

**Southern Police Commission  
Monthly Meeting  
December 5, 2018**

A public meeting of the Southern Police Commission was held on Wednesday, December 5, 2018. The meeting convened at the New Freedom Borough Council Chambers, 49 East High Street, New Freedom, PA 17349.

**Commission Members Present:** Buck Buchanan, Roy Burkins, Rob Herzberger, Bruce Merrill, Mike Sharkey, Andrew Stewart, John Trout

**Solicitor:** Peter Ruth

**Police Department Staff:** Chief James Boddington, Financial Administrator Gail Prego, Ofc. Hanson, Ofc. Heffner, Det. Shafer, Ofc. Swartz

**Members Absent:** Larry O'Brien

**Alternate Members Present:** None

**IGA Committee Member:** Donna Bloom, Stewartstown

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Trout at 19:00 with the pledge of allegiance to the flag and a moment of silence for fallen first responders, police officers, firefighters, and EMT's who lost their lives in the line of duty.

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Chairman Trout announced that there will be an Executive Session this evening.
- There are two letters to be read:
  - From Shrewsbury Township, November 16, thanking us for reaching out to them over several months regarding the Department's interest in expanding its service area. Our letter was discussed with the Township's Supervisors. At this time the Supervisors believe that PSP is providing adequate police services to the Township. If a community or commercial entity within the Township desires additional police services, the Township will work with them to achieve the desired results. The letter is signed by Art Rutledge, Chair of the Board of Supervisors. A copy of the letter is made part of these minutes.
  - From the Borough of Glen Rock, November 30, stating that during the November 14 Borough Council Meeting the Council unanimously voted to purchase 7.5 PPU's for 2019. A copy of this letter is made part of these minutes. The Chairman thanked Finance Administrator Prego, Sgt. Teague, and Sgt. Smuck for attending Glen Rock's Council meeting and explaining the information they had provided. The Chief had recommended 8.2 PPU's. The minimum was 6.2.
- Chief Boddington commented on the Shrewsbury Township letter: He'd had a discussion with Todd Zeigler, Township Manager after having received the letter, and that while most of the Township is rural, there are areas like Southern Farms, Presidential Heights, Shrewsbury Commons, Forrest Lakes, and other highly populated areas and that might desire local police services. Mr. Zeigler replied that he'd like to hear from those neighborhoods that would like to request local police services and that he'd like information regarding the amount of time we already spend in the Township responding to requests from PSP or other incidental police work in the Township. There was a question regarding State Police reporting to the Township, and the Chief replied that they get no reports at all on PSP activity. PSP reports are for their internal use only. It was agreed the Department can provide reporting to Shrewsbury and Hopewell Townships on our department's incidental activity in their municipalities.
- Commissioner Buchanan provided details regarding a referendum that the Township residents would have to vote for to allow variable taxation rates for those areas that want police services.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Chairman Trout requested public comments. Kim Butcher of New Freedom asked if State Police reports can be obtained through the Right to Know laws. Solicitor Ruth replied that it depends on the nature of the information requested. There has to be a document that exists that is responsive to the inquiry. If the document or report exists they can provide it. They may not be required to provide documents to meet a specific need of the requester but not otherwise required. Detailed discussion followed.

#### REVIEW & APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 2018 MEETING MINUTES

- Chairman Trout asked for a review and approval of the minutes for meeting on November 5.
- A motion was made by Commissioner Herzberger, seconded by Commissioner Buchanan, to approve the minutes as submitted. All in favor consented with an Aye vote, there were no Nays, and Commissioner Merrill abstained due to not having been there.

#### REVIEW & APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 2018 EXPENDITURES

- Expenses through October 31, 2018 were presented by Finance Administrator Prego leading the discussion.
- The SRO contracts are under way, approximately \$95,000 received, as a result of the SRO services provided to the School Districts.
- Winterstown and Railroad are a little bit over forecast.
- Salaries: Effected by the SRO costs and short the 2 officers yet to be hired. Overall, payroll is under budget.
- Health care and other insurances are below budget due to increases not being as high as projected.
- Vehicle expenses continue to increase due to fuel costs being higher. Approximately 60% of the overrun are due to fuel. Maintaining the older cars and accidents make up the rest.
- Liability insurance is higher than anticipated.
- Operating expenses are affected by outfitting the 2 new officers. Some of that expense is covered by the income from the SRO program due to the new officers replacing the SRO's in their normal patrol function.
- Designated donations: There are two campaigns running now:
  - Cameras
  - Tactical vests
- Overall, expenses are under budget.
- There's a new report in the package that provides numbers for the actual total expenses derived from checks written and ACH activity.
- Questions:
  - Commissioners Buchanan and O'Brien asked a clarifying question regarding the reports. The difference between how the total expense number for each month previously and the current methodology was clarified.
- A motion was made by Commissioner Buchanan to approve expenses for October check detail including several ACH's (electronic transfers) and check numbers 10969 through 11008 plus transfers for \$241,079.78 based on the check register total. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Burkins. Chairman Trout called for any further questions. Commissioner Herzberger asked if this change solved the problem with getting surpluses back to the municipalities, and Administrator Prego replied reconfirmed that it did. Commissioner Sharkey asked if we had to approve the entire financial report separately from the check detail due to the change in methodology. Solicitor Ruth answered that the requirement is to approve the expenses, not necessarily the details of the financial report. Administrator Prego provided further clarifying remarks. The motion passed with an Aye vote.
- Chairman Trout asked about accounting for reserves with reference to the IGA. Moneys returned to the member municipalities are taken care of during January.

