

1 WESTTOWN-EAST GOSHEN POLICE DEPARTMENT
2 POLICE COMMISSION MEETING
3 September 21, 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 was
9 East Goshen resident Dave Milnar. Not present was Thornbury Commissioner Jim Benoit.

10
11 **Call to Order**

12 Mr. Proctor called the September 21, 2016 Westtown-East Goshen Police Commission Meeting to
13 order and 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
17 EMT personnel as well as our troops.

18
19 **Approval of Minutes**

20 Mr. Proctor asked for any corrections or comments on the minutes from July 27, 2016 and August
21 24, 2016. There were none. He called for a motion to approve the minutes.

22
23 **Mr. Di Domenico motioned to approve the Police Commission minutes of July 27,
24 2016 and August 24, 2016. 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 was unable to attend the August 24, 2016 meeting due to shoulder surgery.
31 Mr. Proctor, Mr. Di Domenico, Mr. Pingar and Mr. Smith met some time ago to review the duties
32 and responsibilities of the Police Commission as contained in the most recent contract between East
33 Goshen and Westtown. Their suggestions from that meeting were presented to the two Townships.
34 Mr. Proctor noted that East Goshen has not accepted the recommendations. Mr. Pingar noted that
35 Westtown also has not accepted them, but is open to revisiting this issue at the negotiations of the
36 new contract. Mr. Proctor noted, at present, the status quo is being maintained.

37
38 **Review of Approved Bills**

39 Mr. Proctor stated the Commission reviewed the bills from July 28, 2016, August 16, 2016, and
40 August 31, 2016, which were approved by Mr. Pingar and Mr. Smith. There were no comments or
41 questions from the Commission.

42
43 **Township Roundtable**

44 **Thornbury Township:** Ms. Lizza had nothing to report.

45 **Westtown Township:** Mr. Pingar and Mr. Di Domenico had nothing to report.

46 **East Goshen Township:** Mr. Smith reported a recent complaint he received from a resident
47 regarding the pedestrian crossing at the park, wherein this resident stopped to allow a pedestrian to
48 cross, however the motorist behind her did not and began blowing his horn at her. Mr. Smith noted
49

53 that speeding in this area has picked up again. Chief Bernot stated this area will be kept on the
54 enforcement list for a while. Mr. Proctor had nothing to report.
55

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

57 An email was sent to the Commission members showing the latest 12 complimentary letters
58 received. Regarding complaints, an update on the officer on paid suspension pending the outcome
59 of IA investigations, Chief Bernot reported that the two Townships have determined the final
60 outcome and she is working with our labor attorney to prepare a notification to the officer and his
61 attorney. Updating the Bellingham arrest complaint, Chief Bernot noted she sent correspondence
62 approximately a week ago notifying the complainant that her complaint is unfounded. Chief
63 Bernot has not received any response and to the best of her knowledge the court case is still
64 pending. One new complaint was received and was adjudicated quickly. The complaint was that a
65 police officer in an unmarked car traveled through a stop sign at 50 mph without emergency
66 equipment activated. The MVR showed the complainant's version was not accurate. Chief Bernot
67 also noted that there are no current IA investigations pending that have not been adjudicated. In
68 response to Mr. Di Domenico's question regarding the speed box on 926, it was determined that
69 the radar speed equipment was on the Thornbury, Delaware County side of 926.
70

71 **Old Business**

72 **Part-Time Officer Update**

73 Chief Bernot reported that the two newest part-time officers began their field training at the beginning
74 of August. She noted one officer is progressing well and on schedule. However, the second officer is
75 not doing as well due to other commitments on his schedule. Lieutenant Cahill will be meeting with
76 this officer to discuss this issue. Conditional Offers of Employment will be presented to the next two
77 officers on the eligibility list tomorrow and their entire process will take about six weeks. Chief
78 Bernot noted she will present more information on this topic in Executive Session.
79

