



POLICE COMMISSION

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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BETHEL POLICE COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, APR 18, 2012
BETHEL POLICE DEPARTMENT-CONFERENCE ROOM

ATTENDING: CHAIRMAN NICHOLAS ELLIS
VICE CHAIRMAN HUGO GRECO
COMMISSIONER DAN GROSSO
COMMISSIONER MIKE DUFF
CHIEF JEFFREY FINCH

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER CHRIS MCCOLLAM

Chairman Nick Ellis opened the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

1. General Public Comments

Ann Cleary of 2 Eagle Rock Hill presented Chairman Ellis with an egg timer.

2. Review of Past Minutes for 3/21/12 and 4/5/12

Motion by Comm Greco to accept the minutes of the special meeting of 4/5/12; seconded by Comm Grosso – unanimous.

Motion by Comm Greco to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of 3/21/12; seconded by Comm Greco – unanimous.

Comm Duff reported the Taylor Ave rock as having been successfully removed (see minutes 2/15/12 New Business).

3. Budget Report

Chief Finch stated that overtime continues to climb but is within projections. The Chief also explained how a small change in activity over the 21 shifts in a week can cause a wide fluctuation in overtime expense. \$240K to \$245K will be spent for overtime this fiscal year. Motion by Comm Greco to approve the budget report as presented; seconded by Comm Grosso – unanimous.

Comm Duff complimented Off Perun for his patience in his handling of a situation involving an “excitable lady” at the Post Office.

4. Old Business

a) Monthly Reports

Motion by Comm Duff to accept the monthly reports as written; seconded by Comm Greco – unanimous.

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b) Budget 2012 – 2013 update

Chief Finch stated that none of the \$25K cut from the budget has been returned by the Board of Finance. A brief discussion ensued about the authority of a board to specify which line items should be cut. Chairman Ellis stated that the First Selectman and Town Council agrees and that this issue will be addressed at a future charter revision meeting.

5. New Business

a) CT Challenge Bike Ride – 7/28/12

In his letter Capt Cedergren reported this ride has been held for the past seven years with no problems. It arrives northbound on Rt53, then onto Nashville Rd. The required insurance certificate has been obtained, and awaits only Commission approval. Motion by Chairman Ellis to accept Capt Cedergren's recommendation to approve the Ct Challenge Bike Ride of 7/28/12; seconded by Comm Grosso – unanimous.

Chief Finch asked that two new items be added to the agenda. Motion by Chairman Ellis to add "Bike Signs" to New Business as item b; seconded by Comm Greco – unanimous. Motion by Chairman Ellis to add "Speed Bumps" to New Business as item c; seconded by Comm Greco – unanimous.

b) Bike Signs

Lt Dickinson presented three variations of the bike/pedestrian signs as discussed in the 2/15/12 meeting (New Business sec 5c) and the 3/21/12 meeting (Old Business sec 4 b). Two were in a landscape and one a portrait format. Pictured is a cyclist, a pedestrian and a car with the wording "Share the Road" and "Live and Let Live". The Commission made suggestions concerning font size and Town of Bethel emblem size. The version decided upon will also be presented to the Bethel Cycle Sport Club since they are providing \$1,000 in funding toward the effort. Comm Grosso stated that he has noticed more courteous "straight line" riding by cyclists in recent weeks.

c) Speed Bumps

Chief Finch reported that Highway is ready to install the two permanent approved speed bumps on Bethpage Rd. On behalf of the Commission, Chairman Ellis told the Chief to go ahead with the understanding that the size and signage would be less than what was originally proposed.

6. Correspondence

None

7. Chief's Report

• Training Report – Monthly

The monthly training report from Lt Kennedy was in the hands of the Commissioners.

- Youth Bureau Grant: Youth officer Lynn Morris applied for a “Play by the Rules” grant based on a grant opportunity letter received by Chief Finch.
- LPR (license plate reader) obtained via a grant has been installed.
- Police Officer Recruitment Test – May 5th.

6. Commissioner Comments

Comm Duff reasserted his praise of Off Tom Perun in handling a delicate situation at the Post Office.

Comm Greco complimented the recent Awards Dinner held at Capallaro's Grove on 4/13/12.

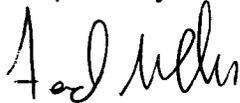
Chairman Ellis stated that the Department will miss Capt Cedergren and wished him well in his new endeavor.

At 6:45 motion by Chairman Ellis to go back into executive session to talk about the position of Captain and invite Chief Finch to attend; seconded by Comm Greco – unanimous.

At 7:00 the Commission came out of executive session.

At 7:00 motion by Comm Greco to adjourn; seconded by Comm Grosso – unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ferdinand Miller Jr

Secretary