



# Bethel Police Commission

12 Judd Avenue  
Bethel, CT 06801  
Amy Mannion - Chairman

Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Bethel Police Commission  
Bethel Police Department, 12 Judd Ave.  
Wednesday, February 15, 2023, 6:00 pm

Attending: Peter Valenti, Kevin Cleary, Richard Kolwicz, Patrick Morton, Chief Pugner, Capt. Burnes  
Absent: Amy Mannion

Vice-Chairman Morton called the meeting @ 6:00 pm

## 1. Public Input:

There was no public input.

## 2. Review of past minutes:

Commissioner Morton noted that he was nominated and elected for Vice-Chairman, not Co-Chairman as mentioned in last month's minutes. Correction noted.  
The motion to approve the minutes with the correction from the January 18, 2023 meeting was made by Comm. Cleary. Seconded by Comm. Valenti. Vote, motion approved. Comm. Kolwicz abstained.

## 3. Budget Report:

Comptroller and Overtime Reports: Chief Pugner noted that the budgeted training account is already low because of the higher training costs the state no longer pays for. A discussion followed regarding dispatcher overtime. Comm. Cleary made a motion to approve the reports. Seconded by Comm. Valenti. Vote, all in favor, motion approved.  
23/24 Budget Update: Chief Pugner invited all to the budget presentation at next Tuesday's Board of Selectman meeting.

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

Chief Pugner updated the commission on the following:

Police Range Update: There are no new updates.

Gun Replacement: Some of the guns are in and the rest will be in soon.

Police Radio Update: The proposal for new car radios is on the agenda for the next Board of Selectman meeting.

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

Monthly Reports, UCR: A discussion ensued regarding the past month's traffic stops.

New Officer Pay Step: Chief Pugner recommended that New Hampshire Officer William Paskowski be started at Step 4 of the Union contract when he is hired around March 1, 2023 since is an experienced officer. Comm. Kolwicz made a motion to raise Off. Paskowski's salary to Step 4 upon completion of his Field Training. Seconded by Comm. Morton. Vote, all in favor, motion approved.

New orders: Capt. Burnes and Chief Pugner explained that the changes made to the Use of Force and Domestic Violence policies were because of state mandates. The Traffic Enforcement Policy change reflected using unmarked cars for traffic stops. The motion to accept the changes to the policies, Ch. 5, Section 1 Use of Force, Ch. 7, Section 3 Domestic Violence, and Ch. 8, Section 4 Traffic Enforcement, was made by Comm. Kolwicz. Seconded by Comm. Valenti. Vote, all in favor, motion approved.

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

Chief Pugner commended Off. Freeman and Lt. Bryce for an outstanding job at an FOI meeting last week and will be noting it in their personnel files.

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

Sickness & Injury: Chief Pugner said there are still officers out on injury and military leave.

Personnel Hiring Update/Recruitment Update: Chief Pugner noted that there are 4 interviews for the commission tonight.

Promotional Test: A discussion of the upcoming promotional tests, how they are scored, and then ultimately chosen by the police commission ensued.

#### **8. Executive Session**

At 6:32 pm, the motion to enter Executive Session for candidate interviews, inviting Chief Pugner and Capt. Burnes, was made by Comm. Kolwicz. Seconded by Comm. Valenti. Vote, all in favor, motion approved.

Executive Session ended at 7:58 pm.

Comm. Morton made a motion, which was seconded by Comm. Valenti, to offer employment as a Bethel Police Officer to:

1. Brendan McGrath
2. Minju Kim
3. Nick Roberts
4. Evan Barbara

In such order, 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**

There were no comments.

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Comm. Kolwicz at 7:59 pm. Seconded by Comm. Morton. Vote, all in favor, motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda Kavallines, Recording Secretary