

1 WESTTOWN-EAST GOSHEN POLICE DEPARTMENT  
2 POLICE COMMISSION MEETING  
3 February 27, 2017  
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5

6 In attendance were Chair Charles Proctor, Vice-Chair Tom Haws, Chief of Police Brenda Bernot,  
7 Business Manager Kathy Brill, Westtown Township Manager Rob Pingar, East Goshen Township  
8 Manager Rick Smith, 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 February 27, 2017 Westtown-East Goshen Police Commission Meeting to order at  
13 6:00 PM and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.  
14

15 **Moment of Silence**

16 Mr. Proctor called for a moment of silence to pay tribute to our first responders, police, fire and  
17 ambulance people, as well as our service people home and abroad, for all they do. In particular, to those  
18 that have given the ultimate sacrifice.  
19

20 **Approval of Minutes**

21 There were no changes, comments or questions regarding the January 23, 2017 minutes. Mr. Proctor  
22 called for a motion to approve the minutes.  
23

24 **The motion to approve the January 23, 2017 minutes as presented was so moved by Mr.**  
25 **Haws and seconded by Mr. Proctor. There was no public comment or questions. All were**  
26 **in favor. The motion was unanimously approved.**  
27

28 **Chairman's Report**

29 Mr. Proctor noted that he has moved his law office and title company to East Goshen Township, which  
30 will make for a much easier commute when attending Township and Commission meetings.  
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 had nothing to report.

38 **Westtown Township:** Mr. Pingar commented that Board of Supervisor Chair, Mr. Di Domenico was  
39 impressed with the commercial vehicle detail he attended and noted the officers' knowledge and  
40 professionalism. Mr. Pingar also expressed his appreciation for the ride along he did (6:30 AM to 2:00  
41 PM) with Officer Jason Diamond and his noted professionalism. He added he found the half hour he  
42 spent with Officer Diamond reviewing the ALERT system to be very informative. Mr. Haws thanked  
43 Officer Mike O'Brien on behalf of the Westtown Board of Supervisors for his attendance and  
44 professionalism at the first Conditional Use Hearing for Creybilly

45 **East Goshen Township:** Mr. Smith stated that Board of Supervisor Chair Mr. Shane, who also attended  
46 the commercial vehicle detail, was very impressed and noted it was well done and professional. Mr.  
47 Smith also mentioned that the issue regarding pedestrian crossings at the park has started up again. Mr.  
48 Proctor asked Chief Bernot if the dates of March 15<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> were confirmed for the Police  
49 Appreciation dinners. Chief Bernot stated those dates have been confirmed and she has started to  
50 receive responses.

53

54 Chief Bernot – Complimentary Letters and Complaints/Issues

55 Chief Bernot stated that an email will be sent to the Commission in the next ten days regarding  
56 complimentary correspondence.

57 Regarding complaints, Chief Bernot reported there are no pending complaints at this time. She added  
58 that she would provide an update on the pending arbitration in Executive Session.

59

60 Old Business

61 Part-Time Officer Update

62 Chief Bernot reported the four new part-time officers will complete their field training program by late  
63 March, early April. Plans to make two Conditional Offers of Employment in early March for two  
64 additional part-time officers will bring us up to our complement of twelve part-time officers.

65

66 Mr. Proctor made note of a police department's program in a town in Massachusetts called "High Five  
67 Friday" at elementary and middle schools. The program has been suspended due to people expressing  
68 their concerns that this could possibly scare or intimidate some students. He asked Chief Bernot her  
69 thoughts on this and if we would ever consider such a program. Chief Bernot replied that she is  
70 disappointed that people are looking for a problem before there is one. She added this was a positive  
71 program and no child was forced to participate. She noted that if you want to reach out and establish  
72 relationships so that people are comfortable with police officers you need to start at an early age. As for  
73 our Department, due to our additional staffing, we are able to have officers who stand outside of their  
74 patrol cars before and after school, which provides children and parents the opportunity to interact with  
75 police officers. Officers are also being encouraged while patrolling a neighborhood to stop and get out  
76 of their cars and speak with residents they encounter. Chief Bernot is also encouraging and promoting  
77 officers to take time to stop in at Township offices. She believes that a community based policy mindset  
78 will only enhance the relationship between the officers and the residents.

79

80 Building Updates - Phones

81 Ms. Brill reported this is still a work in progress but hopes to see completion by the end of March. The  
82 hardware is still not in however software issues are still being worked on and noted that due to the  
83 extensive software work involved it is taking time.

84

85 Hartford Insurance Renewal Quote

86 Ms. Brill explained this issue will be carried over until next month as she is still waiting for a response  
87 from Hartford on a more detailed explanation of the coverage being provided under the policy. Ms. Brill  
88 will follow-up with Hartford again.

