



# Bethel Police Commission

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

## Minutes of Regular Meeting Bethel Police Commission

Video link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6690515605>  
Wednesday November 18, 2020, 6:30pm

Attending: Anthony Rubino  
Kevin Cleary  
Peter Valenti (arrived late @6:49)  
Richard Kolwicz  
Chief Pugner  
Capt. Burnes

Absent: Amy Mannion

Chairman Rubino called meeting @ 6:33 pm

### 1. Public Input:

No public present.

### 2. Review of past minutes:

Motion to approve was made by Comm. Kolwicz, seconded by Chairman Rubino. Vote, all in favor, motion approved.

### 3. Budget Report:

Comptroller Reports were reviewed. Chairman Rubino inquired about the two new cars and equipment cost. Comm. Cleary asked about the price difference of the cars and Chief Pugner explained there was an old vehicle traded in for one of the purchases. Chief Pugner said they are getting numbers together to bring to the Finance Board for the 3<sup>rd</sup> new car. The motion to accept the report was made by Comm. Kolwicz, seconded by Comm. Cleary. Vote, all in favor, motion approved. The Overtime Reports were reviewed by Chief Pugner. He explained overtime was higher due to sickness and quarantining. Comm. Cleary inquired if the State will be reimbursing the Town for overtime and Chief Pugner said he did not believe so but will find out.

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

Police Range Update: Chief Pugner told the commission he spoke to Nancy Ryan and Matt Knickerbocker. They told him a report is pending and being reviewed by the town attorney, and they may be discussing this at the next Building Committee meeting. Chairman Rubino stated his concern that continuous moisture may cause a mold problem. Chief Pugner invited the commission members to come look at the range and to call First Selectman Knickerbocker for questions.

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

Monthly UCR Reports: Chief Pugner noted that traffic stops are down due to limiting public contact because of Covid-19. Chairman Rubino requested a list of officers with their badge numbers because their names are not on the reports. The motion to accept the reports was made by Chairman Rubino, seconded by Comm. Kolwicz. Vote, all in favor, motion approved.

New Policy on Written Communication: Chief Pugner explained the change in policy is for accreditation and the new electronic handling and tracking of General Order distribution to the officers. The motion to accept the new policy was made by Comm. Kolwicz, seconded by Comm. Valenti. Vote, all in favor, motion approved.

CALEA: Chief Pugner and Capt. Burnes explained that CALEA did a remote review of the department files for accreditation, which was successful. CALEA did an in-house review in 2019 so the following three years are done remotely.

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

Chief Pugner added another correspondence to the agenda from Nancy Ryan, the Registrar of Voters. She praised the officers working the polling locations of how well they interacted with the public.

CALEA Letter: A letter was received commending Lt. Libertini for doing a good job with the yearly accreditation review.

Berry School Letter: Danielle Legnard wrote to complement the new SRO Jason Broad.

Ammon Stolen Car: Chief Pugner wrote a Letter of Commendation to Officer Greg Ammon for his handling of stopping a stolen car with three occupants, which he noted was intense and dangerous upon reviewing the video. The commission appreciated Officer Ammon's outstanding job, as well as Sgt. Lajoie and Officer Silva, who assisted with the arrests.

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

Sickness & Injury: Two officers are currently out on quarantine.

Personnel Update: A certified dispatcher from Danbury was hired and will be training soon. The three officers in the academy will be graduating Friday November 20, 2020 and will begin field training next week. The academy coordinator praised them as being three of best officers attending. Rodrigo Fuenzalida is halfway through his academy training and is doing well.

Use of Force Training: This was postponed due to Covid-19.

HB 6004: The chief spoke to State Representative Raghiv Allie-Brennan regarding issues and concerns with the Bill. He said the congress will probably re-open the Bill and make some changes.

**8. Commissioner Comments:**

Comm. Kolwicz inquired about the flashing light at the Dolan Plaza crosswalk. He commended Officers Ammon, Lajoie, and Silva for a job well done.

Comm. Cleary asked about an abandoned car at Plumtrees School House, which now has a sticker on it. Chief Pugner said he will find out why it is there. He also noted that the speed sign by Mecauer Park was not working. Chief Pugner said the officers who are charged to take care of it were both out on quarantine.

Comm. Valenti asked to be brought up to speed on the range since he missed that part of the meeting.

Chairman Rubino wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and commended all the men and women of the Bethel Police Dept. for all they do.

Chief Pugner asked about the upcoming Chairman election. The Commission agreed to have it put on December's Agenda.

The motion to adjourn was made at 7:12 by Comm. Kolwicz, seconded by Comm. Valenti. Vote, all in favor, motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda Kavallines, Recording Secretary