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

81 Chief Bernot stated this topic has been tabled and she hopes to revisit in October.
82

83 **Overtime Versus Comp Time for Patrol**

84 This topic has been tabled as Chief Bernot noted this is not a priority at the current time.
85

86 **Building Updates - Phones**

87 Ms. Brill reported that Ms. Lee met with the vendor recommended by Mr. Smith and is waiting for
88 their quote.
89

90 **Pension MMO**

91 Ms. Brill explained the 2017 budget amount required Pension MMO as shown on the Thomas
92 Anderson report is \$862,510.00. She noted that the required Pension MMO based on the market
93 value of assets is \$909,301.00. Ms. Brill stated an amount was needed to be elected by the
94 Commission. She added the lower amount is usually elected with the best case scenario being to
95 contribute the higher amount. Mr. Proctor called for a motion.
96

97 **Mr. Proctor motioned to approve the August 11, 2016 report from Thomas Anderson**
98 **and Associates showing the required MMO for 2017 in the amount of \$862,000.00**

101
102 **with the added recommendation that the MMO be based upon the market value of**
103 **assets in the amount of \$909,301.00. Mr. Di Domenico seconded the motion.**

104
105 **There was no public comment or questions. All were in favor. The motion was**
106 **unanimously approved.**

107
108 **Review of Audit**

109 Ms. Brill noted the review of the audit was presented at the August 24, 2016 meeting but only to the
110 Township Managers as the meeting was not an official meeting. She noted that the fund balance at
111 \$589,953.00, which she noted for the record, includes all funds. There were no questions or
112 comments from the Commission.

113
114 There was no additional Old Business discussed.

115
116 **New Business**

117 **OPEB Liability Disclosure**

118 Ms. Brill presented a report received from Lynn Cornish of Beyer-Barber, which noted that starting
119 in 2018 GASB 45 will change to GASB 75. Mr. Smith reviewed and explained the report. The
120 Commission discussed funding and costs and Mr. Smith suggested that Mr. Jim Kennedy come to a
121 future meeting to further discuss and provide more clarity on the report. The Commission agreed
122 and Ms. Brill stated she will contact Mr. Kennedy to setup up a time.

123
124 **DROP Application**

125 Chief Bernot reported to the Commission that Sergeant Glen Bretz submitted his DROP application
126 on August 31, 2016. He is the third member to be in the DROP program.

127
128 **Mr. Di Domenico made a motion to accept the DROP application of Sergeant Glen**
129 **Bretz. Mr. Proctor seconded the motion.**

130
131 **There was no public comment or questions. All were in favor. The motion was**
132 **unanimously approved.**

133
134 Chief Bernot noted as a side issue that there currently is a Sergeant vacancy and she will be giving
135 the first part of the Sergeant exam on Monday. She plans to prepare an eligibility list from this,
136 which will be open for two years for future vacancies.

137
138 **Temporary Hiring of Administrative Officer**

139 Mr. Smith explained that a proposal was put forth to the two Board of Supervisors to bring back
140 Guy Rosato on a temporary basis as a part-time civilian to fill this position. He noted that both
141 Boards rejected the proposal. There was a discussion by the Commission on the pros and cons of
142 bringing Guy Rosato back versus hiring from within the Department. Further discussion on this
143 issue and the status of those out for medical reasons will be discussed in Executive Session. A
144 decision as to whether to post the position was tabled until the October meeting.

