



# POLICE COMMISSION

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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
BETHEL POLICE COMMISSION  
WEDNESDAY, APR 16, 2014  
BETHEL POLICE DEPARTMENT-CONFERENCE ROOM

ATTENDING:

CHAIRMAN MIKE DUFF  
COMMISSIONER RICHARD KOLWICZ  
COMMISSIONER ANTHONY RUBINO  
COMMISSIONER CHRIS MCCOLLAM  
CHIEF JEFFREY FINCH

Chairman Duff opened the meeting at 6:02 p.m. The Commission pledged allegiance to the flag.

1. General Public Comments  
Ann Cleary of 2 Eagle Rock Hill Rd complained about defamatory comments and out-of-place written correspondence not being entered into the minutes.
2. Review of Past Minutes for 3/19/14  
Motion by Comm Kolwicz to accept the minutes of 3/19/14; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous.
3. Budget Report
  - a) Comptrollers Report  
Commissioners considered the reports and noted nothing out of the ordinary.
  - b) Overtime Report  
Commissioners considered the reports. Chief Finch stated grant items which are 75% to 100% reimbursed distort the report and could easily be separated out to make expense dollars more realistic. Year-to-date overtime is \$46K less than last year due to full dispatch staffing.
4. Old Business
  - a) Monthly Reports  
Commissioners considered the reports. Though many arrests are shown, the UCR portion of the report show no robberies, motor vehicle thefts or felony assaults.
  - b) Kristy Dr  
(See minutes of 1/15/14 item 1a and minutes of 3/19/14 item 4c). Lt Dickinson reported Public Works as meeting with the involved homeowners to discuss

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improving the sight line by milling down part of the offending embankment and reseeded the bared ground.

First Selectman Knickerbocker reported on the progress of the proposed new police department and meetings leading hopefully up to a public referendum in November.

5. New Business

a) General Orders

2000-01 Profiling. Brings up-to-date changes in State law concerning motor vehicle stop profiling. The Chief described the new forms filled out for every stop which are filed into a State computer database.

2001-01 Alarm Procedures. Concerning mainly banks, this clarification and language change affects some confidential instructions of employee and officer behavior. Chairman Duff asked the all the banks be approached on this.

2003-04 Rules of Conduct. What is expected of police officers and other employees. Minor terminology changes consolidates similar topics.

2007-06 Injuries and Death. Concerns line-of-duty deaths. Minor language changes prompted by State policy concerning family death notification procedures.

Motion by Comm McCollam that the following General Orders for revisions dated 4/16/14 be accepted as presented: 2000-01, 2001-01, 2003-04 and 2007-06; seconded by Comm Kolwicz – unanimous.

b) Greenwood Av Crosswalk

Lt Dickinson stated the State's plan to repave Greenwood Av. While the State will repaint the center line, cross walks, railroad markings and stop bars, upon review one of the mid-block crosswalks between PT Barnum Sq and Library Pl shows no approval by the Police Commission. Lt Dickinson reviewed the crosswalks in question and finds them well positioned and with a "good history". The lieutenant asked that in motion, the Commission approve the mid-block crosswalks in question. The lieutenant will follow this up with a letter to that effect to the State.

Motion by Comm McCollam that the Commission approve the crosswalks between PT Barnum Sq and Library Pl; seconded by Comm Rubino – unanimous  
A discussion ensued concerning the English Apothecary crosswalk and the striping of the former Shaker Block loading zone.

c) Bethel Mile Race May 31<sup>st</sup> @ 7:30 am

The route changed last year (to Durant, Wooster St and back to the Municipal Center) does not interfere with School St traffic. No changes are anticipated this year according to Lt Dickinson.

7. Correspondence

a) A letter from Bruce and Beth Muller of 28 Walnut Hill Rd and David Muller and Michael Daniels of 31 Walnut Hill Rd described the "difficult" and "dangerous" egress from their homes during the bridge reconstruction and expressed their fear of the future when the project is completed that drivers will continue to bypass posted stop signs and increase speeds on what they called an "improved speedway". Lt Dickinson described the stop signs on both sides of the bridge as intended to "meter" traffic across the bridge rather than to control speed. The problem of creating "usable gaps" to allow the Mullers to cross the street to their mailboxes remains unsolvable. Chairman Duff asked about the speed issue and Lt Dickinson stated that traffic data before the bridge project can be compared to a traffic study made after the project is completed. Comm McCollam asked that selective enforcement be employed when the bridge opens.

7. Chief's Report

▪ Training Report – Monthly

Lt Dickinson's monthly training report was in the hands of the Commissioners. Chief Finch noted the full week of training at WestConn during January, February and March for Bethel as well as every Fairfield Cty Department. Comm McCollam asked about the States Attorney Training Course which the Chief explained. Lt Dickinson mentioned the "quick clot" training given Off Zavetsky and Capt Bruckenthal.

8. Commissioner Comments

The Commissioners expressed their sadness over the death of fellow Commissioner Hugo Greco. Comm McCollam stated Hugo was about "faith and family". A great guy who will be missed.

Chairman Duff stated that a meeting is still to be held with Fire Chiefs and Marshall concerning Fire dispatch protocols. Chief Finch stated that certain issues need to be addressed before such a meeting can take place.

At 6:57 motion by Comm Kolwicz to adjourn; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ferdinand Miller Jr  
Secretary