



Bethel Police Commission

12 Judd Avenue
Bethel, CT 06801
Amy Mannion - Chairman

Minutes of Special Meeting
Bethel Police Commission
Bethel Police Department, 12 Judd Ave.
Wednesday October 25, 2023, 6:00 pm

Attending: Amy Mannion, Richard Kolwicz, Patrick Morton, Chief Pugner, Capt. Burnes, Lt. Durkin, Lt. Bryce

Absent: Peter Valenti, Kevin Cleary

Chairman Mannion called the meeting @ 6:00 pm

1. Public Input:

There was no public input.

2. Review of past minutes:

The motion to approve the minutes from the September 20, 2023 regular meeting was tabled until the next meeting.

3. Budget Report:

Comptroller and Overtime Reports: Chief Pugner noted that overtime was high due to staffing levels but should come down soon since there are a few new hires of certified officers.

4: Old Business:

Chief Pugner updated the commission on the following:

Police Range Update: The sprinklers are in and electrical work is being done. It should be completed by January.

Gun Replacement Update: The last two officers are qualifying this week.

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Police Radio Replacement Update: The radios are programmed and installation will begin in November.

K9 Update: Officer Ammon will be done with training in early December.

61 South Street: Lt. Durkin completed the requested speed study and submitted his report to the commission. A discussion ensued. Comm. Kolwicz made a motion to approve the application for the 61 South Street project. Seconded by Comm. Morton. Vote, all in favor, motion approved.

5. New Business:

Monthly Reports, UCR: There were no questions or discussion of the reports.

New Policy: Chief Pugner noted a few small changes in the policy. The motion to accept the revisions in the K9 Police Dogs, Chapter 6, Section 16 policy was made by Comm. Morton. Seconded by Comm. Kolwicz. Vote, all in favor, motion approved.

CALEA Update: Chief Pugner said that he and Lt. Libertini will be going before the CALEA commission next month for the 4 year accreditation award.

New Officer Pay Step: Chief Pugner recommended starting certified officer Jack Cardi at Step 4 of the union contract. The motion to start Officer Jack Cardi at Step 4 of the union contract was made by Comm. Kolwicz. Seconded by Comm. Morton. Vote, all in favor, motion approved.

Special Officer Program: A discussion ensued about bringing on retired Sgt. Vinny Lajoie as a Special Officer. The motion to accept Vinny Lajoie as a Special Officer was made by Comm. Morton. Seconded by Comm. Kolwicz. Vote, all in favor, motion approved.

Turkey Trot: Lt. Durkin said the Turkey Trot Road Race to be held on Thanksgiving was the same as previous years. The motion to approve the Turkey Trot Road Race was made by Comm. Kolwicz. Seconded by Comm. Morton. Vote, all in favor, motion approved.

6. Correspondence:

A complimentary letter referencing Officer Heller and Sgt. Robinson was received from the First Congregational Church of Bethel for the Children's Summer Festival.

7. Chief's Report:

Sickness & Injury: Chief Pugner said that most of the officers that were out on injury are back to full duty but another officer will be going out for a while due to surgery.

Personnel Hiring Update/Recruitment: Chief Pugner noted that he is still advertising for certified officers in anticipation of several potential retirements next year.

8. Executive Session

The motion to enter Executive Session for a new candidate interview, inviting Chief Pugner and Capt. Burnes, was made by Comm. Kolwicz at 6:23 pm.

Executive Session ended at 6:47 pm.

Comm. Kolwicz made a motion, which was seconded by Comm. Morton, to offer employment as a Bethel Police Officer to Karyn Hoffman, conditional upon available openings in the Department within the next 30 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 commented that a resident noted there were no stop lines on several roads near Wolfpits Road and Buckboard Ridge Road. He also brought up parking concerns near the Municipal Center.

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Comm. Kolwicz at 6:54 pm. Seconded by Comm. Mannion. Vote, all in favor, motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda Kavallines, Recording Secretary