



# POLICE COMMISSION

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

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
BETHEL POLICE COMMISSION  
WEDNESDAY, APR 20, 2011  
BETHEL POLICE DEPARTMENT-CONFERENCE ROOM

ATTENDING: CHAIRMAN NICHOLAS ELLIS  
COMMISSIONER HUGO GRECO  
COMMISSIONER DAN GROSSO  
COMMISSIONER CHRIS McCOLLAM  
CHIEF JEFFREY W FINCH

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER BILL OCHS

Comm Ochs was absent because of family obligations in the South.

Chairman Nicholas Ellis opened the meeting at 6:15 p.m. First Selectman Matt Knickerbocker was in attendance.

- General Public Comments:  
Ann Cleary of 2 Eagle Rock Hill Rd complained about "biased and incorrect case reporting" concerning a car accident report on 2/23/07. She asked that she be allowed to attach her own supplements to cases in which she was involved. Ms. Cleary asked the Chairman to attach her notes to these minutes, a request to which Chairman Ellis agreed. See Addendum.
- Review Past Minutes 3/16/11  
Motion by Comm Greco to accept the minutes of 3/16/11; seconded by Comm Grosso – motion passed with Comm McCollam abstaining due to his absence at this minutes.
- Budget Report  
Chief Finch stated he is still attempting to obtain financial reports comparable to those issued by the previous comptroller. Formatting problems appear to be the cause. First Selectman Knickbocker stated that problems still exist in the transition of one software product to another. Several pages were noted as missing which the Chief stated will be complete at the next meeting. Chairman Ellis stated he was not comfortable in approving expenses based on inadequate information. To-date overtime is still high, the large part due to communication staffing expenses. Motion by Comm Grosso to approve the budget report as presented; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous.

Motion by Comm McCollam to move up item 6, Correspondence as item 4 and item 9, Executive Session as item 5; seconded by Chairman Ellis – unanimous.

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TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

Motion by Chairman Ellis to accept the Special Meeting minutes of 3/24/11; seconded by Comm Grosso – motion passed with Comm McCollam abstaining due to his absence at this meeting.

#### 4. Correspondence

Chief Finch presented a letter of gratitude on behalf of the Police Department to R. Verdi, whose donation of lights on behalf of Verdi Construction, represented the finishing touch in the transformation of this bus to a police command vehicle. This has been an ongoing project for some time representing considerable effort, the entire project overseen by Capt Cedergren. The Chief also mentioned other past contributions by Mr. Verdi including police radios and a high tech rifle.

The meeting adjourned for 20 minutes so Commission members, the public and members of the press could view the command vehicle parked in front of the Department.

#### 5. Executive Session

At 6:49, motion by Chairman Ellis to go into executive session to discuss contractual issues and invite Chief Finch, Matt Knickbocker and Attorney Shea to attend; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous.

At 7:38 the Commission came out of executive session.

#### 6. Old Business

##### a) Monthly Reports

Comm McCollam commented on the big jump in criminal arrests for 18 year olds and up. Chief Finch stated this indicative of what is going on in the country due to the economic conditions compared to previous years. Motion by Comm Greco to accept the monthly reports as presented; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous.

#### 7. New Business

##### a) General Order Revisions

Eight revisions were considered by the Commission.

2000-05 Use of Force. Clarifications were made. “Executive Officer” title change replaced “Field Operations Officer; “internal investigations update”. Motion by Comm McCollam to approve revisions to 2000-05 Use of Force; seconded by Comm Grosso – unanimous.

2003-02 Family Violence. Update to an existing policy. Added were “U-Visa” protection from deportation”; “tazer” added to list of on-sight weapons officers have a right to seize; “conditions of release set by officers consistent with case at hand”. Motion by Comm Greco to approve revisions to 2003-02 Family Violence; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous.

2005-01 Arrest. Motion by Chairman Ellis to approve revisions to 2005-01 Arrest; seconded by Comm Grosso – unanimous.

2006-12 Warrant less Searches. Motion by Comm McCollam to approve changes to 2006-12 Warrant less Searches; seconded by Comm Grosso – unanimous.

