



# POLICE COMMISSION

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

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING  
BETHEL POLICE COMMISSION  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 2012  
BETHEL POLICE DEPARTMENT-CONFERENCE ROOM

ATTENDING: CHAIRMAN NICHOLAS ELLIS  
VICE CHAIRMAN HUGO GRECO  
COMMISSIONER CHRIS MCCOLLAM  
COMMISSIONER MIKE DUFF  
CHIEF JEFFREY FINCH

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER DAN GROSSO

RECEIVED  
2012 MAY 21 P 2:54  
TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

Chairman Nick Ellis opened the meeting at 5:06 p.m.  
Chairman Ellis noted this meeting's time change as the reason for its being a *Special Meeting*

- General Public Comments  
Ann Cleary of 2 Eagle Rock Hill read from a prepared statement, part of which recommended the Commission's option of going "outside" in its search for a new captain.
- Review of Past Minutes for 4/18/12  
Comm Greco noted that the minutes of 4/18/12 "Review of Past Minutes" has him seconding his own motion. The motion should read "Motion by Comm Greco to accept the minutes of the special meeting of 4/5/12; seconded by Comm Grosso – unanimous" and "Motion by Comm Greco to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of 3/21/12; seconded by Comm Grosso – unanimous".  
Motion by Comm Greco to accept the minutes of the 4/18/12 with corrections; seconded by Comm Duff with Comm McCollam abstaining due to absence at said meeting – unanimous.
- Budget Report  
Chief Finch stated that 50% of the \$200K in overtime expense is due to Communications. The recent Communications hire is in training and will be on her own in 2-3 weeks. Chairman Ellis questioned the "Other" category, asking if additional designated and defined categories should be added. Chief Finch will provide a break down of the money in the "Other" category for the next meeting. The "Payments Total For the Month In Balance" nomenclature of the Comptroller's disbursement report was noted as being confusing and should say "Total Expenditure" since it is reflective of what has been spent so far for the

year. Lt Dickinson provided the answers to Chairman Ellis' question concerning two additional accounts. Motion by Comm McCollam to accept the budget report as presented; seconded by Comm Duff – unanimous.

4. Old Business

a) Monthly Reports

Chief Finch noted a robbery and several burglaries due to unlocked cars at various locations. Comm McCollam was pleased with the year-to-date column allowing commissioners the ability to follow trends.

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

5. New Business

a) June Commission Meeting

Due to a scheduling conflict, Chief Finch asked that the 6/20/12 scheduled meeting be rescheduled. Commission members will let the Chief and the Chairman know of their availability to attend a 6/26/12 or a 6/28/12 meeting.

6. Correspondence

a) Premiere Flooring – Bethel

Letter complimenting Sgt Libertini regarding a recent incident.

Letter from a Brookfield resident complimenting Off O'Farrell for the "professional treatment" received in regards to an issue. Both letters will be placed in the officer's files.

7. Chief's Report

• Training Report – Monthly

The monthly training report from Lt Kennedy was in the hands of the Commissioners. Much training is "affordable" according to the Chief, but the future cost affect is unclear as the Academy is going to start charging for the courses as of July. Chairman Ellis questioned the noted suspension of training due to the low balance in this account asking if anything important will be held up. Chief Finch answered no and stated that it is not unusual to do this at the end of a fiscal year until the new budget kicks in. (on 7/1/12).

• Recruitment Test of 5/5/12

47 out of 81 passed the written test. Lt Kennedy and Sgt Bruckenthal held interviews and will recommend 12 or more to the Chief and the Commission for review out of which 5 to 6 will be interviewed by the Commission during a special meeting.

6. Commissioner Comments

Comm Duff questioned the advice of the "Wellness" sheets handed out to Department employees taking exception to the non recommendation of PSA and other tests for prostate cancer screening.

Comm McCollam complimented dispatcher Mort Gutman and MACO Steven Shanley for their handling of a stray dog situation on Plumtrees Rd. The Commissioner also recommended that six officers attend one day training course for the 6-wheel Ranger which will be available to both the fire and police departments. Twelve firemen have already attended the course.

At 6:30 motion by Chairman Ellis to go into executive session to talk about drug investigations, the position of Captain and evaluation of Police Chief and for portions of the session invite Chief Finch, two officers from the Detective Bureau and the First Selectman to attend; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous.

At 7:15 the Commission came out of executive session.

At 7:15 motion by Comm McCollam that the Commission authorize the Chairman to meet with the First Selectman for the purpose of discussing evaluation and contract extension for the Chief of Police; seconded by Comm Greco – unanimous.

At 7:20 motion by Comm Greco to adjourn; seconded by Comm Duff – unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ferdinand Miller Jr.", written in black ink.

Ferdinand Miller Jr

Secretary