



POLICE COMMISSION

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MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
BETHEL POLICE COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, NOV 19, 2014
BETHEL POLICE DEPARTMENT-CONFERENCE ROOM

RECEIVED
NOV 21 P 2:16
TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

ATTENDING:

CHAIRMAN MIKE DUFF
COMMISSIONER ANTHONY RUBINO
COMMISSIONER RICHARD KOLWICZ
COMMISSIONER CHRIS MCCOLLAM -
(Arrived late, present for item #3 on)
COMMISSIONER RICHARD BARTON
CHIEF JEFFREY FINCH

Chairman Duff opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. The Commission pledged allegiance to the flag.

1. Sergeant's Promotion

George Bryce was officially sworn in as Sergeant by Town Clerk Lisa Bergh

Motion by Chairman Duff to add to Old Business as item 5b: Greenwood Ave and Depot PI update; New Business item 6b: 2015 Meeting Schedule; New Business item 6c: Intersection at Old Hawleyville Rd; seconded by Comm Kolwicz - unanimous

2. General Public Comments

First Selectman Knickerbocker congratulated George Bryce for his promotion to Sergeant; thanked Chief Finch, Capt Bruckenthal and Sgt Durkin for participation in public outreach program concerning the new police station. A town meeting will be held 12/2/14 to establish a referendum date concerning this item with a target referendum date of 12/9/14. In reference to no-truck-turn on Depot PI (see minutes 10/22/14 6b) the First Selectman favored sending trucks down to the intersection at Greenwood and Chestnut for access onto South St where "a wide sweeping turn" does not endanger the public or public property. Also while there is no sidewalk on the south side of Rt302 at Rt58 the State has put in a crosswalk to nowhere while there is no crosswalk to cross Judd Ave to other side where there is a school crosswalk. Needed is a signal for pedestrians crossing the street. The Selectman also requested the sign appearing in several towns "3' Please It's The Law" showing a cyclist next to a car with an arrow in-between to be posted with the existing diamond shaped bicycle sign. This reminds drivers

of the recently passed State Statute requiring a three foot minimum separation distance to cyclists. Strategic placement would be better than a plethora of signs

Ann Cleary of 5 Eagle Rock Hill Rd spoke about personal issues of concern to her.

3. Review of Past Minutes 10/22/14

Motion by Comm Kolwicz to accept the minutes of 10/22/14; seconded by Comm Barton – unanimous.

4. Budget Report

a) Comptrollers Report & Overtime Reports

Commissioners considered the reports from their packets. While there is no Comptrollers Report due to Capt Bruckenthal being away at classes, Chief Finch noted that overtime has come down by \$26K year-to-date from last fiscal year. The new dispatcher, in training, should be on his own in the next few weeks.

Motion by Comm McCollam to accept the Budget Report as written; seconded by Comm Barton – unanimous.

5. Old Business

a) Monthly Reports

Chief Finch noted this is a thankfully “slow” month in a “slow” year concerning criminal activity. A special report concerning 2014 burglaries was included as part of the Commissioner’s packet. Also included were graphs on motor vehicle activity on cars stopped and tickets issued.

b) Greenwood Ave & Depot PI

Lt Dickinson reported he is in communication with a State Safety Engineer who will initiate the investigation of the Greenwood Ave & Depot PI intersection as well as the crosswalk in front of Dolan Plaza (see minutes of 10/22/14 item 9). Chairman Duff asked if the First Selectman request (see General Public Comments, these minutes) for a pedestrian crossing light could also be added to the State Safety Engineer’s list. Lt Dickinson pointed out other options than a crossing light to address this issue. Also noted was the in-place request that Town Highway paint the aforementioned missing crosswalk and that the State upgrade the Judd Ave/Rt58 light emphasizing children as pedestrians. As for the Dolan Plaza crossing the lieutenant pointed out the issues of closeness to a major driveway, the wide road width, the bus stop and parking markings. Chairman Duff favored a traffic light phased with the light at Greenwood and Library PI.

6. New Business

a) Location of Meetings

In the future scheduled Police Commission meetings will be held in the Municipal Center, Room A at 6:00. Chairman Duff will look into obtaining the necessary keys for himself and Chief Finch in case the building is locked.

b) 2015 Meeting Schedule

Continuing with the third Wednesday of each month the following dates are:

Jan 21 st	May 20 th	Sep 16 th	Jan 20 th (2016)
Feb 18 th	Jun 17 th	Oct 21 st	
Mar 18 th	Jul 15 th	Nov 18 th	
Apr 15 th	Aug 19 th	Dec 16 th	

Motion by Comm Kolwicz to accept the schedule of 2015 meetings as stated above; Seconded by Comm Barton – unanimous.

7. Correspondence
None
8. Chief's Report
Matters deferred to Executive Session
9. Commissioner Comments
Comm Barton praised the Department's commitment to officer training.
Chairman Duff wished traffic overall would slow down.
Chief Finch reported on his communication with retired Sgt Jim Wright
10. Executive Session:
At 6:54 motion by Comm McCollam to go into executive session and invite Chief Finch to attend; seconded by Comm Barton – unanimous.

At 7:15 the Commission came out of executive session

At 7:16 motion by Comm Kolwicz to adjourn; seconded by Comm Barton – unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ferdinand Miller Jr
Secretary