



Bethel Police Commission

12 Judd Avenue
Bethel, CT 06801
Anthony Rubino - Chairman

Minutes of Special Meeting
Bethel Police Commission
Bethel Police Department, 12 Judd Ave.
Wednesday, May 14, 2025 5:00 pm

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TOWN CLERK
BETHEL, CT.

Attending: Tony Rubino, Kevin Cleary, Richard Kolwicz, Patrick Morton, Chief Pugner, Capt. Burnes, Lt. Zavatsky, Brendan Ryan
Absent: Amy Mannion

Chairman Rubino called the meeting at 5:00 pm

1. Review of past minutes:

The motion to approve the minutes from the April 16, 2025 meeting was made by Comm. Kolwicz. Seconded by Comm. Cleary. Vote. All in favor, motion approved.

2. Budget Report:

Comptroller and Overtime Reports:

Chief Pugner said he had a recent meeting with the Selectman and Comptroller. He noted that some categories are slightly over and some slightly under but on par to be within the budget. A discussion ensued on the dispatch overtime and Comm. Rubino made a suggestion for a Dispatch Supervisor position. Chief Pugner agreed but noted that such position keeps getting cut from the budget. Comm. Rubino made a motion to accept the Comptroller and Overtime reports. Seconded by Comm. Cleary. Vote. All in favor, motion approved.

3: Old Business:

Chief Pugner updated the commission on the following:

K9 Vehicle: A new vehicle is needed to replace the 2017 K9 car but the requested car and equipment was cut from the budget. A discussion ensued. Comm. Cleary made a motion to

request a new K9 car, not to exceed \$84,000, from the Board of Selectman. Seconded by Comm. Rubino. Vote. All in favor, motion approved.

Cross Walk Lights: Lt. Zavatsky said they are in the works with the state.

Speed Signs: Lt. Zavatsky said the new speed signs are all up and running.

4. New Business:

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

New Policies: Chief Pugner noted that most of the changes to the General Orders were state mandated. Comm. Rubino made a motion to accept the updated orders: Ch. 4, Sec. 1 Arrest, Ch. 4, Sec. 3 Juveniles, and Ch. 6, Sec. 11 Animal Control. Seconded by Comm. Cleary. Vote. All in favor, motion approved.

Bethel FD Event: Brendan Ryan from Bethel Fire Dept. explained they are planning a Fire Engine pull fundraising event on Sept. 20, 2025 for Team USA's Bobsled and Skeleton team. They are requesting a section of School Street be closed during the event. A discussion ensued. Comm. Rubino made a motion to accept the event based on BFD notifying the occupants of the apartment building of the event, hiring 1 police officer and having fire police for traffic duty, and allowing one lane of School Street be open for the tenants to use. Seconded by Comm. Morton. Vote. All in favor, motion approved.

Ride For Alexa: A motorcycle ride on June 22, 2025 is planned to come through the town. Lt. Zavatsky noted they have all of the proper permits. Comm. Kolwicz made a motion to accept the application for the Ride For Alexa motorcycle ride. Seconded by Comm. Morton. Vote. All in favor, motion approved.

5. Correspondence:

Chief Pugner shared an email he received from Sgt. Cleary sent to Chief Pugner and Capt. Burnes commending all of the officers on evening shift on Sunday May 11th for exceptional performance and teamwork during a demanding shift with many events.

6. Chief's Report:

Sickness & Injury; Personnel Hiring Update/Recruitment:

Chief Pugner said one officer is close to coming back on full duty. The officer interviews tonight are for one opening and he is anticipating another opening soon. He also said that Off. Eaton graduated last Friday and started field training this week.

7. Executive Session

Comm. Rubino made a motion at 5:55 to enter in Executive Session, inviting Chief Pugner and Capt. Burnes. Seconded by Comm. Morton. Vote, all in favor, motion approved.

Comm. Rubino made a motion to end Executive Session at 7:42. Seconded by Comm. Kolwicz. All in favor, motion approved.

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

- | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. Nick Rajcula | 3. Ella Delano | 5. Kayla Etes |
| 2. Max Novak | 4. Jay Chapa | |

In such order, conditional upon available openings in the Department within the next 30 days, contingent on a satisfactory background investigation, passing the Physical Agility Assessment, and such other standard and regular requirements of the State of Connecticut and the Town of Bethel. Vote, all in favor, motion approved.

8. Commissioner's Comments

There were no Commissioner comments.

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Comm. Kolwicz at 7:49 pm. Seconded by Comm. Rubino. Vote, all in favor, motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda Kavallines, Recording Secretary