

# **Municipal Police Training Committee**

## **Monthly Meeting**

## **Minutes Randolph**

## **Police Academy**

**February 15, 2017**

### **Call to Order**

At 9:39AM, Chairman Jim Hicks called the monthly meeting of the Municipal Police Training Committee to order and greeted all present.

### **Attendees: Voting Members**

Chairman Jim Hicks – Northeast Mass; Chief Michael Botieri – Southeast Mass; Chief Thomas O'Donnell- Central Mass; Captain Matthew Roy – MSP; Sergeant Daniel Spas– MBTA; Jim O'Brien- AGO.

### **Attendees: Advisory**

Heather Brouillette– Trial Court; Angela Davis – OGR; Ed Fitzgerald – MTC

### **MPTC Staff**

Dori Ference, Lara Thomas, Dan Zivkovich and Sheila Gallagher.

### **Guests**

Norman Charest, Tom Fleming, Kevin Hope, Jeffrey Lenti, Peter Roddy, Shannon Sullivan.

### **Review/Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made to approve the minutes of January 18, 2017. There was one correction. Erik Salo was requesting a temporary waiver for the town of Ashby not Ashbury. After the edit, the motion was seconded and passed by unanimous voice and no abstentions.

### **Police Standards and Training**

The following requests were presented and approved by the Committee:

#### **Temporary Waivers:**

Patrick McGettrick	Rowley, PD
Kenneth Pettibone	Becket, PD

A motion was made to approve the two (2) temporary waivers as presented. There was a second and the motion passed by unanimous voice.

### Permanent Exemptions:

Justin McKinney

Norwood, PD

There was one request for a permanent exemption. A motion was made to approve the permanent exemption as presented. There was a second and the motion passed by unanimous voice

There were no requests for disciplinary hearings.

### Open Discussion:

There were no items for open discussion.

### Recruit Officer Training Updates

Boston: 70 recruits remain and there is no graduation date set as yet.

Boylston: No academy dates scheduled at this time.

Lowell: There is no class in session right now. The next class is scheduled for May 22, 2017.

SPMA: The 7<sup>th</sup> SPMA is in week six and 44 student officers remain. Graduation is scheduled for June 23, 2017.

NECC: Currently, the academy is in the 4<sup>th</sup> week with 50 student officers remaining. One withdrew due to medical reasons and the second officer failed to return after the third day. Graduation is expected on July 14, 2017.

Plymouth: The 63<sup>rd</sup> ROC of 42 recruits is in week 16 and expected graduation is April 14, 2017. The next class will start on June 5, 2017.

Randolph: Forty-seven students graduated on January 20, 2017. The next class of 48 will begin on February 27, 2017.

Reading: Forty-six students will graduate on February 16, 2017, and the next class will begin on March 13, 2017.

Springfield: Currently in the process of background checks and may push the start date off until early spring. There will be no outside candidates for this academy due to number of Springfield officers.

Transit: There are 46 recruits that remain and graduation is expected March 22, 2017. The next class will begin on March 27, 2017, with 50 recruits.

WMASS: Forty-one students remain in week 15 and graduation is expected for May 5, 2017. The next class is scheduled to begin on June 19, 2017.

Worcester: A class of 38 will begin on March 27, 2017. They anticipate most of the students will be from Worcester but there are 14 spots for outside agencies.

## **Executive Director Report:**

ED Zivkovich mentioned that he had received an email from a part-time police officer who informed him that he had to resign from his position because he had schedule conflicts with the class times that were being offered for in-service training. ED Zivkovich explained that Western Mass Academy started offering classes in the evenings and on the weekends to accommodate schedules. This individual may not have checked the website.

### **Status of Boylston Academy**

The Boylston Program Coordinator II has been posted on the Commonwealth's website. ED Zivkovich said interviews will be scheduled for the middle of March and hopefully the position will be filled by April 2017.

### **Funding**

ED Zivkovich announced that the maintenance budget for the MPTC is \$4.7 million. There is nothing new to report right now.

## **Old Business**

### **Recruit Curriculum**

At the last meeting, the Committee voted to add the additional courses listed below to the basic recruit curriculum.

- Crash investigation – 24 hours,
- Traffic Incident Management System – 4 hours; and
- Work Zone Safety – 2 hours

The Committee questioned whether these additional courses should be included to basic recruit curriculum for reserves. ED Zivkovich solicited input from the working group as well as comments from various regions including Western Mass. There was no verbal opposition to adding the three (3) topics to the reserve recruit curriculum. However there was some discussion about the cost of adding the courses. After further discussion, it was determined that the increase in hours would result in an increase of twenty dollars per student if the courses are taught by MPTC instructors.

ED Zivkovich mentioned that the Traffic Incident Management System (TIMS) and Work Zone Safety courses are available on line if the Committee votes to include them in the reserve curriculum. Chief Hicks stated that he received two responses from chiefs in the northeast who agree that reserves and full-time officers should receive the same training. Chief Hicks commented that the concern has always been that reserve police officers in the Commonwealth have different responsibilities based on the needs of the departments. With regard to the increase in hours, Chief Hicks reported that most of the feedback he received indicated that the chiefs would prefer that the training occur all at once within the academy.

Chief O'Donnell agreed and relayed that reserves working in his area often are responsible for investigating crashes. Chief O'Donnell asked whether some reserves are paid to attend the academy. ED Zivkovich indicated that some reserves are paid depending on the department.

ED Zivkovich suggested that the Committee work with the Office of Grants ("OGR") to collect a survey of how reserves are used around the Commonwealth. There was some further discussion about facilitating a survey through the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association. Chief Hicks agreed that the survey would be helpful in determining how much training the reserves should receive.

