

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
POLICE SERVICES OPTIONS WORKSHOP MEETING
1580 PAOLI PIKE
September 11, 2012 – 7:00pm
Final Minutes**

Present: Chairman Senya D. Isayeff, Vice-Chairman Thom Clapper and Supervisor Marty Shane and Carmen Battavio. Supervisor Chuck Proctor was absent. Also present were Township Manager Rick Smith, CFO Jon Altshul, Interim WEGO Police Chief Gene Dooley, Erich Meyer (Park & Rec), Ginnie Newlin (Conservancy Board) and reporter Michael Price from the *Daily Local*.

Executive Session

The Board met in Executive Session with Westtown Township from 6:00pm until 7:16pm to discuss police contract matters. [Note: Carmen Battavio came out at 7:00pm, apologized for the delay, and told the audience the Executive Session would probably run another 15 minutes. He thanked everyone for their patience.]

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Senya called the meeting to order at 7:17pm and had Chief Dooley lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silence

Carmen Battavio called for a moment of silence to honor the armed forces and to remember the victims and first responders of 9/11.

Recording of Meeting

Michael Price of the *Daily Local* and resident Mike Ragni recorded the meeting.

Update on Recent Developments

Senya said that WEGO met with representatives from the Police Association on September 6 from 10am to 3pm, and again on September 7 from 3pm to 7pm. The hope of all three parties – East Goshen, Westtown and the Police Association was that they would have a contract to give to their respective police commissioners who could then meet and extend an offer to Thornbury tomorrow. However, negotiations did not continue as hoped. At 8:03pm on Saturday the Police Association informed the Boards of East Goshen and Westtown that they had rejected the counter-proposal developed on Friday September 7.

The Police Commission has selected Mr. Chupein to serve as their lead representative and negotiator. East Goshen and Westtown were informed that no member of either Board was to address any member of the Police Association; if they did so they would risk a claim of unfair business practices. Both Boards then asked Pat Harvey to reach out to Mr. Chupein for a response by noon on September 10. No communication was received. On Sunday around midnight Mr. Chupein informed East Goshen and Westtown there would be no further negotiations on the counter-proposal.

At 5:30pm this evening the West Chester Borough Safety Council met and voted 3:0 to recommend the Borough Council enter into a five-year contract with Thornbury Township to provide police service.

Now the Boards of East Goshen and Westtown will have to consider how to handle the impact of the loss of Thornbury's contribution to the police budget, and the impact to the respective township budgets. The East Goshen Supervisors will be going back into another Executive Session at the end of the public meeting this evening.

Public Comment: Art Polishuk, Grand Oak Lane – Asked why the Board would be discussing the township budget in an Executive Session, when that should be discussed in a public meeting. Senya said the Executive Session will be with respect to the implications to the police budget, and he apologized if he misspoke or was not clear. Mr. Polishuk asked what attorney was late to the Executive Session this evening. Carmen said Mr. Blissman (attorney for Westtown Township) was a little bit late, plus the conversation they were all having took a little longer than anticipated.

Public Comment: Gerry Ruffenach, Reservoir Road – Asked if East Goshen is in negotiations with WEGO. Senya said yes. Mr. Ruffenach said he wanted information on what give and take has taken place in the negotiations and where we are in the process. Senya said the Township will be sending out a letter to the residents next week with that information.

Public Comment: Howard Jones, Kennett Way – Said the Board should give the residents some idea of the impact to the budget. The residents should be allowed the opportunity to be more involved in the process.

Public Comment: Neil Atkins, Troon Lane – The Thornbury decision was no surprise to him. He hopes the Supervisors can figure out a way to appropriately respond to this situation.

Review of Minutes

The Board reviewed the draft minutes of August 14 and 28 and had no changes. There was no public comment. Senya said the minutes of August 14 and 28 would stand approved as submitted.

Next Meeting

Senya said the next public meeting on police services options would be held September 25.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37pm.

Anne Meddings
Recording Secretary