## CHIEF'S REPORT

- Detective Shafer, the Department leading firearms instructor and armorer, and Officer Swartz who is also a certified firearms instructor, made a presentation regarding problems encountered with our current side-arms. Details were provided regarding the ammunition feed problems encountered with the current side-arms discovered during training. A history of the manufacturers and models of firearms the department has used was presented as well as the current predicament. When the guns were new the problem was considered to be tight fittings that would break in and clear over time. Changes in ammunition manufacturer didn't clear the problem. It turns out that other departments using the same weapon manufacturer and model were having the same problem. When adding a light to the rail on these firearms the problem of failing to feed properly appears on this model weapon. The problem clears when the light is removed. Having the weapon-mounted light solves an officer safety related concern. Details of different methods to clear the problem were explained. Instructors Shafer and Swartz have determined that changing to the Glock 45 running 9mm ammunition will fit our existing holsters and that currently available ammunition in 9mm will provide adequate protection when used due to improvements in ammunition design per the FBI. Detailed advantages to currently available 9mm, compared to .40 caliber ammo, were explained and discussed. The cost to change over is about \$3600.00, including trading in the existing guns. The difference in ammunition costs between .40 caliber and 9mm, on average, for qualifications would be a savings of about \$440.00 per year. Due to other items budgeted and not spent this year, there will be no increase to the overall spending budget for this year as a result of making this expenditure.
  - Commissioner Herzberger asked if the proposed Glock model 45 had been tested with the lights. The answer is yes. Det. Shafer explained the details of the tests he'd run to attempt to make it fail. More tests will be conducted prior to purchase within the next week. There was further discussion.
- A motion was made by Commissioner Herzberger, seconded by Commissioner Stewart, to fund the purchase of replacement guns for the existing Glock Model 43 .40 cal firearms with Glock Model 45 9mm firearms with existing budgeted but unexpended office supply money subject to successful planned internal testing. Associated replacement magazines and holders are included. Residual .40 cal ammunition can be sold to further offset the expenditure. The motion passed with an Aye vote.
  - Commissioner Buchanan asked Det. Shafer to pursue other accommodations from Glock to recover expenses we've incurred in attempting to solve the problem. There was more in-depth discussion.
- Chief Boddington reviewed and explained the police reports September 30 through October 27 that had been provided to the Commissioners and will be posted on the web site.
- Time attributed to each municipality is within tolerance. Time spent in each municipality is being managed by the Sergeants as closely as possible.
- The UCR's were reviewed.
  - Commissioner Buchanan asked the Chief if he wanted the Commission to set percentage tolerance targets. The Chief says that they have sufficient ability to manage time usage. There will be variations due to the nature of how calls for service and patrol-initiated activities affect it, but it balances out.
  - Commissioner Merrill commented about a traffic accident on E. Forrest Avenue with a truck overturn near the off-ramp and Tom's truck stop. He asked if that was within our service area. He mentioned that our officers were there. Chief Boddington explained that it was out of our jurisdiction, and that Ofc. Heffner was there at the request of State Police. State Police were in attendance at another incident requiring multiple Trooper response. They requested our assistance at the truck accident. Commissioner Merrill then asked about an animal complaint that was responded to out of jurisdiction. Officer Heffner explained that the road of the incident was one side in our jurisdiction and one side out of jurisdiction. He found the raccoon

