



# POLICE COMMISSION

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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
BETHEL POLICE COMMISSION  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2013  
BETHEL POLICE DEPARTMENT-CONFERENCE ROOM

ATTENDING: CHAIRMAN MIKE DUFF  
VICE CHAIRMAN HUGO GRECO  
COMMISSIONER RICHARD KOLWICZ  
COMMISSIONER CHRIS MCCOLLAM  
CHIEF JEFFREY FINCH

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER DAN GROSSO

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TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

Chairman Mike Duff opened the meeting at 6:05 p.m. The Commission pledged allegiance to the flag.

1. General Public Comments  
None
2. Review of Past Minutes for 5/15/13  
Motion by Comm Kolwicz to accept the minutes of 5/15/13; seconded by Comm Greco – passed with Comm McCollam abstaining due to absence at said meeting.
3. Budget Report  
Commissioners considered the budget report. Chief Finch noted higher than normal expenditures because of the many expenses come due at the end of the fiscal year. The major \$60K overage is due to \$40K Communications staffing and \$20K school security. The Board of Education's portion of the latter expense was discussed.  
Motion by Comm Greco to accept the Budget Report as presented; seconded by Comm Kolwicz – unanimous.

Motion by Comm Greco to move Chief's Report-Taser Report into Executive Session under Security Brief; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous

Motion by Comm McCollam to move Executive Session #9 on the agenda up to 3a; seconded by Comm Kolwicz – unanimous

Motion by Comm Greco to invite Chief Finch and Capt Bruckenthal to attend executive session; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous

a) Executive Session

At 6:15 the Commission went into executive session for a security brief and to interview a new officer candidate.

At 7:17 the Commission came out of executive session.

Motion by Comm McCollam that Vincent LaJoie be offered employment as a police officer conditional upon a satisfactory background investigation and such other standard and regular requirements of the State of Connecticut and the Town of Bethel; seconded by Comm Kolwicz – unanimous.

4. Old Business

a) Monthly Reports

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

b) Rt58 Culvert Construction

This was approved from a police perspective in a previous meeting (4/17/13 item 6e). Previously approved for a Friday through Sunday work, the contractor has additionally requested closing Rt58 Monday to complete the project. Chairman Duff noted the disruptive effect this could cause.

5. New Business

a) Bethel Summer Festival July 12-14<sup>th</sup>

A decision was made by the organizers to not close Greenwood Av for the Bethel Summer Festival. Instead PT Barnum Sq will be taken over for the event similar to the way it is done annually for the tree lighting festival according to Capt Bruckenthal.

b) Site Plan – Grassy Plain

Request from Planning & Zoning for a 5 year residential housing complex, Village Commons of Bethel, at 55 Grassy Plain St between Rt302 and Drummers La. In his report Capt Bruckenthal reviewed the proposal and noted no issues conflicting with public safety and recommends approval of the plan pending approval by the State because it is a State road.

Motion by Comm McCollam to concur with Capt Bruckenthal's recommendation and forward it on to the appropriate board; seconded by Comm Greco – unanimous.

c) Policy – Revisions

Chief Finch presented copies of modifications to four policies, changes indicated by yellowed-in sentences. Mostly “housekeeping” changes according to the Chief which entails slight change in language or clarification by redefinition.

Extra Duty 2000-06. Addresses differences concerning extra work at a fixed \$ vs police overtime at time + ½ with language clarification, dress code and performance requirements.

Assistance to Victims and Witnesses 2007-04 broke out death notifications into its own policy 2013-01 due to State standard and the Academy issuing a policy of their own.

Death Notifications 2013-01. Language based upon the Academy or POST (Police Officer Standard Training) policy reflecting statewide mandate. Language also indicates it important not to delay notification overlong waiting for clergy to accompany the notifying officer.

Photo Identification 2010-02. Department directions based upon law passed last year as well as POST mandatory policy, use of must-use specific forms.

Detainment of Prisoners 2005-03. Clarifies issues impacted by the law concerning the new definition of juveniles.

Sick, Vacation and Other Benefit Time 2003-05. Clarifies language concerning advance vacation planning.

Motion by Comm McCollam the following General Orders dated 6/19/13 be accepted as presented: 2000-06 Extra Duty Work, 2007-04 Assistance to Victims and Witnesses, 2013-01 Death Notifications, 2010-02 Photo Identification, 2005-03 Detainment of Prisoners and 2003-05 Sick, Vacation and Other Benefit Time; seconded by Comm Greco – unanimous.

6. Correspondence

a) CT Police Academy

Sgt Wright was officially accepted by POST as an official polygraph analyst.

b) Rt6, Stony Hill Inn

Previously approved, notification received of a separate development for an assisted living unit across from Weed Rd along McNeil Rd.

7. Chief's Report

• Training Report – Monthly

Lt Dickinson's monthly report was in the hands of the Commissioners. Also noted is Bill May's graduation next Monday from the Academy. He will begin field officer training at that time. Offs Morris, Farina and Burns attended a school safety seminar.

• Taser Report

Addressed in Executive Session

• Department Police Dog

Police dog Asco is expected to be retired next spring. A possible donor has come forward for a portion of the cost of a replacement police dog and training. This needs to be supplemented by \$4K according to the Chief. Chief Finch asked the Commission's approval to approach the First Selectman and Comptroller for the money. The time and effort involved in the acquisition

process would mean a Fall class likely. A Dog handler also need to be identified and assigned.

8. Commissioner Comments

Comm Greco filled the Commission in on Comm Grosso's physical problems  
Comm McCollam asked for prayers for the commissioner

At 8:00 motion by Comm Kolwicz to adjourn; seconded by Comm Greco –  
unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ferd Miller Jr".

Ferdinand Miller Jr  
Secretary