

1 WESTTOWN-EAST GOSHEN POLICE DEPARTMENT  
2 POLICE COMMISSION MEETING  
3 July 27, 2016  
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6 In attendance were Chair Charles Proctor, Vice-Chair Mike Di Domenico, Chief of Police Brenda  
7 Bernot, Business Manager Kathy Brill, East Goshen Township Manager Rick Smith, Westtown  
8 Township Manager Rob Pingar and Thornbury Township Manager Judy Lizza. Also present were  
9 East Goshen Township Supervisor Janet Emmanuel and East Goshen resident Dave Milnar. Not  
10 present was Thornbury Commissioner Jim Benoit.  
11

12 **Call to Order**

13 Mr. Proctor called the July 27, 2016 Westtown-East Goshen Police Commission Meeting to order  
14 and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.  
15

16 **Moment of Silence**

17 Mr. Proctor called for a moment of silence for our first responders, police, firemen, ambulance as well  
18 as our troops home and abroad.  
19

20 **Approval of Minutes**

21 Mr. Proctor asked for any corrections or comments on the minutes from June 15, 2016. There were  
22 none. He called for a motion to approve the minutes for June 15, 2016.  
23

24 **Mr. Di Domenico motioned to approve the minutes of June 15, 2016 as presented.**

25 **Mr. Proctor seconded the motion.**  
26

27 **There was no public comment or questions. All were in favor. The motion was**  
28 **unanimously approved.**  
29

30 **Chairman's Report**

31 Mr. Proctor had no report for this meeting.  
32

33 **Review of Approved Bills**

34 Mr. Proctor stated the Commission reviewed the bills from June 16, 2016 and June 28, 2016, which  
35 were approved by Mr. Pingar and Mr. Smith. There were no comments or questions.  
36

37 **Township Roundtable**

38 **Thornbury Township:** Ms. Lizza extended her thanks to Chief Bernot for attending a recent  
39 Thornbury Township meeting wherein the Chief addressed traffic enforcement issues. She noted  
40 having Chief Bernot there supporting the Township helped residents understand that there is a plan  
41 in place and we are working together on traffic enforcement matters. Ms. Lizza also noted that due  
42 to the quick response by Officers Lewis and Hale and their administrating of the AED, the life of a  
43 resident who suffered a massive heart attack was saved. Thornbury plans to hold a commendation  
44 ceremony for the officers and will work to schedule an agreeable time with Chief Bernot.

45 **Westtown Township:** Mr. Pingar extended his thanks to Chief Bernot, Lieutenant Cahill and  
46 Sergeant Kennedy for working with Westtown Township to help resolve the traffic and speeding  
47 enforcement issues on Jacqueline Drive. Mr. Di Domenico had nothing to report.

48 **East Goshen Township:** Mr. Proctor noted to Chief Bernot that the speed trailer at the park has  
49 made a significant impact on reducing speeding. Mr. Smith had nothing to report

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

54 Chief Bernot noted an email with 19 complimentary letters was sent to the Commission members.  
55 She reported that this is an all-time high for complimentary letters. She noted that in light of the  
56 current events happening in our nation, the support for our Department from our community is  
57 deeply appreciated by our officers. Chief Bernot and the Department extend their thanks and  
58 appreciation to the community for their strong support. She added that positive community  
59 feedback makes it all worthwhile and stressed the importance of communities working with their  
60 police departments and believes our community and Department are on the right track, despite  
61 what else is happening in our country right now.

62 Regarding complaints, Chief Bernot reported the officer with numerous Internal Affairs investigations  
63 is still pending and she will provide more information during Executive Session. The Bellingham  
64 complaint is also still pending due to the complainant making a 'Right to Know' request. This may be  
65 an indication that litigation could be pending. As it stands right now, the allegations are unfounded.  
66 The complaint previously reported from the subject in Nevada is still open since the complainant  
67 has not been responsive to our letters, emails or phone calls. Chief Bernot will provide updates to  
68 the Commission. A new complaint this month regards an officer who has failed to submit his Daily  
69 Report after several reminders. This is a sustained investigation and the officer has received a  
70 verbal reprimand.

71  
72 **Old Business**

73 **Part-Time Officer Update**

74 Chief Bernot stated that a list has been established of 22 candidates. The first top two have  
75 received a conditional offer of employment pending the completion of all evaluations. She  
76 anticipates both to be starting the first week of August. The other 20 on the list are eligible and are  
77 aware that more part-time officers hope to be hired in the near future.