- on the State Police side of the road and citizens being affected by it were on both sides. After checking with State Police, Officer Heffner dealt appropriately with the raccoon.
- Commissioner Merrill asked about card skimmer activity. There was a discussion about that including the citizen attendee.
  - Commissioner Buchanan asked about the overtime attributed to the school districts. Chief Boddington replied that it was sports related activities and it was confirmed by Administrator Prego the school districts pay for that time. In addition, Officer Hanson explained that at least Southern School District has requested that the SRO be present from the time the first bus arrives each day until the last bus leaves at the end of the day. This is also driven by the requests of the parents.
  - Chief Boddington confirmed that he's in contact with school administrators and that they continue to be pleased with the services our Department and SRO's are providing.
- Chief Boddington reported that, since Thanksgiving weekend, we have had four (4) drug-related deaths within our jurisdiction. Two were in Stewartstown, one in Shrewsbury, one in Railroad. These investigations can be time-consuming. Due to the short-staffing, we haven't an officer to be part of the drug task force and able to provide focus on drug prevention and enforcement. Citizen observation and reporting has helped with preventing some drug activity. There was a discussion regarding the effectiveness of a focused officer's interaction with the drug task force to support prevention and enforcement. Commissioner Herzberger said we should have drug enforcement as a top priority. Officer Hanson explained the time commitment that the drug taskforce can make to this task. Donna Bloom asked about our ability to use DEA to support our enforcement efforts. Chief Boddington replied that we can get support from them but that "boots on the ground" must be local resources.
  - Commissioner Buchanan will put an item in the Shrewsbury Borough newsletter regarding this concern.
  - No-shave Movember: The beneficiaries were Penn State Cancer Research Center and a student in the school district. \$3750.00 was raised.
  - The camera system has helped PSP solve another crime. Funds are arriving to fund the upgrade to the camera system.
  - The K-9 fund-raising program is in progress. A "GoFundMe" page is being established for this project.
  - Commissioner Merrill asked about sharing information with Todd Zeigler of Shrewsbury Twp. about our camera system having helped solve crimes that occurred in their area. He asked if we could suggest that Todd go to the businesses in the Township to raise support for expanding our services into the Township. Chief Boddington replied that they could do that, but it's not likely that they'll go to solicit that opportunity. If the businesses or neighborhoods were to approach their Township Supervisors and request local police services that they might act on it. Commissioner Merrill said that he has approached Hopewell Twp. "folks" about it and that they don't perceive that they have a problem. The consensus is that "we" need to approach the businesses, business organizations, and encourage concerned citizens to bring their concerns to the attention of their governing bodies.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **INSURANCE & PENSION**

- We're waiting on workman's comp. They have asked for audit information. Liability insurance is \$45,187.00.

### **PERSONNEL**

- Contract and personnel concerns will be dealt with in the Executive Session.

### **FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT**

- No report

## **FINANCE & BUDGET**

- Commissioner Buchanan said that the finance committee should meet. With Glen Rock coming in with reduced PPU's that condition has to be discussed and a solution regarding how to meet the shortfall that results will have to be resolved. The budget had been made anticipating full PPU participation of each member. A potential meeting time was discussed.
- Chief Boddington and several Commissioners discussed the intent of the PPU formula and how it applies to our department. The IGA Committee will have to work on how to deal with these issues.
- Chief Boddington said that the calls for service this last year that effect the PPU's for Glen Rock were higher than Stewartstown. There was further detailed discussion.

## **CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE**

- Will be discussed in Executive Session

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT COMMITTEE**

- Commissioner Sharkey proposed that the IGA committee meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month with a target of April to complete their work. The first meeting per month will be in Shrewsbury at 19:00 and the second meeting per month will be in New Freedom.

## SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Solicitor Ruth requested a motion to advertise the Commission meeting dates for 2019. The dates will continue to be the first Wednesday of the month for the primary meeting and the third Tuesday of the month for alternate or continuation meetings. He will also announce the meetings for the IGA committee as stated above. The motion was made by Commissioner Sharkey, seconded by Commissioner Buchanan, as requested by the Solicitor. There were no questions. The motion was approved with an Aye vote.
- There has been a request for a copy of the letter sent to Glen Rock which has been responded to.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

- There were no alternates present so the requirement for alternate attendance was not discussed.
- The executive session began at 20:59 and ended at 21:54. Collective bargaining and personnel issues were discussed.

## OLD BUSINESS

- Commissioner Merrill asked about progress with the dog project. There have been several checks received for the project account per Administrator Prego.

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## NEW BUSINESS

- There was no new business.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:** A motion for adjournment was made by Commissioner Buchanan, seconded by Commissioner Stewart. There was a unanimous Aye vote.



# Shrewsbury Township

York County, Pennsylvania

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November 16, 2018

Southern Regional Police Department  
Attn: Chief James S. Boddington  
47 E. High Street  
New Freedom, PA 17349

COPY

Dear Chief Boddington,

Thank you for reaching out to Shrewsbury Township several months regarding the Departments interested in expanding its service area. I discussed your letter with the Board of Supervisors at our regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. At this time the Township Board is satisfied with the level of services provided by the Pennsylvania State Police and does not believe additional police services are necessary.

The Township does have a standing policy that if any residential community or commercial entity within the Township desires additional police presence/protection, the Township will work with local police agencies to define the coverage desired and obtain a proposal for their services. The Township would then negotiate and establish a contract for that community, at the community's expense. The Township would not participate in the cost of the police services. To date, no such contracts have been established within the Township. We are not aware of the desire for such services. However, if a community need arises or the Township's needs change, we will certainly include your Department in the discussions.

