



# POLICE COMMISSION

49 Plumtrees Road, Bethel, Connecticut 06801 • Phone: (203) 743-5500 • Fax: (203) 748-1333

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING  
BETHEL POLICE COMMISSION  
MONDAY, NOV 9, 2015  
MUNICIPAL CENTER, 1 SCHOOL ST MEETING ROOM "A"

ATTENDING: CHAIRMAN MIKE DUFF  
COMMISSIONER RICHARD BARTON  
COMMISSIONER RICHARD KOLWICZ  
COMMISSIONER CHRIS MCCOLLAM  
CHIEF JEFFREY FINCH

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER ANTHONY RUBINO

RECEIVED

2015 NOV 12 A 8:44

TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

Chairman Duff opened the meeting at 5:40 p.m.  
The Commission pledged allegiance to the flag.

1. Candidate Interviews – *Executive Session*  
Motion by Comm Kolwicz to go into executive session for the purpose of candidate interviews and invite Chief Finch to attend; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous

At 8:30 the Commission came out of executive session

Motion by Comm McCollam to offer employment as a Bethel police officer to Mr Joseph Groski conditional upon a satisfactory background investigation and other standard and regular requirements of the State of Connecticut and the Town of Bethel and to Mr Garrett Vasquez conditional upon a satisfactory background investigation and other standard and regular requirements of the State of Connecticut and the Town of Bethel. Further such an offer be extended to Mr Christopher Alexander and Mr Ryan Iodice in that order conditional upon there being an opening in the next 60 days subject to a background investigation and the same standard requirements of the State of Connecticut and the Town of Bethel; seconded by Comm Kolwicz – unanimous.  
Capt Pugnar to notify the candidate this evening.

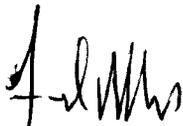
2. Review of Past Minutes 10/21/15  
Chairman Duff requested that the in the first line of Public Input of the 10/21/15 meeting the word "proof" be changed to "review" thus reading as "Nick Ellis of 13 Fawn Rd expressed his displeasure on the Commission's approving dollar amounts without review of expenditure".  
Motion by Comm Barton to accept the amended minutes of 10/21/15; seconded by Comm Kolwicz – unanimous.

3. Budget Report
  - a) Overtime Report  
Chief Finch reported year-to-date overtime expenses as being \$17K over last year-to-date. The Chief went on to state that he perceived this as not being "bad" considering the recently experienced manpower shortages.
  
4. Old Business
  - a) Site Plan 49 Taylor Av  
Chairman Duff's concern for this site is due to limited sight lines in both directions affecting the ingress and egress of vehicles. Chief Finch noted Lt Dickinson's report as also stating ingress and egress to be "problematic".  
Motion by Comm Kolwicz to forward the recommendation of Lt Dickinson with the Commission's endorsement that there is a concern with the safety aspect of access to the site; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous.
  
  - b) Bad Checks/ATM's  
In conversation with Sgt Bryce Chief Finch noted that debit cards are provided to anyone opening checking accounts. Merchants should be advised to not accept suspect checks as long as the person has a debit card. Chairman Duff stated he will write a letter for Commission edit before forwarding the same to the Chamber of Commerce recommending that this action be followed by merchants.
  
5. New Business  
None
  
6. Correspondence  
A letter from Lt Libertini describing officer Halloween candy and prize distribution
  
7. Police Building  
The Commission discussed issues connected with the proposed police building.
  
8. Chief's Report
  - Halloween  
Photos showing Halloween candy and prize distribution being carried out by officers in Halloween costume were shown to the Commission.
  
  - CALEA Accreditation  
Chief Finch reported he will be attending the CALEA accreditation meeting in Miami FL next week
  
  - Lt Kennedy Retirement Party  
On 11/13/15 a retirement party will be held for Lt Kennedy
  
9. Commissioner Comments  
Comm McCollam wanted Lt Dickinson to be aware of the intersection of Grassy Plain and Reservoir/Beach where the State is redoing traffic signals, all sidewalk pads have been done except one at Beach and Grassy Plain. Also is the intersection above

Bethel Food which the commissioner described as a "mess". The commissioner described much needed turn arrows and reset the lights so more vehicles can get through. In addition nothing has been done concerning the crosswalk in front of the bank on Greenwood Av which was removed by the State. It needs to be replaced. Comm Barton asked about Depot Pl and Chestnut St truck turning issues. Chief Finch reported the State's reply that nothing will be done at these locations. Comm Kolwicz and Chairman Duff thanked Comm McCollam for his 16 years of service. Comm McCollam expressed his gratitude stating that he enjoyed being part of a commission that "really made a difference". Chairman Duff stated the unfortunate situation of the Commission having to endure the noise and disturbance out in the parking lot caused by another department in the building while attempting to conduct interviews, a situation which according to Comm McCollam would not have arisen if the meetings could have been held as they once were at the Police Department.

At 9:08 motion by Comm McCollam to adjourn; seconded by Comm Kolwicz - unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,



Ferdinand Miller Jr  
Secretary