Department can proceed with disciplinary proceedings. The first
54 Loudermill hearing is Friday, August 26, 2016. Chief Bernot will provide further
55 information during Executive Session.

- 56 2. The status on the complaint from the arrest at Bellingham is that the complainant has filed
57 preliminary paperwork indicating she will be initiating a lawsuit. We have held off
58 adjudication of the IA pending consultation with the insurance company representing the
59 Department and the District Attorney's Office. Chief Bernot will provide further information
60 during Executive Session.
- 61 3. Regarding the complaint by a woman who stated she was unhappy overall with an officer's
62 attitude, courteousness, follow-up, etc., the complaint was adjudicated as unfounded. Chief
63 Bernot noted she mailed the complainant a five page response letter on August 22, 2106 and
64 will share further details during Executive Session.

65
66 **Old Business**

67 **Part-Time Officer Update**

68 Chief Bernot reported the two new officers, Hero and Wolfe, began field training at the beginning
69 of August and it will take approximately three months to complete their training. Her plan is to
70 offer conditional offers of employment to the next three officers on the eligibility list sometime at
71 the end of September and she would like them to start FTO training by the end of October. She
72 noted to Mr. Smith that an email was sent to the top seven on the eligibility list informing them of
73 the specific timeframe regarding receipt of conditional offers of employment.

74
75 **Sick Leave Donation**

76 Chief Bernot noted this issue had been tabled due to other pressing issues. However she noted on
77 August 16, 2016 an officer experienced a life threatening condition unrelated to his job. This has
78 resulted in a higher importance in addressing this issue. There is a scheduled meeting the first week
79 of September between herself and Officer Lewis, President of the Police Association, to design a
80 proposal that meets management requirements and satisfies the Union. She anticipates having this
81 proposal for review at the next Commission meeting.

82
83 **Overtime Versus Comp Time for Patrol**

84 As noted by Chief Bernot, there is no urgency at this point to address this issue. She noted the
85 Department is keeping in place the current policy, which is for specialized units only.

86
87 **Building Updates - Phones**

88 Mr. Smith stated the issue involving the phones is pending and will be addressed by himself and
89 Mr. Pingar.

90
91 There was no additional Old Business discussed.

92
93 **New Business**

94 **Pension MMO**

95 Ms. Brill reported the MMO submitted by Anderson & Co shows the MMO is \$862,510.00 and the
96 number based on the Market Value of Assets is \$909,301.00. She noted she will put both number in
97 the budget. Approval of this will be addressed at the next Commission meeting.

101
102 **Review of Audit**

103 Ms. Brill reported there was nothing out of the ordinary in the Audit. She noted the total assets as of
104 December 31st were \$589,953.00 and there were no special notes in the Audit.

105
106 There was no additional New Business discussed.

107
108 **Any Other Matters**

109 There were no any other matters discussed or reported.

110
111 **Officer Comments**

112 No officers were present.

113
114 **Police Reports**

115 **Monthly Activity Report:** Chief Bernot noted that she has been reporting over a period of time a
116 higher monthly investigation trend that has been developing due to the change in the law to the
117 ChildLine abuse reporting laws. This information is based on ALERT reports. She noted the change
118 over the last year to year and a half has doubled the caseload for the Department. Chief Bernot is
119 going to monitor this for the remainder of the year and for 2017 and noted if the increase continues
120 to rise she may make a recommendation for an increase to the 2018 budget to the Criminal
121 Investigation Division staffing to help with increased investigation needs. She also added she plans
122 to gather more state and county level data to help with her assessment of the issue. Also noted was
123 that this increase in investigations may affect PPU's down the road due to the incidents being
124 reported from schools versus the Township of residency of the person/child involved.

125 **PPU Report:** Chief Bernot reviewed the presented PPU report. She noted that year-to-date
126 Westtown is at 39.55, East Goshen is at 46.17 and Thornbury is at 14.28. Regarding budgetary
127 purposes the year-to-date without Thornbury is Westtown at 46.14 and East Goshen at 56.86.

128 **Month End Report:** Ms. Brill noted the budget is at 47%, which is under budget. If the trend
129 continues the budget looks good for the end of year.

130 **Commercial Vehicle Report:** Chief Bernot reviewed the report and noted there was nothing unusual
131 to note and believes each Township is getting fair enforcement. She did note there is very little
132 interest lately in joint participation with other Townships on enforcement. She believes this is due
133 mostly to other Townships being in transition and budgetary concerns.

134 **GASB Report:** Mr. Smith noted the GASB report (post-employment benefits liability disclosure
135 for 2016) from Beyer-Barber has been received. This will be addressed further at the next
136 Commission Meeting.

137
138 **Action Items**

139 Ms. Brill had no pending action items. Ms. Lizza noted that Thornbury Township did purchase the
140 JAMAR radar units and training will begin on September 1, 2016.

141
142 **Public Comment**

143 Mr. Milnar asked if the police officer who was experiencing a medical emergency was off duty
144 when affected by this medical emergency. Chief Bernot responded that yes, the medical emergency
145 was unrelated to his job. Ms. Brill added Admin for the Department is collecting cards to send to
146 the officer.

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151 **Executive Session**

152 Before the break for Executive Session, Mr. Smith noted the next Commission Meeting is
153 tentatively scheduled for September 21, 2016 at 3:00 PM depending on the availability of Mr.
154 Proctor and Mr. Di Domenico. The Commission broke for Executive Session at 2:42PM.

155
156 **Regular Public Session Resumed**

157 The Commission returned from Executive Session at 2:55PM

158
159 **Adjournment**

160 Mr. Smith adjourned the unofficially meeting and expressed his gratitude to those present for being
161 able to meet to discuss Commission issues.

162
163 Respectfully Submitted,
164 Linda Delia, Transcriber