



# POLICE COMMISSION

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MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING  
BETHEL POLICE COMMISSION  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 2014  
BETHEL POLICE DEPARTMENT-CONFERENCE ROOM

RECEIVED

2014 JUL 25 A 11: 24

TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

ATTENDING: CHAIRMAN MIKE DUFF  
COMMISSIONER ANTHONY RUBINO  
COMMISSIONER CHRIS MCCOLLAM  
COMMISSIONER RICHARD BARTON  
CHIEF JEFFREY FINCH

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER RICHARD KOLWICZ

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

1. Review of Past Minutes for 6/18/14  
Motion by Comm Barton to accept the amended minutes of 6/18/14; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous.
2. Budget Report
  - a) 2015 Budget – *final accounting*  
The Town Budget approved after the fourth referendum saw \$10K removed from the Overtime account and \$9.8 K from the Capital account.
3. Old Business
  - a) Monthly Reports  
Commissioners considered the reports. Comm McCollam posed a question concerning the accounting of polygraph charges to outside agencies.
4. New Business
  - a) 2014 Minuteman Challenge Ride, 9/9/14  
Bethel's portion of this much longer ride is on the Rt6 section from Newtown into Danbury. Chief Finch stated that since they will have a State Police escort, the Department needs only make on-duty officers aware of it. Meeting minutes will indicate approval of the ride.  
Motion by Chairman Duff to place into these minutes approval for the Minuteman Challenge group to facilitate their ride through Bethel on Rt6; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous.

5. Correspondence

a) Speed Bumps – Sand Hill Rd

In response to this request for speed bumps to slow traffic on Sand Hill Rd, Lt Dickinson determined that the problem inherent in driveways close to the hill crest is that drivers pull in and back out of their driveways into difficult to see traffic. Speed bumps will not solve this site line issue. As far as crossing the road to school bus pick-ups and to mail boxes, residents would be well advised to walk the road on their side up to the hill crest before crossing in order to spot any oncoming traffic. Chairman Duff sees speed bumps as an encumbrance upon a large number of people for the convenience of a few. Comm Barton stated that privately installed properly aligned mirrors could be a solution. The Commission agreed that speed bumps would not be justified. Per Lt Dickinson, the request for signage at the indicated curve has been passed onto the STC engineer who will forward his solution.

b) Old Shelter Rock Rd – One Way

This proposal to make Old Shelter Rock Rd one-way due to its condition and narrowness is seen by Lt Dickinson as not justified. One problem arising from its having been one-way during the Walnut Hill bridge construction was the 30° turn off Shelter Rock Rd for south bound cars turning onto Walnut Hill Rd. That the road has been two-way for many years without accidents is also a compelling reason for leaving it as is. The road is shortly to be repaved and in the process slightly widened according to Lt Dickinson.

Motion by Comm McCollam to table this request; seconded by Comm Barton – unanimous.

c) Ms Desposito – The Summit

Chief Finch responded with a thank you letter.

d) Donation, E. Reelick – Hollandia

Chief Finch responded with a thank you letter for the donation and an idea for cameras.

6. Chief's Report

Chief Finch reported Police Union negotiations as being at a stand still.

A new professionally designed Police App (website) will be available within the month.

A certified and several non certified people are being considered for the vacant dispatcher position.

7. Commissioner Comments

Comm McCollam wished Comm Kolwicz the best on his recent surgery.

Chairman Duff recommended the new website include a section for the obtaining of police related forms. Also a section considering a "what if (situation happened)".

Chief Finch and the Commission discussed the current effort to promote the new building proposal, expenses coming out of donation monies.

Parking space marking associated with the repaving of Greenwood Av was discussed especially the side of the old St Mary's Church resulting in three possible options: mark no parking areas only to protect driveway access; full parking marking; no markings. Comm McCollam stressed the need to include the Town Engineer at meetings concerning this issue.

8. Executive Session

At 7:04 motion by Chairman Duff to go into executive session to discuss school safety and invite Chief Finch to attend; seconded by Comm Farina – unanimous

At the Commission came out of executive session

At motion by Comm to adjourn; seconded by Comm – unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ferdinand Miller Jr  
Secretary