89

90 There was no additional Old Business discussed.

91

92 New Business

93 Ride Along Program

94 Chief Bernot stated that based on the feedback she has received, this program will be continued. At the  
95 beginning of each month Lieutenant Leahy will provide her with dates, which Chief Bernot will email to  
96 various Township officials. She also plans to continue with the commercial vehicle enforcement  
97 program once a quarter. Chief Bernot believes that both programs provide many benefits and a good  
98 tool for ongoing communications between Township officials and the Department. Mr. Haws stated that  
99 he believes this is a great idea.

103  
104 Mobile Video Recorders

105 Mr. Smith confirmed to Chief Bernot that East Goshen Board of Supervisors will vote on this proposal at  
106 their March 7, 2017 meeting. In response to Chief Bernot's question regarding Westtown Board of  
107 Supervisors timeline regarding the proposal, Mr. Pingar replied that the information on the proposal will  
108 be available for review by the Board this weekend.

109  
110 There was no additional New Business discussed.

111  
112 Any Other Matter

113 Thornbury Township Traffic Calming Issues

114 Ms. Lizza shared with the Commission that Thornbury Township is working with Chief Bernot and  
115 Sergeant Kennedy for the Department's prospective on the plans for traffic calming at Bridlewood Blvd,  
116 William Penn Blvd, Old Bailey and South Concord.

117  
118 Arrest at CVS in Thornbury Township

119 Chief Bernot explained that a significant arrest was made at the CVS in Thornbury Township. She noted  
120 that WEGO officers learned of a retail grab and run theft at a CVS in Birmingham through the County  
121 dispatch. Since it is common practice for thieves to continue up the road to commit additional thefts, the  
122 WEGO police converged at the CVS in Thornbury. Once there they found the two suspects in the process  
123 of committing a theft. It was an intense incident resulting in the arrest of the two individuals.

124  
125 Officer Comments

126 No officers were present.

127  
128 Police Statistic Reports

129 Monthly Activity Report: Chief Bernot reported nothing outside of the ordinary. Continuing to see a lot  
130 of offenses coming in from ChildLine and will continue to monitor.

131 Commercial Vehicle Report: Chief Bernot stated there were two details in East Goshen, two in  
132 Thornbury and four in Westtown during the month of January 2017.

133 PPU Report: Chief Bernot noted that Thornbury Township received on average 12.57 hours per day for  
134 patrol and 2.01 hours per day for traffic enforcement, which is within the scope of the contract. There  
135 was nothing unusual to note between the split of PPUs for Westtown and East Goshen. Mr. Proctor  
136 questioned continuing the note on the PPU report regarding the split between Westtown and East Goshen  
137 regarding commercial vehicle details. Mr. Smith noted that under the agreement any commercial vehicle  
138 hours are to be split fifty-fifty and any fines received go to the Pension Plan. Chief Bernot replied the  
139 note will be taken off the report and commercial vehicle details will reflect a fifty-fifty split between East  
140 Goshen and Westtown. Ms. Brill noted as a FYI she will have to go back to approximately October 2016  
141 to reflect the fifty-fifty split, which is no problem, and she will send out an updated PPU report.

142 Month End Report: Ms. Brill reported on budget for payroll and bottom line is under budget. She noted  
143 benefits and vehicles are a little over budget but that is not unusual for this time of year.

144  
145 Action Items

146 There were no action items.

147  
148 Public Comment

149 Mr. Milnar inquired about the date regarding the March 2017 meeting. It was noted by the  
150 Commission that the 2017 schedule for Commission meetings is the last Thursday of each month.

153  
154 The next Commission meeting is scheduled for March 30, 2017 at 6:00 PM. Ms. Lizza from Thornbury  
155 Township noted no representatives from Thornbury are able to attend that meeting. Regarding the May  
156 2017 meeting, Mr. Proctor requested that the meeting be moved from May 25<sup>th</sup> to May 18<sup>th</sup>. This was  
157 agreed upon by the Commission even though a few members are not available to attend.

158  
159 **Executive Session**

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

161  
162 **Regular Public Session Resumed**

163 The Commission returned from Executive Session and resumed their regular meeting at 7:11 PM.

164  
165 **Adjournment**

166 Mr. Proctor called for a motion for adjournment.

167  
168 **Mr. Haws made a motion for adjournment of the February 27, 2017 meeting. The**  
169 **motion was seconded by Mr. Proctor.**

170  
171 Mr. Proctor called for any comments.

172  
173 **There were no other comments or questions. All were in favor. The motion was**  
174 **unanimously approved.**

175  
176  
177 Respectfully Submitted,  
178 Linda Delia, Transcriber