Some of the Committee members asked whether reserves are making arrests or carrying guns. AAG O'Brien questioned whether the courses should be offered in a thirty (30) hour block or delivered in another way. Potentially, some of the courses could be offered online. There was further discussion about the sequence of how the courses should be taught. The Committee continued to highlight the nuances dealing with reserves in Massachusetts.

Chief Hicks explained that he continues to hear that reserves are involved in traffic control. Since most reserves are working details monitoring traffic, crash investigation, TIMS and Work Zone Safety would be valuable training for reserves. At some point, the Committee will have to define what the role of reserves is and what amount of training is necessary for them. Many opinions were offered regarding what training reserves should receive.

Chief O'Donnell asked whether the Committee should table the discussion for adding the three (3) courses to the reserve curriculum. ED Zivkovich asked the Committee how critical it is for reserves to know this curriculum. ED Zivkovich added that any changes voted on today with regard to the reserve curriculum would not be implemented until the beginning of the next scheduled class.

Chief O'Donnell made a motion to implement crash investigation as a classroom course added to the reserve curriculum and also required that reserves complete an online version of Work Zone Safety and TIMS prior to graduation. There was a second and the motion passed by unanimous voice. There was no opposition and no abstentions.

#### Potential Grants

Angela Davis mentioned that local departments may want to be mindful of federal funding that could be available for training. Chief Hicks added that how departments use reserves or auxiliaries needs to be defined. Angela Davis mentioned that highway safety would be interested in understanding the role of reserves and it is an avenue where resources could be potentially combined. Additionally, this past week there were three executive orders signed and the federal government appears to be focused on gangs, guns and drugs.

#### Rifle/Shotgun

Chief Hicks announced the northeast region believes that recruits should continue to receive rifle/shotgun certification within the academies and that it is valuable. The members from the southeast would also like the rifle/shotgun certification to be included in the recruit curriculum. Adding rifle/shotgun training to the revised recruit curriculum would add three (3) days to firearms training. Tom Fleming stated that the increase in training would really require four (4) days to be added to firearms training. Overall, recruits would need eight (8) days on the range which would include forty (40) hours of training with a service weapon and two (2) days to become certified using a long gun. Tom Fleming also relayed that recruits need to know how to secure a weapon

particularly if they responding to a domestic and they need to seize the weapons. Tom Fleming explained his concern for the extending the hours to the academy by increasing the hours for firearms training. ED Zivkovich explained that the recruit curriculum is being revised and the consultants expect that the overall hours of the academy will be reduced potentially to seven hundred (700) hours. There was some discussion as to whether the Committee needed a motion to make this change and it was determined that a motion was not necessary. ED Zivkovich stated that he will ask the curriculum consultants to plan on including rifle/shotgun qualification training and the Committee can make a final determination after reviewing it.

### In-Service Training Requirements and Courses

Chief Hicks asked Committee members if they received any feedback from their regions for specific topics. There is a forty (40) hour mandatory in-service training requirement for TY 2017-18 and it will not include CPR/1<sup>st</sup> responder. Chief Hicks stated that in-service for TY 2016-17 did not include CPR/1<sup>st</sup> responder within the topics included in the MPTC's offerings requirement, which resulted in an extra day of training. In prior years the forty (40) hours included a local option that was usually filled by CPR/1<sup>st</sup> responder.

ED Zivkovich distributed a sheet that listed the potential topics the Committee could require for TY 2017-18 in-service training. Chief Kasper asked if there could be a training refreshing police on hate crimes. After some discussion, marijuana was presented as a possible topic, as well as including hate crimes in legal updates. Captain Roy mentioned that the state police roll out training bulletins for some topics and mandate that all state police read them. ED Zivkovich stated that because the MPTC often does not have the most up-to-date contact information for the departments it oversees, issuing mandating training bulletins is a challenge. However, the MPTC hopes when the database project is complete, it will receive notification of the contact changes within departments.

Chief Botieri asked how many blocks are available. Typically, there are three and half days of training that is provided by the MPTC. Chief Hicks mentioned that TIMS and Work Zone Safety may be options for in-service training. Potentially, TIMS and Work Zone Safety could be rolled out online. ED Zivkovich mentioned that the domestic violence guidelines are being revamped and also should be considered.

The Committee highlighted the seven (7) topics below as strong contenders for in-service training:

1. Legal Updates (2 blocks)
2. Domestic Violence and High Risk Assessment(1 block)
3. Marijuana (1 block)
4. 21<sup>st</sup> century policing (1 block)
5. TIMS and Work Zone safety (1 block)
6. Defensive Tactics (1 block)
7. Hate Crimes (included in legal update)
8. Local Option (3 blocks)

Chief Hicks asked ED Zivkovich to clarify what training the MPTC will provide. Typically, the MPTC offers four (4) days of training and leaves departments to select a topic for the local option block. The northeast region has requested that the MPTC provide CPR/1<sup>st</sup> responder to satisfy the local option block. ED Zivkovich stated as long as there is funding, the MPTC would offer CPR/1<sup>st</sup> responder to all departments as a local option. The Committee did not vote on the topics for in-service but will convey the information to the various regions for feedback. Chief Hicks mentioned that he would connect with MCPOA to find out if the chiefs will want different topics for in-service. One area that may be relevant for chiefs will concern the issue of sanctuary cities.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for **February 15, 2017, 9:30 AM** at the Parole Board Central Office in Natick.

### **Adjournment**

The motion was made, seconded and passed by unanimous voice at 12:10 PM to adjourn.