



12 Judd Avenue  
Bethel, CT 06801  
Amy Mannion - Chairman

Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Bethel Police Commission  
Bethel Police Department, 12 Judd Ave.  
Wednesday, January 18, 2022, 6:00 pm

Attending: Amy Mannion, Peter Valenti, Kevin Cleary, Patrick Morton, Chief Pugner, Capt. Burnes, Lt. Durkin, Mark Sieber, Michael Macchi  
Absent: Richard Kolwicz

Chairman Mannion called the meeting @ 6:00 pm

**1. Public Input:**

Mr. Mark Sieber and Mr. Michael Macchi expressed their concerns about the volume of traffic and speeding, and discussed the possibility of installing speed bumps on Hickock Avenue. The Commission recommended that Lt. Durkin conduct a traffic study.

**2. Review of past minutes:**

The motion to approve the minutes from December 21, 2022 was made by Comm. Morton. Seconded by Comm. Valenti. Vote, motion approved. Commissioners Mannion and Cleary abstained.

**3. Budget Report:**

Comptroller and Overtime Reports:

The reports were reviewed and there were no comments.

23/24 Budget update:

Chief Pugner said he will be presenting the budget to the Selectman and Comptroller next

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**Gun Replacement:** Chief Pugner said the replacement of the firearms was approved and they are being ordered.

## **5. New Business:**

The motion to add Whitney Road and Election to New Business was made by Comm. Morton. Seconded by Comm. Valenti. Vote. All in favor, motion approved.

**Monthly Reports, UCR:** There were no questions and a discussion ensued.

**Radio Replacement:** Chief Pugner noted that new car radios have been on the Capital Budget for a number of years, but needs to move up the urgency because they recently ran into the issue of not being able to get parts to fix them. The commissioners agreed that this cannot be delayed and must be brought up at the next Board of Selectman meeting.

**Security Pillars:** Comm. Valenti brought up the concern that pillars are needed on the walkway at the Police Department for security. Comm. Mannion made a motion to look into getting security pillars. Seconded by Comm. Valenti. Vote. All in favor, motion approved.

**New Dispatcher Pay Step:** Chief Pugner recommended that newly hired Dispatcher Eaton be paid at Step C of the union contract since she is already certified and experienced. Comm. Mannion made a motion to start Dispatcher Eaton at Step C pay. Seconded by Comm. Valenti. Vote. All in favor, motion approved.

**Whitney Road:** The original Whitney Road development was denied and a new proposal with more apartments has been submitted. Using the information from the previous recent traffic study, Lt. Durkin still found no potential issues. Comm. Valenti made a motion to accept Lt. Durkin's findings. Seconded by Comm. Morton. Vote. All in favor, motion approved.

**Election:** Comm. Morton nominated Amy Mannion for Chairman. Seconded by Comm. Valenti. Vote. All in favor, motion approved. Comm. Mannion nominated Patrick Morton for Co-Chairman. Seconded by Comm. Valenti. Vote. All in favor, motion approved.

## **6. Correspondence:**

A letter of thanks for professionalism and exemplary work was received for Officer Freeman and Sgt. Cleary.

A letter praising Sgt. May was received.

A generous donation was received for the department.

**Personnel Hiring/Recruitment Update:** Chief Pugner noted there will be 2 officers retiring soon, one of which is a Sgt. There is a promotional Sgt. test scheduled tentatively for March 23<sup>rd</sup> and oral test on March 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **8. Executive Session**

The motion to enter Executive Session for a candidate interview, inviting Chief Pugner and Capt. Burnes, was made by Comm. Mannion at 6:37 pm. Seconded by Comm. Valenti. Executive Session ended at 7:08 pm.

Comm. Mannion made a motion, which was seconded by Comm. Valenti, to offer employment as a Bethel Police Officer to William Paskowski, conditional upon available openings in the Department within the next 60 days, contingent on a satisfactory background investigation, and such other standard and regular requirements of the State of Connecticut and the Town of Bethel. Vote. All in favor, motion approved.

## **9. Commissioner's Comments**

Comm. Morton complimented the helpfulness of officers when on scene for ambulance calls. Comm. Valenti noted the cracks in parking lot.

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Comm. Morton at 7:10 pm. Seconded by Comm. Cleary. Vote, all in favor, motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda Kavallines, Recording Secretary