



# Bethel Police Commission

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12 Judd Avenue  
Bethel, CT 06801  
Mr. Anthony Rubino - Chairman

Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Bethel Police Commission  
Wednesday September 16, 2020, 6:30pm  
Bethel Police Dept., 12 Judd Avenue

Attending: Anthony Rubino  
Amy Mannion  
Peter Valenti  
Richard Kolwicz  
Chief Pugner  
Capt. Burnes  
Lt. Durkin  
Absent: Kevin Cleary

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Chairman Rubino called the meeting @ 6:31 pm

## 1. Public Input:

Tim Draper and Ethan Draper of 36 Aunt Patty's Lane West, came to find out why a traffic study was requested for the 47 Shelley Road project. Chairman Rubino agreed to add it to the agenda. Peter Valenti made a motion to put 47 Shelley Road on the agenda under old business. Seconded by Amy Mannion. Vote, all in favor, motion approved unanimously.

## 2. Review of past minutes:

Comm. Kolwicz made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular July 15, 2020 and Special July 22, 2020 meetings. Seconded by Comm. Valenti. Vote, all in favor, motion approved unanimously.

## 3. Budget Report:

Chief Pugner told the commission the finances were now being handled by Capt. Burnes. Chief Pugner explained the Comptroller end of year report showed the Police Dept. came in under budget for the year. The July and August overtime reports showed an increase in overtime because the new dispatcher is still in training, and it is anticipated to be high as another dispatcher will be going out on medical leave for a month. Chairman Rubino asked Chief Pugner to look into other staffing options to help keep OT costs down.

#### **4: Old Business:**

Crosswalk request on Greenwood Ave. near Grand St.: Lt. Durkin contacted CT DOT and they stated there is already a crosswalk near Blackman Ave. for people to use.

Dolan Plaza crosswalk: Lt. Durkin stated CT DOT said it was ok to put a flashing sign at the crosswalk but the Town of Bethel would have to get it through the DOT, costing about \$15,000. The DOT will be getting back to him regarding moving the bus stop located near the entrance. Chairman Rubino made a motion to ask the Town for a flashing sign at the crosswalk and to let them know they will be requesting the bus stop be moved. Seconded by Comm. Kolwicz. Vote, all in favor, motion approved unanimously.

47 Shelley Road: The commission explained their concerns to Mr. Draper and why they recommended a traffic study be done. Mr. Draper stated there has only been 1 accident on the road in the past 10 years and a traffic study is unnecessary. Chairman Rubino asked Lt. Durkin to find out from Newtown if the island at the beginning of the road can be removed. A motion to repeal the request for the traffic study was made by Chairman Rubino. Seconded by Comm. Kolwicz.

#### **5. New Business:**

Monthly UCR reports: Chief Pugner pointed out that DUI's were up in August and that traffic stops and burglaries are down for the year.

Policies: The policy on the Crisis Intervention Team was discussed and it was stated more officers will be sent for training when the State offers it again. Minor changes to the Felony & Call Out policy were pointed out. The motion to accept these policies was made by Comm. Mannion. Seconded by Comm. Kolwicz. Vote, all in favor, motion approved unanimously.

Buckboard/Carriage Dr. Block Party: motion to approve was made by Comm. Mannion. Seconded by Comm. Kolwicz. Vote, all in favor, motion approved unanimously.

Site Plan at 29 Benedict Rd.: Lt. Durkin described the request to build 4 single family homes and stated he found no issues with site lines. A motion to approve was made by Comm. Kolwicz. Seconded by Chairman Rubino. Vote, all in favor, motion approved unanimously.

Street light at Bethel Cinema crosswalk: Lt. Durkin took pictures and showed the commission the existing streetlights don't light up the crosswalk and it is dark. He recommends asking the CT DOT for a street light at the crosswalk. Chairman Rubino made a motion to look into getting one there. Seconded by Comm. Valenti. Vote, all in favor, motion approved unanimously.

#### **6. Correspondence:**

Two separate letters were received thanking and commending Off. Tom Butkier for his work and helpfulness.

#### **7. Chief's Report:**

Chief Pugner updated the commission on personnel and the training progress of the new officers and dispatcher. He also explained current and future concerns with the recently passed law, HB 6004.

After a brief discussion, the motion to adjourn was made at 7:51 pm by Comm. Kolwicz. Seconded by Comm. Valenti. Vote, all in favor, motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda Kavallines".

Linda Kavallines, Recording Secretary