



# Bethel Police Commission

12 Judd Ave, Bethel Ct 06801

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
BETHEL POLICE COMMISSION  
WEDNESDAY, JAN 15, 2020  
MUNICIPAL CENTER, 1 SCHOOL ST MEETING ROOM "B"

ATTENDING: CHAIRMAN ANTHONY RUBINO  
VICE CHAIRMAN KEVIN CLEARY  
COMMISSIONER PETE VALENTI  
CHIEF JEFFREY FINCH  
COMMISSIONER RICHARD KOLWICZ

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER AMY MANNION

Ofc in attendance = 2  
Civ in attendance = 0

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

1. Public Input:  
None
2. Review of Past Minutes:  
Motion by Comm Cleary to accept the minutes of regular meeting 12/18/19; seconded by Comm Valenti – unanimous with Comm Kolwicz abstaining due to absence.
3. Budget Report:
  - Comptroller's Report  
The Commission considered this abbreviated report. Chairman Rubino asked why Department Collected Funds do not automatically go back to the Department to purchase capital items such as new vehicles. Chief Finch responded that some towns in fact do this but not Bethel. Comm Cleary stated that Bethel departments do not manage their funds. Such monies go into the General Fund.
  - Overtime Reports, Yrs 2018, 2019:  
This report included overtime expenses over two years. The Commissioners discussed differences and discrepancies.
4. Old Business:
  - 10 Nashville Rd Ext Trees  
Lt Libertini reported that a letter had been sent by Bob Dibble to property owner stating it was his duty to maintain his property by cutting down offending trees. It was the

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lieutenant's contention that since the trees were 18 inches from the road it was the Town's responsibility not the property owner's. The Commission agreed.  
Motion by Chairman Rubino that the Town cut down the three trees which pose a hazard to sight lines and a letter stating this demand be sent to Public Works and the First Selectman; seconded by Comm Kolwicz – unanimous.

Motion by Comm Cleary to add Knollwood Dr to Old Business; seconded by Comm Kolwicz – unanimous.

- Knollwood Dr

Lt Libertini reported on traffic data uploaded from recording devices installed on Knollwood Dr. Over a 25 day period the average speed was 5 mph under the speed limit and the 85 percentile was also under the limit. Since the visual display detector was active warning drivers when they were speeding Chairman Rubino and other commissioners asked that another study be performed with the detectors reactivated on Knollwood with the visual device turned off. Lt Libertini stated this will be done.

Motion by Comm Kolwicz to add Timber Oaks to Old Business; seconded by Comm Cleary – unanimous.

- Timber Oaks

Lt Libertini reported that as requested a representative of the State showed up to examine the area in question. Upcoming warning signs can only be applied to public roads. Also it is up to the property owner to remove personal offending vegetation. Lt Libertini reported this to the complainant who stated he plans to follow up with the State.

- Commission Elections for 2020

Motion by Comm Kolwicz to nominate Anthony Rubino for the position of Bethel Police Commission Chairman; seconded by Comm Valenti – unanimous.

Motion by Comm Valenti to nominate Kevin Cleary for the position of Bethel Police Commission Vice-Chairman; seconded by Comm Kolwicz – unanimous.

- Dept Budget 2020 - 2021

Chief Finch reported he removed a few items from the proposed budget of 20-21 amounting to \$30K as the Police Union contract has not yet been finalized.

5. New Business:

- Monthly Reports, UCR

Commissioners considered the year-end report as presented. Overall crime is down though 323 arrests were reported.

- Various 2019 Reports

Various other reports for 2019 show extra work monies collected, officers doing extra work, use of vehicles for extra work, sick/vacation usage days lost, vacation/com time used, short term disability, number of cases 2018/2019 and others.

6. Correspondence:

- Donation – Mancuso Family

For help with ill family member

- Donation – Joan Bertrand  
For animal shelter relating to help with pet.

7. Police Building:

- New Police Headquarters 12 Judd Av

The range remains an issue. An independent architect made a list of needed repairs, many of which cannot be done until Spring after which they will be revisited to see if problems still exist. Capt Pugner will check on the sun shades for dispatch.

8. Chief's Report:

- Sickness & Injury

Ofc Morris will return soon to duty.

Ofc Idorolla back to work doing field training

Ofc Burnes doing well

Charter Commission will meet this month. Among the topics will be allowing the Commission to meet at the police department building. Chief Finch recommended Commission members attend the meeting.

The Chief presented a letter praising Ofc Whaley for her good work in a missing person case. This will go in her personnel.

9. Commissioner Comments:

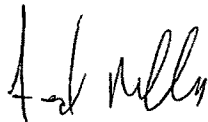
Comm Kolwicz complimented Ofc Tlasky for locating the recent bus fire on Henry St during his shift.

Chairman Rubino reminded commissioners about the new 6:30 starting time

Capt Pugner reported the new radios have arrived.

At 7:05 motion by Comm Kolwicz to adjourn; seconded by Comm Cleary - unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,



Ferdinand Miller Jr  
Secretary