



POLICE COMMISSION

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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BETHEL POLICE COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2015

MUNICIPAL CENTER, 1 SCHOOL ST MEETING ROOM "B"

2015 MAY 22 A 11: 57
TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

RECEIVED

ATTENDING:

CHAIRMAN MIKE DUFF
COMMISSIONER ANTHONY RUBINO
COMMISSIONER RICHARD KOLWICZ
COMMISSIONER CHRIS MCCOLLAM
COMMISSIONER RICHARD BARTON

ABSENT:

CHIEF JEFFREY FINCH

Chairman Duff opened the meeting at 6:08 p.m. The Commission pledged allegiance to the flag.

Lt Dickinson was in attendance to represent the Chief.

1. Public Comment
None
2. Review of Past Minutes
Motion by Comm Kolwicz to accept the minutes of 4/15/15; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous.
3. Budget Report
 - a) Comptroller's Report
Comm McCollam questioned several encumbered balances including Capital Equipment. Comm McCollam asked that the reports include notations where large balances occur.
 - b) Overtime Reports
Comm Kolwicz questioned the \$11K overtime for the week of 4/18
Chairman Duff will e-mail query Chief Finch for unresolved answers.
4. Old Business
 - a) Monthly Reports – *copies enclosed*
The Commission considered the reports. Nothing unusual was evident.

5. New Business

a) Crematorium – 12 Trowbridge Dr

This proposal was forwarded by the Planning & Zoning Commission for a traffic impact opinion. Lt Dickinson reported excellent site lines on this dead end road. The lieutenant sees no impact from traffic at this site. Interior markings for parking will have to be added.

Motion by Comm McCollam that Lt Dickinson's letter for recommendation for 12 Trowbridge Dr forwarded to the appropriate board; seconded by Comm Kolwicz – unanimous.

Motion by Comm McCollam to add Rickles Ct, 263 Greenwood Av to New Business as item 5b; seconded by Comm Kolwicz – unanimous

b) Rickles Ct, 263 Greenwood Av

This site plan for a 7 unit apartment project was considered by the Commission. At question was a safety factor namely the adequacy of a site line for a left turn out of the project. Because Greenwood Av is a State road, DOT input would first be needed before rendering a decision.

Motion by Comm McCollam to forward the Rickles Ct proposal onto the State DOT; seconded by Comm Kolwicz – unanimous.

6. Correspondence

• Sergeant George Bryce

Complimentary letter from the State of Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice Office of the Assistant States Attorney for Sgt Bryce's participation in a case.

• Officer Courtney Whaley

Off Whaley as been awarded her Bachelor of Science degree.

• Estate of Mr W. Small

A letter from Attorney O'Grady that 5% of Mr W. Small's estate has been willed to the Department pending probate.

• Senator M. McLachian

A letter of thanks for the response concerning dispatch scenarios along with Chief Finch's attached letter.

Motion by Comm Kolwicz to add Mr Ed DiGrangi letter to Correspondence; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous

• Ed DiGrangi, 123 Old Hawleyville Rd

Due to speed and noise, this request was for "No Thru Truck" traffic on a portion of Old Hawleyville Rd. Alternate truck routes were discussed. Lt Dickinson reported selected enforcement was recently done resulting in 23 arrests. The Commission instructed the lieutenant to employ the counter in order to develop data so this item can be discussed under Old Business at the next meeting.

7. Police Building

A discussion of the proposed police building ensued. For the minutes Chairman Duff included the statement that "Insofar as I am concerned, a fourth proposal suggesting the elimination of infrastructure that enables necessary training and testing is unacceptable and inappropriate". The Chairman added "Unacceptable" and "inappropriate" is due to the fact that a fourth proposal was not called for.

8. Chief's Report

None

9. Commissioner Comments

Comm McCollam asked that any costs associated with hiring, testing and promotion be encumbered within the current budget and not be carried through onto the next. The Commissioner also asked that the Commission be involved with the filling of the Captain's position as was done the last time.

Comm McCollam noted Lt Kennedy's desire to become a special officer upon his retirement at the end of the month. The Commission would welcome Lt Kennedy's training and experience as continued service to the Department. Chairman Duff will convey this opinion to the Chief.

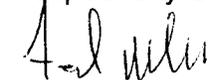
Comm Barton asked about the procedure for mounting a Knights of Columbus sign at the major entry ways to the town. Lt Dickinson stated that a permit from the STC is needed and will look into this for the KoC.

Comm Rubino asked if a flashing light at the crosswalk at Dolan Plaza can be installed. Comm Barton pointed out that the crosswalk in front of the Bethel Cinema would also benefit from such an installation. Lt Dickinson stated that a similar previous appeal was denied by the State as it is their intention to keep crosswalks consistent so they can be anticipated in an equal manner. A signage update to current State standards would be preferable. The lieutenant also stated that studies have shown the majority of pedestrian accidents have been the fault of the pedestrian, that not having marked crosswalks, in some situations, may in fact lead to increased pedestrian safety.

Chairman Duff read a proposed letter inviting various Bethel organizations to have their next meeting at the PD in order to learn in a brief presentation about innovative police programs aimed at serving and protecting the community and elicit each organization's own ideas and help in determining the course of action of these programs to make them more effective and in harmony with the community.

At 7:32 motion by Comm Kolwicz to adjourn; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ferdinand Miller Jr
Secretary