145
146 **School Fees**

147 Chief Bernot reported that on September 7, 2016 she sent a proposal to the two Townships

150
151 regarding the Life Skills Program. She has not received a response on her proposal. She
152 noted, in summary, the West Chester Area School District has been absorbing the cost of the
153 program but recently has informed the two schools involved that the cost for this program is
154 now up to the individual schools to include in their individual budgets. A request was
155 received by Chief Bernot asking if the cost could be eliminated or reduced. Chief Bernot
156 does not believe these programs should be offered for free as they are long term
157 commitments by the Department. She explained the difference of these type programs
158 versus short term types of services (e.g. career day, health day, etc.) Her proposal is that a
159 flat fee of \$1000.00 for DARE and Life Skills be required for all schools. She noted this fee
160 is already required by the parochial schools for the DARE Program. Mr. Di Domenico
161 expressed that he believes that in these trying times the School District should realize the
162 importance of continuing such programs as Life Skills and DARE and further added that the
163 individual schools could easily do a fundraiser to offset the cost. The consensus among the
164 Commission was that the flat rate of \$1,000.00 seemed fair. Mr. Smith pointed out that the
165 implementation of the \$1,000.00 fee was the decision of the Township Managers and out of
166 the scope of the Police Commission. Mr. Proctor agreed. For the record, it was decided and
167 agreed upon by the Township Managers (Mr. Smith and Mr. Pingar) for Chief Bernot to
168 proceed with her proposal that all schools requesting Life Skills and DARE programs be
169 charged the flat fee of \$1,000.00.

170
171 There was no additional New Business discussed.

172
173 **Any Other Matters**

174 Chief Bernot noted that the 12 hour shift assessment was sent to the Townships on August 15, 2016.
175 There were no questions from the Commission. She also updated that the status on accreditation
176 was going smoothly and that Ms. Lee was keeping up-to-date on standards that have been deleted,
177 added or changed.

178
179 **Officer Comments**

180 No officers were present.

181
182 **Police Reports**

183 **Monthly Activity Report:** Chief Bernot reported there was nothing unusual to report.

184 **Commercial Vehicle Report:** Chief Bernot noted that enforcement has begun in East Goshen and
185 added that a fourth person in place will ensure that all Townships are getting a fair share of
186 Commercial Vehicle detail.

187 **Month End Report:** Ms. Brill reported the budget is on target. She noted the bottom line now is at
188 53% and 65% would be right on target. She still anticipates being under budget for the year.

189 **PPU Report:** Chief Bernot reported year-to-date totals at 39.08 for Westtown; 48.7 for East
190 Goshen and 14.27 for Thornbury. She noted the ratio between Westtown and East Goshen is at
191 44.52 for Westtown and 55.48 for East Goshen. Thornbury numbers are 12.6 hours per day for
192 patrol and 68.75 hours for traffic enforcement. She added the traffic enforcement number is
193 slightly over due to a DUI crash.

194
195 **Action Items**

196 Mr. Smith reported a roof leak in the building and a quote received by Springer Roofing

197 **Page Five**
198 **September 21, 2016 Minutes**

199
200 for \$2,800.00. He added the quote mentioned this may be due to a ventilation problem. The current
201 quote to repair the leak was approved by Mr. Smith and Mr. Pingar, however both would like further
202 information to understand the ventilation issue. Mr. Pingar will work on getting further information
203 regarding the ventilation issue.

204
205 **Public Comment**

206 Mr. Milnar asked if a meeting is scheduled for October 2016. The Commission members discussed
207 their schedules and confirmed October 19, 2016 at 3:00 PM as the next Commission meeting. For
208 November, they agreed on November 16, 2016 at 3:00 PM.

209
210 **Executive Session**

211 The Commission broke for Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters at 4:00 PM.

212
213 **Regular Public Session Resumed**

214 The Commission returned from Executive Session at 4:23 PM and resumed their regular meeting.

215
216 **Adjournment**

217 Mr. Proctor called for a motion to adjourn.

218
219 **Mr. Di Domenico made a motion for adjournment of the September 21, 2016**
220 **meeting. Mr. Proctor seconded the motion.**

221
222 Mr. Proctor called for any comments.

223
224 **There were no other comments or questions. All were in favor. The motion was**
225 **unanimously approved.**

226
227 Respectfully Submitted,
228 Linda Delia, Transcriber