

Monday, September 22, 2025

## Town of Greenwood Police Accountability Committee

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- I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Attendance
  - A. Meeting called to order by Chief Walton at 5:06p.
  - B. In attendance: Chief Walton, Cpl Tucker, Police Admin, Alice Green, Yvonne Chisenhall, Kelli Nuwer, Ellen Patterson, Dale Patterson (all from Greenwood), Dale Kirlin (from Ellendale), as well as Jessica Lederer in the audience.
- II. Approval of June 30, 2025 Meeting Minutes
  - A. Motion to approve by Dale Patterson, second by Ellen Patterson - unanimously carried
- III. Old Business
  - A. None
- IV. New Business/Open Discussion
  - A. Chief wanted to present new Police Administrative Assistant, Alice Green.
  - B. Open discussion:
    1. Kelli brought up the posting of information, minutes, and streamlining across the State - this is a new program, and we are all learning, but is Post working on a more consistent ruling across the board - also noted some towns that may set the bar higher on this matter. Chief has plans in place to meet with another town to learn more about their way of handling PAC meetings - more like our Town Council meeting, with a Chair to run the meetings, rather than Chief, but that is something that is in the future.
    2. Chief wants this time to be for the PAC members to be able to be the voice of the community, especially for those that may not be comfortable voicing concerns with the department directly.
    3. Kelli stressed the importance of Greenwood's Police Department being seen in the community. Residents like to see the officers on the day to day - it is wanted, appreciated, and always requested for more by residents.
    4. Ellen had concerns over the speed of cars on Market Street - she noted it was particularly bad this past weekend. She knows that officers are out - she sees Brooke regularly - but was hoping to see the schedule moved around. Also noted concerns over speeders during school bus times and people passing the school buses, so maybe some extra eyes at those times. Yvonne mentioned she was seeing some higher speed traffic around 10p, when people assume our officers are off. There was further discussion of potential use of apps to warn of police presence - Chief spoke in support of such apps - they keep the speed down. Ellen said she would try to note a pattern of the excessive speed, if she notices between now and the next meeting. Traffic enforcement is a priority for GPD, and Chief. Chief stated that there is a police officer on the schedule every day of the week, but with only 3 officers, it is just isn't possible for 24/7 coverage, at this time. Chief stated that he is doing his best to schedule for an officer on as much as possible, but there is someone on duty at some point every day of the week, regardless.
    5. Chief mentioned the want of 24/7 coverage. Kelli asked what that growth looks like for Chief Walton. It is known that the first step was a full staff, which has been accomplished with the hiring of the full-time police admin. Chief wants to make sure that they grow responsibly. He would like to have at least 5 officers, so there is constant coverage for the Town, but wants to make sure that their Town and the

department can sustain this financially. The end goal is 24/7 Greenwood PD coverage.

6. Kelli also requested a K-9 update, on the record, since that has been a hot topic this year. Chief stated that the program was passed by Council, the dog had been obtained, all of the funding has been approved, and they are obtaining all the equipment required. Next steps are getting the vehicle outfitted with all of the K-9 equipment, then deciding which training program is going to work best for our department, and Emma, the K-9. The training program length depends on which program they choose. They have found a more flexible program, which they are leaning towards. It will still be 5 weeks and 3 hours a day, in Wilmington, but this allows Cpl. Tucker to complete training, and still have hours to devote to town patrol. Yvonne brought up introducing Emma to the town. Chief stressed that the K-9 is another officer and the importance of a relationship between K-9 Emma and the residents of Greenwood.

#### V. Training

- A. June 23, 2025 - Cpl Tucker & Chief Walton provided use of force training; part 1
  1. Key objectives: to understand the legal standards governing Police use of force and response to resistance, understand the context and justification for each type of force used, and evaluate real life inspired scenarios and determine whether use of force was reasonable and justified.
  2. Refresher being offered after meeting today, for those who missed this training.
- B. September 2, 2025 - Cpl Tucker & Chief Walton provided LiDAR & Radar speed detection training to members
  1. PAC members participated in hands on training with calibration and speed detection using GPD equipment in the field
  2. Round table exercise on police response scenarios
- C. Upcoming - will contact members to schedule upcoming training events. If contact information changes, please make sure to update Chief and Cpl Tucker.
  1. Request for refresh of PD tour, since some members missed that meeting
    - a) Chief would like to schedule for future meeting, so everyone can get documented on their training hours.

#### VI. Public Comment

- A. Jessica Lederer - concern over education on speeding, and the acceleration gray area, being taught in driver's education. Suggested partnering with Woodbridge HS to make sure our teens are being taught the proper laws and etiquette.

#### VII. Adjournment

- A. Motion to adjourn at 5:36p by Ellen Patterson, seconded by Yvonne Chisenhall - unanimously carried