2007-04 Assistance to Victims and Witnesses. “U-Visa” protection from deportation was added. Motion by Chairman Ellis to approve revisions to 2007-04 Assistance to Victims and Witnesses; seconded by Comm Grosso – unanimous.

2007-25 Property and Evidence. Small changes clarifying authority and responsibility of property room officer (Detective Sergeant) and his designee, computerized records and identification of property. Motion by Comm Greco to approve revisions to 2007-25 Property and Evidence; seconded by Chairman Ellis – unanimous.

2007-26 Collection and Presentation of Evidence. Minor changes naming the Captain as executive officer; clarifying duties of officers to oversee and assist when State Major Crime Unit is collecting and cataloging evidence; interaction with forensic lab. Motion by Comm McCollam that 2007-26 Collection and Presentation of Evidence be accepted; seconded by Comm Grosso Ellis – unanimous.

2000-02 Deer Accidents. Minor changes clarifying how to humanely dispatch injured deer and how to dispose of the carcass afterwards. Motion by Comm Greco to accept the revisions to 2000-02 Deer Accidents; seconded by Comm McCollam Ellis – unanimous.

#### 8. Chief's Report

Lt Kennedy's training report was in the hands of Commissioners. MRT and EMR recertification is currently going on.

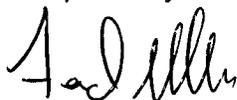
The Chief referenced a recent burglary with the burglar caught on the scene facilitated by the effective use of Police Officer Canine Asco.

#### 9. Commissioner Comments

Comm McCollam stated the need to begin the process of replacement in advance of Asco's retirement when the time comes.

At 8:30 motion by Comm Greco to adjourn; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ferdinand Miller Jr

Secretary

COHEN  
and  
WOLF  
PC  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

As I also explained to you today, I have been in touch with the State's Attorney's Office and a captain at the Bethel Police Department about my going to view any videotape that department has on Tuesday morning.

JOSEPH G. WALSH, ESQ.

part of another letter attached to this one.

2007

**COPY**

State's Attorney's Office  
146 White Street  
Danbury, CT 06810

RE: State of Connecticut v. Ann

To whom it may concern:

[Redacted] serve a formal discovery request, [Redacted]

I personally went to the Bethel Police Dept. within (2 weeks) after the incident for information and any/all including cell video, Captain Cederberg denied me, knowing at that time 1st attorney was drop. The attorney was no a crimina. attorney

My client was told at the scene by the arresting officer (Police Officer Olmstead) that there was a videotape of this incident. She also believes that there may have been some video of the several hours that she spent in the lockup at Bethel Police Department following this incident. Please let me know if there is a videotape of any part of this incident or her stay at Bethel Police Department; and, if so, please preserve that tape(s).

Also, there was a witness at the scene with Ms. [Redacted] who spoke with the police. His name, though, was not listed in the police report, as far as I could see. I would like to know whether the police wrote down this individual's name anywhere. Perhaps, his name simply did not make it into the final report.

Eventually, Not able to be seen by my attorney, Thank you.

Very truly yours,  
Joseph G. Walsh  
Ann

officer Olmstead #68

Also, driver (at fault) Lee OKh witnessed and had a phone/video. All ignored, but report says assaultor Michael Jansen (renter) plumtree's Heights friend-neighbor Bailey (in same bldg) had alleged video officers ignored assault my complaints.

Officers Olmstead #68 grossly mistreated me in retaining cell, while officer Hupp watched. Also, I want accident scene videos on assault was made on ME!!!

1115 BROAD STREET  
158 DEER HILL AVENUE

Addendum

Correspondence - Attach following public speaking.  
BPC mtg  
4-20-11  
Ann Cleary  
2 Eagle Rock Hill Rd  
Bethel, Conn 0680

11-23-09

Bethel Police Commissioner

Chairman Nicholas Ellis

acknowledges the chief (BPD

Jeffrey W. Finch, stating,

(also on behalf of officer Brian Olmstead) that

they never confiscated

the alleged home video

of 2-23-2007, nor

in-house cell areas, recording:

2-23-2007, involving an

car accident, not Ann Cleary =

fault per report and ~~arrest~~

2-23-2007.

signed by Nick Ellis  
BPC 11/23/09