

1 WESTTOWN-EAST GOSHEN POLICE DEPARTMENT
2 POLICE COMMISSION MEETING
3 December 14, 2016
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6 In attendance were Chair Charles Proctor, Vice-Chair Mike Di Domenico, Chief of Police Brenda Bernot,
7 Business Manager Kathy Brill, East Goshen Township Manager Rick Smith, Westtown Township
8 Manager Rob Pingar and Thornbury Township Manager Judy Lizza. Also present was East Goshen
9 resident Dave Milnar. Not present was Thornbury Commissioner Jim Benoit.

10
11 **Call to Order**

12 Mr. Proctor called the December 14, 2016 Westtown-East Goshen Police Commission Meeting to order at
13 3:00 PM and asked Mr. Milnar to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.
14

15 **Moment of Silence**

16 Mr. Proctor called for a moment of silence for our first responders, police, firemen, ambulance personnel
17 as well as our military people home and abroad.
18

19 **Approval of Minutes**

20 Mr. Proctor asked for any corrections or comments on the minutes from November 16, 2016. There were
21 none. He called for a motion to approve the minutes.
22

23 **Mr. Di Domenico motioned to approve the Police Commission minutes of November 16,**
24 **2016 as presented. Mr. Proctor seconded the motion.**
25

26 **There was no public comment or questions. All were in favor. The motion was**
27 **unanimously approved.**
28

29 **Chairman's Report**

30 Mr. Proctor noted he had something to discuss during Executive Session.
31

32 **Review of Approved Bills**

33 Mr. Proctor stated the Commission reviewed the bills, which were approved by Mr. Pingar and Mr. Smith.
34 There were no comments or questions from the Commission.
35

36 **Township Roundtable**

37 **Thornbury Township:** Ms. Lizza stated Thornbury Township plans to stay quiet over the holidays.

38 **Westtown Township:** Mr. Pingar had no report. Mr. Di Domenico had no report.

39 **East Goshen Township:** Mr. Smith had no report. Mr. Proctor had no report.
40

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

42 Chief Bernot stated that an email was sent to the Commission on December 12, 2016 of all complimentary
43 correspondence and responses sent out for the month.

44 Regarding complaints, she noted the officer who was terminated in September had an Unemployment
45 Benefits hearing this month and the referee ruled the officer was ineligible for benefits due to
46 misconduct. While the officer can appeal, our attorney doesn't expect it at this point. As for the
47 arbitration, our attorney has not been contacted or received any communication regarding the arbitration.
48 With regard to the Bellingham complaint, Chief Bernot noted we are waiting for a decision by the Office
49 of Open Records regarding the complainant's Right to Know appeal.
50

53
54 Regarding the racial profile complaint involving an individual speeding on Route 202, the IA
55 investigation and all information reviewed at this point indicate that it was unfounded. A letter of this
56 finding will be sent to the complainant.
57 The crash that was possible road rage was adjudicated as not sustained. Correspondence will be sent to the
58 complainant and to Sienna and Company because of sensitivity and possible litigation that might result.
59 A second racial profile complaint is currently under investigation. The complainant involved in a hit and
60 run accident alleges that the witnesses, who contacted the police, were making racial slurs and the
61 officers failed to stop them from making the racial slurs. It is also alleged that the officers laughed at the
62 racial slurs. Chief Bernot will provide more details during Executive Session.

63
64 **Old Business**

65 **Part-Time Officer Update**

66 Chief Bernot reported that four candidates completed their polygraph, psychological and physical exams.
67 She noted the process has been challenging as there have been different issues that have required re-
68 testing. One issue discussed was the vision requirement to which Ms. Brill provided the Commission with
69 a copy of the vision requirement standards. Of the four only two have moved on to background checks. In
70 response to Mr. Pingar's question on a timeline and number ready to start field training, Chief Bernot
71 responded she hopes to have two to four starting by mid-January barring any new issues.

72
73 **Building Updates - Phones**

74 Ms. Brill stated that an initial down payment has been made on the phones and once the equipment is in
75 an installation date will be setup. She added the purchase has been approved by Mr. Pingar and Mr.
76 Smith. Mr. Proctor asked about the transition from the old phones to the new phones. Ms. Brill
77 responded she was told there would not be any down time of service during the transition.

78
79 There was no additional Old Business discussed.

80
81 **New Business**

82 **Pension Deposit – MMO and Year End Surplus**

83 Ms. Brill informed the Commission that she made the deposit for the MMO and market value as well,
84 which was discussed at the last meeting. Regarding the year end surplus, Mr. Proctor and Mr. Pingar
85 noted that their Townships agree the surplus should be deposited into the pension plan. The Commission
86 agreed that Ms. Brill deposit the year end surplus into the pension plan which as discussed must be
87 deposited and received by the end of December 2016.

88
89 There was no additional New Business discussed.

90
91 **Any Other Matters**

92 There were no other matters.

93
94 **Officer Comments**

95 No officers were present.

96
97 **Police Reports**

98 **Monthly Activity Report:** Chief Bernot reported there were no unusual trends however she will continue
99 to monitor calls coming in from ChildLine.

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103
104 Commercial Vehicle Report: Chief Bernot stated there was one detail in East Goshen, one in Thornbury
105 and eight in Westtown.

106 PPU Report: Chief Bernot noted that Thornbury Township received 12.06 hours per day for patrol and
107 1.99 hours per day for traffic enforcement.

108 Mr. Proctor asked about the fourteen year-to-date calls regarding wires and poles down. Chief Bernot
109 noted this was not unusual and was a common occurrence.

110 School Activity Report: Chief Bernot informed the Commission that the report gives an idea on what is
111 going in our schools. She noted there was an extremely complicated case where a student accessed a
112 teacher's account to get private information. This is still an ongoing investigation and to date has
113 required many hours of investigative work. In response to Mr. Di Domenico's question on of cost of this
114 investigation to residents, Chief Bernot responded that she hopes the cost of this investigation will be
115 included as restitution if and when charges are filed. The Commission discussed whether the School
116 Activity Report should be made public. It was decided that due to the sensitivity and privacy of minors
117 involved the report will continue to be tracked but no longer part of the public meeting.

118
119 Action Items

120 In regard to the gas tank painting, Ms. Brill stated she has a name to contact and is waiting until spring to do
121 so. Mr. Pingar asked if Chief Bernot could include DUIs as an asterisk on the Monthly Activity Report.
122 Chief Bernot stated she could add that and noted to incorporate this change.

123
124 Public Comment

125 Mr. Milnar asked if a schedule of meetings was set for 2017. Ms. Brill explained since the new
126 Commission has not been determined, a schedule has not been set. But once it is, it will be on the
127 website. Mr. Di Domenico noted the reorganization meetings are set for January 3, 2017.

128
129 Executive Session

130 The Commission broke for Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters.

131
132 Regular Public Session Resumed

133 The Commission returned from Executive Session and resumed their regular meeting at 4:25 PM.

134
135 Adjournment

136 Mr. Proctor note the January 2017 meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2017 at 3:00 PM and then called
137 for a motion to adjourn.

138
139 **Mr. Di Domenico made a motion for adjournment of the November 16, 2016 meeting.**
140 **Mr. Proctor seconded the motion.**

141
142 Mr. Proctor called for any comments.

143
144 **There were no other comments or questions. All were in favor. The motion was**
145 **unanimously approved.**

146
147
148 Respectfully Submitted,
149 Linda Delia, Transcriber