Thank you for your interest and consideration. If you have any questions, please contact me at 443-386-6225 (cell) or email me at [artr@shrewsburytownship.org](mailto:artr@shrewsburytownship.org).

Sincerely,

Art Rutledge  
Chair, Shrewsbury Township Board of Supervisors.

cc. Todd Zeigler, Township Manager  
Shrewsbury Township Board Members



## **BOROUGH OF GLEN ROCK**

P.O. Box 116  
Glen Rock, PA 17327

(717) 235-3206

Fax (717) 235-0798

November 30, 2018

Southern Regional Police Commission  
47 East High Street  
New Freedom, PA 17349

Subject: Glen Rock Borough

Dear Commission Members,

During the November 14, 2018 Borough Council Meeting, Council discussed the proposed costs of Police Services and the PPU's needed for 2019. Council unanimously voted to purchase 7.5 PPU's for 2019.

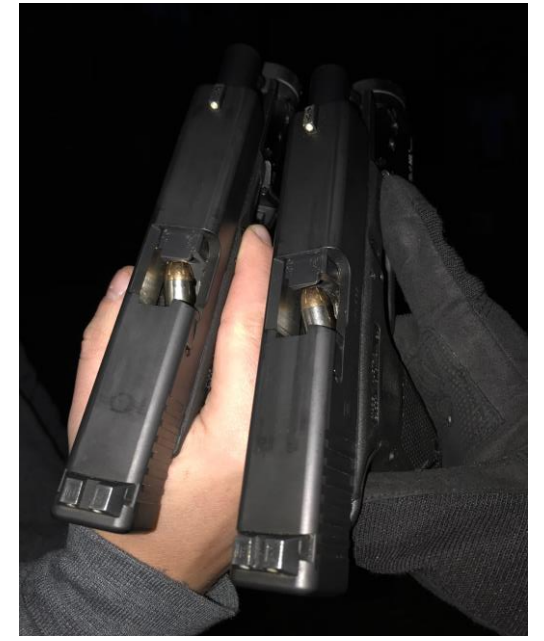
Sincerely,

Glen Rock Borough Council

Cc: Shrewsbury Borough  
Stewartstown Borough  
New Freedom Borough

# The Problem

- .40 caliber GLOCK handguns model 22 & 23 have an inherent malfunction.
- The malfunction is that when a weapon mounted light is attached to the accessory rail, it produces a “Failure to Feed” malfunction.





“The issue is: The addition of the light stiffens the frame it doesn’t flex as much when fired. The result is the slide cycling faster than the magazine can present the next round. This was a Gen3 problem only.”

“I have observed this firsthand in both gen 3 and gen 4 Glock 22s. I have carried a .40 Glock on duty for 20 years and trust their reliability completely..... as long as they don't have a weapons mounted light installed. As a trainer, I've seen multiple shooters have problems and our Academy rangemaster had acknowledged the problem. I've been told the 9s don't do it because they don't flex as much under recoil.”

Glock says that the added mass of the tac light making the frame heavier allows the slide to cycle faster and the slide was outrunning the magazines' ability to feed the next round. They corrected it with more powerful magazine springs.

# Options

Glock said there are three options,

- 1) Remove the weapon mounted light
- 2) Replace the magazine, 9 coil spring with a 10 coil spring
- 3) Change guns

## Reasons not to remove the light from the gun

- They help identify the target
- Increase Accuracy
- Allow for one hand operation (frees up secondary hand to control subject, answer radio, open doors, or if injured, etc.)

We replaced the magazine spring in 9 magazines and test fired 2 handguns.

We shot 117 rounds and had more than 15 “Failure to Feed” malfunctions (this is no change from before).

## Gun Replacement

Full research into all combat style handgun, takes time and money for handguns, holsters, magazine pouches and extra magazines.

or

Replace current .40 caliber Glock model 23's with 9mm Glock model 45's

By doing this we can keep our current holsters and only need to replace 16 guns, magazine pouches and vest magazines for an approx. total cost of \$3600

# Benefits to going to the 9mm Glock, model 45

- Keep current holsters.
- Increases ammunition quantity from 39 rounds to 51 rounds.
- Reduced recoil making the shooter and follow-up shots more accurate.
- Ammunition cost less and is more readily available.

The price difference between .40 caliber ammunition and 9mm is estimated average yearly savings is \$440, meaning that within 6 years the cost savings from ammunition purchases alone will pay for the change over to the 9mm Glock model 45.

Where do we find \$3600 to complete the switch over?

Currently there is enough money left in the 2018 Shooting and Office Supplies budget to cover the cost, so no addition money or budget money is required.

We ask that you authorize the change over to the 9mm Glock Model 45 as the duty handgun for the department.

Thank you,