



Village of Westmont

31 West Quincy Street, Westmont, Illinois 60559

villageboard@westmont.il.gov
westmont.illinois.gov | 630-981-6200

PUBLIC NOTICE

POLICE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Thursday, August 6, 2026 - 4:30 PM

Westmont Village Hall - 31 W. Quincy Street, Westmont, Illinois 60559

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Public Comment
5. Approval of Minutes
 - A. Minutes of the May 14, 2026 regular meeting.
6. Unfinished Business
7. New Business
 - A. Staffing Update
 - B. Community Events
 - C. License Plate Reader Update
8. Reports
 - A. Committee Chair
 - B. Department Director
 - C. Division(s) Reports
9. Miscellaneous
 - A. Risk Management Insurance Review
 - B. Lot coverage discussion
 - C. Wall of Mayors Review

10. Adjourn

Note: Any person who has a disability requiring a reasonable accommodation to participate in the meeting should contact the ADA Compliance Officer, 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Monday through Friday, Village of Westmont, Illinois, 60559; or telephone (630) 981-6210 voice, within a reasonable time before the meeting. Listen Everywhere, an assistive listening, mobile app, is now available to visitors attending Board and Commission Meetings held in the Village Hall Board Room.

<https://westmont.illinois.gov/581/ADA-Listen-Everywhere>



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VILLAGE BOARD

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Village Board Police Public Safety Committee

Westmont Village Hall - 31 West Quincy Street

Meeting Minutes - May 14, 2026

Draft to be Approved - August 6, 2026

I. **CALL TO ORDER** - Trustee Plowman called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

II. **ROLL CALL**

<u>Committee</u> Mayor Nero Trustee Plowman (Chairman) Trustee Guzzo Trustee Liddle Trustee Barker Trustee Scales Village Clerk Szymiski	<u>Staff</u> Village Manager Gunther Asst. Village Manager Parker Police Chief Gruen Deputy Police Chief Thompson Deputy Police Chief Weibler Deputy Fire Chief Frank Public Works Director Ries Community Development Director Hennerfeind Finance Director Altic Gov't Services Director Mielcarski HR Director Brainerd IT Director Liljeberg Ofc. Jakob Eisenbeis Ofc. Thomas Kozielski Police Department Staff Communications Assistant Babyar Asst. to Police Chief Olsson
<u>Visitors</u> None	

III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

IV. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** - None

V. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - February 5, 2026 Police Public Safety Committee meeting minutes were approved by Motion Trustee Scales made and seconded by Trustee Guzzo.

VI. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - None

VII. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Department Award

Chief Gruen recognized the following staff with departmental awards for their outstanding service and accomplishments:

- 1) Officers Jakob Eisenbeis, Thomas Kozielski, and Robert Arndt (absent) received the Felony Arrest Commendation for their response to an incident that occurred on December 12, 2025.
- 2) Mr. Gregory Compton, Mr. Rosendo Velazco, Mr. Lemuel Reyes, and Mr. John Paul Alexander received the Life Saving Award for their response to an incident that occurred on December 12, 2025. Chief Gruen showed the video of the incident.

B. Camera Presentation

Chief Gruen showed a video of an incident captured by the license plate reader (LPR) system, along with village and private citizen cameras, of a suspected vehicle involved in a theft in the downtown area. By tracking the vehicle and suspect movements, and leveraging high-quality footage from private sources, they were able to build a case that included multiple traffic violations. The video showed how vital the cameras were used for law enforcement.

Chief Gruen introduced the S.A.F.E.R. program where residents and business owners register their surveillance cameras on the village website. This registry provides officers with contact information and knowledge of existing surveillance systems, which expedites investigations. Trustee Plowman asked if anyone with the Ring doorbell could participate. Chief Gruen stated that anyone with a surveillance system is encouraged to participate. There are only a few registrants at this time. Officers will start distributing business cards with QR codes to facilitate easy registration. Trustee Scales asked if the department can access recordings instantly. Chief Gruen responded that the department still has to request access from the business owner or resident.

C. Staffing Update

Chief Gruen stated that three officers recently graduated from the academy and are in the Field Training Officer program. It will take about six months for the officers to patrol streets. Staffing remains a priority, with two officers currently in the academy and efforts underway to secure three more for the next academy. He expressed great appreciation for the Fire and Police Commission, acknowledging their tireless work on recruitment and interviews.

D. Community Events

Chief Gruen listed the past and future events for the department:

- 1) Shred Event for Special Olympics - 4/18/2026 - collected \$4,610 and shredded over 9,000 pounds of paper
- 2) Drug Take Back - 4/25/2026 - 270 pounds collected

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- 3) National Police Week - 5/13/2026
- 4) Cop on a Rooftop - 5/15/2026 - 3 locations
- 5) WCPAA Picnic - 6/8/2026
- 6) Village Vehicle Night - 6/18/2026 - 51 Police vehicles registered so far
- 7) Summer Camp - July/August
- 8) National Night Out - 8/4/2026 at Ty Park
- 9) CPA Classes 9/23 - 11/11/2026 - registration open

VIII. REPORTS

A. Committee Chair

No report

B. Division Reports

- 1) Administration
 - (a) Fireworks noise initiative - Chief Gruen stated that yard signs were created to address a noise complaint from neighborhood fireworks. The initiative aims to increase awareness and encourage respectful behavior from neighbors during firework-heavy holidays. The signs are available during business hours at the Police Department and Village Hall. Chief Gruen stated that the requestor was very appreciative of the response. Trustee Plowman asked how the department addresses the calls related to fireworks. Chief Gruen responded that based on priority, officers respond as soon as practicable.
- 2) Patrol - No report
- 3) Investigations - No report

IX. MISCELLANEOUS - None

X. ADJOURN - Approved by Motion Trustee Barker made and seconded by Trustee Liddle at 5:01 p.m. (next meeting is scheduled on August 6, 2026)