



POLICE COMMISSION

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JAN 22 2008

TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BETHEL POLICE COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, JAN 16, 2008
BETHEL POLICE DEPARTMENT-CONFERENCE ROOM

ATTENDING: CHAIRMAN NICHOLAS ELLIS
COMMISSIONER ANDREW MATTURRO
COMMISSIONER CHRIS McCOLLAM
COMMISSIONER HUGO GRECO
COMMISSIONER BILL OCHS
CHIEF JEFFREY W. FINCH

Chairman Nicholas Ellis opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m.
Noted by Comm Maturro was the erroneous date of this meeting's agenda. The date should have been Jan 16, 2008

1. General Public Comments:
None
2. Review of Past Minutes Dec 19, 2007 and Jan 2, 2008:
Motion by Comm Greco to accept the minutes of 12/19/07 Regular Meeting; seconded by Comm Maturro – unanimous.
Motion by Comm Maturro to accept the minutes of 1/2/08 Special Meeting; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous
3. Budget Report:
Chairman Ellis questioned account 360 Professional Services as being below the budgeted amount. Lt Dickinson, in attendance, stated that a lot depends on when the contract is up and when the services required are due. Motion by Comm Maturro to accept the budget report; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous.
4. Old Business:
 - a) Monthly reports
Comm McCollam questioned the report which summarizes incoming fees for special accounts, specifically that portion which remains with the Department and that which goes to the Town General Fund or the State. Alarm response fees, bazaar/raffle permit fees, fingerprint charges, pistol permit fees, impound fees, parking fines, record check charges and report charges go to the Town or the State. Dare donations, equipment donations and MACO donations remain within the Department. Motion by

Chairman Ellis to accept the monthly reports as presented;
seconded by Comm Greco – unanimous.

5. New Business:

a) Site Plan 13 Shelter Rock Rd

In his letter Capt Cedergren notes that the two residential lots, across from McGower Park extending to Payne Rd do not impact on traffic or police operations. Also adequate sight lines exist on this straight road as long as builders cut brush at driveway sides.

Motion by Chairman Ellis to accept Capt Cedergren's letter and forward it to Planning and Zoning; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous.

b) Deaf Child sign – Terry Dr

This request from a Terry Dr resident is for a "Deaf Child" sign on 14 Sunset Hill, the residence where the deaf child will also be residing as a result of a shared custody agreement. Having studied the area and finding the road straight and the accident rate low, Lt Dickinson recommends the posting of a sign. Comm McCollam questioned the procedure if the parents and the deaf child should move away. Lt Dickinson stated that the request is periodically renewed. Motion by Comm Maturro to accept Lt Dickinson's recommendation and install the Deaf Child sign; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous.

c) Danbury Hospital Emergency traffic signage

Lt Dickinson described this request from Danbury Hospital for emergency traffic signage as being addressed from an emergency management standpoint since schools are a shelter area and it is a good area for crisis logistics equipment. Signage will be from Whittlesey with two route options, one to the center of town and the other toward Route 6. The study before the Commission lists ten signs, five of which are already in place. This proposal will go before HVCO for final approval once the local traffic authority, the Police Commission, gives its approval. Motion by Comm Greco to erect hospital signs per Lt Dickinson's recommendation; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous.

Comm Maturro left the meeting at 5:45 to attend a Fire Department wake.

d) Budget - 2008 to 2009

Chief Finch has been working with Chairman Ellis and Comm McCollam in formulating the 2008 – 2009 budget for presentation to the Board of Finance in February. While both commissioners need time to resolve some questions the Chairman asked other Commission members for their input. Comm Greco granted his

approval. Chief Finch went through the budget's line items listing dollars and percentage increase from last year's budget. The Chief explained the Department's needs reflected in contractual obligations and anticipated expenses. Chairman Ellis asked that a special meeting be held to finally approve the budget. Overall there a 9.7% budget increase with \$245K in overtime expenses and \$20K approved. If \$70K gets approved for overtime expenses this figure becomes 4.6%.

6. Correspondence:
None

Chief's Report:

Copies of an Officer Diana case were in the hands of the Commissioners.

\$1,220 asset forfeiture from court.

Selective enforcement on Old Hawleyville Rd, Chestnut Ridge, Plumtrees, Wooster St, Knollwood Dr, Vail Rd, Chimney at Hearthstone, Country Way, Plumtrees at Rockwell.

8. Commissioner Comments:
None

At 6:20 motion by Chairman Ellis to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing recent hires, the hiring list and staffing and invite Chief Finch to attend; seconded by Comm Greco – unanimous.to adjourn; seconded by Comm McCollam – unanimous.

The Commission came out of executive session at 7:30

At 7:31 motion by Comm Greco to adjourn; seconded by Comm Ochs - unanimous

Respectfully Submitted



Ferdinand Miller Jr.

Secretary