78  
79 **Number of Part-time Officers**

80 Chief Bernot noted she believes this issue has already been resolved.  
81

82 **Sick Leave Donation and Overtime Versus Comp Time for Patrol**

83 Chief Bernot requested that sick leave donation and also the issue of overtime versus comp time for  
84 patrol be tabled due to not having enough time to thoroughly research due to more pressing issues.  
85

86 **Building Updates**

87 Ms. Brill reported that the new unit for the HVAC system, which needed to be replaced and moved  
88 has been completed. She added that the humidity problem, which has been a continuing problem is  
89 being researched by Elliot Lewis. Regarding the new phones, Ms. Brill stated a decision on this is  
90 still pending.

91  
92 There was no additional Old Business discussed.  
93

94 **New Business**

95 **Department Core Values**

96 In response to the issues facing our nation right now, Chief Bernot explained that the Department  
97 felt it was important to rededicate and reaffirm who we are and what we stand for as police officers.  
98 The officers were asked to select values that describe what they stand for as a police officer.

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**Page Three**  
**July 27, 2016 Minutes**

In alphabetical order, the ‘Ten Core Values’ that represent our Department are:

Commitment	108	Pride
Compassion	109	Professionalism
Dedication	110	Respect
Honor	111	Service
Integrity	112	Trust

These Department core values will be on our website, displayed in various places throughout the building and also displayed around the huge patch and accreditation seal.

There was no additional New Business discussed.

**Any Other Matters**

Mr. Di Domenico directed this to Chief Bernot. He noted that the Westtown Board of Supervisors has been discussing ballistic material and the panic button at the Township building. He explained the current system being used. Chief Bernot responded that due to security measures, she felt this should be addressed in Executive Session.

Ms. Lizza stated that Thornbury Township is looking to invest in upgrading to a radar detector, of which the data obtained can be shared with the Department for future traffic enforcement. In response to Mr. Di Domenico’s question regarding the legality of the use of radar, Chief Bernot explained that this is just a way of measuring and gathering speeds and counts similar to the radar speed signs currently being used. She noted this is a more accurate system for measuring and gathering data and is legal since no citations are being issued. Ms. Lizza noted this is for obtaining trends and providing data to support prioritizing traffic enforcement on certain streets.

**Officer Comments**

No officers were present.

**Police Reports**

**Monthly Activity Report:** Chief Bernot stated the only trend she is seeing is the rise in child and sexual abuse rates due to the new reporting requirements. In Executive Session, Chief Bernot will explain an alternative she has come up with that may address some of these issues.

**Commercial Vehicle Report:** No questions or comments on the report presented.

**Month End Report:** Ms. Brill explained the report presented. She noted the budget for Vacation/Sick/Comp/Personal is way below budget, even when projected to year end. She believes this is due to the new 12-hour shift. She projected that the 2017 budget should reflect this lower amount.

**PPU Report:** Chief Bernot noted that Thornbury Township received 12.10 hours per day for patrol and 42.36 hours for the month for TSU. She believes they are on target based on the email she received on July 6, 2015 from the Township Managers requesting two hours of traffic enforcement per day in Thornbury. Regarding the split between Westtown and East Goshen, she believes that are very close to the 45-55 split traditionally seen between the two Townships.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Milnar asked if a meeting scheduled for August, 2016. Ms. Brill responded that meeting is scheduled for August 24, 2016 at 2:00 PM.

155  
156 Executive Session

157 The Commission broke for Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters at 3:38PM.  
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159 Regular Public Session Resumed

160 The Commission returned from Executive Session at 4:36PM and resumed their regular meeting.  
161 Mr. Pingar noted that he and Mr. Smith received a letter from attorneys Pat Harvey and John  
162 McLaughlin stating they are changing firms effective August 31, 2016. They will now be part of  
163 the Campbell, Durrant, Beatty, Palombo & Miller firm. They are requesting a signed authorization  
164 to transfer files to the new firm.  
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166 **Mr. Proctor motioned to authorize the transfer of the appropriate WEGO files to**  
167 **Campbell, Durrant, Beatty, Palombo & Miller in the care of Pat Harvey, pursuant to**  
168 **his letter of July 14, 2016. Mr. Di Domenico seconded the motion.**  
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170 Mr. Proctor called for any comments.  
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172 **There were no other comments or questions. All were in favor. The motion was**  
173 **unanimously approved.**  
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175 Adjournment

176 Mr. Proctor called for a motion to adjourn.  
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178 **Mr. Di Domenico made a motion for adjournment of the July 27, 2015 meeting at**  
179 **4:40PM. Mr. Proctor seconded the motion.**  
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181 Mr. Proctor called for any comments.  
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183 **There were no other comments or questions. All were in favor. The motion was**  
184 **unanimously approved.**  
185

186 Respectfully Submitted,  
187 Linda Delia, Transcriber