

Municipal Police Training Committee
Monthly Meeting Minutes
July 21, 2021

Call to Order

At 10:03 AM, Chief Jim Hicks called the monthly meeting of the Municipal Police Training Committee to order. This was an in-person meeting that was also broadcast and recorded via Zoom.

Attendees: Voting Members

U/S Terrence Reidy	Present
Chief Jim Hicks	Present
AAG Jim O'Brien	Absent
Chief Frank Frederickson	Present
Chief Jennifer Gundersen	Present
Chief Brian Kyes	Absent
Chief Kelly Nee	Present
Chief Thomas O'Donnell	Present
Superintendent Richard Sullivan	Present
Superintendent Winnie Cotter	Present
Sheriff Kevin Coppinger	Absent
Sheriff Chris Donelan	Absent
Sgt. Lanita Cullinane	Present
Officer Joseph Vieira	Present
Maj. Dan McGinn	Present

MPTC Staff

ED Robert Ferullo, John Melander, Sheila Gallagher, Andrea Nardone, Shane Rodriguez, Cassandra Cahill, Jack Dillon, Dori-Ann Ference, Denise Flagg, Laura Nichols, Lisa Ann Reich, Ariel Perez, and Lara Thomas.

Guests

Chad Hunter, James Mulcahy, Peter Roddy, Jeffrey Scott, Stephen Taranto

Welcome

Chief Hicks welcomed the new members of the Committee and had all attendees introduce themselves to the group.

Review/Approval of Minutes

There was a motion to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2021 Committee meeting and the July 1, 2021 special Committee meeting. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

Police Standards and Training

Temporary Waivers

There were no temporary waiver requests.

Permanent Exemptions

The Committee considered three (3) requests for permanent exemptions.

Jordan Frisbie

Brewster

Chief Eldredge is requesting a permanent exemption for Jordan Frisbie to work as a police officer for the Brewster Police Department. Officer Frisbie graduated from the 400-hour MPTC Plymouth County Police Chief's Basic Reserve Academy in February 2019. After graduation, Officer Frisbie worked as a seasonal police officer for the Provincetown Police Department. In September 2019 she was hired by the Emory University Police Department and was required to attend the 408-hour Georgia Law Enforcement Academy. After she graduated on December 13, 2019, she worked for eleven (11) months before returning to Massachusetts. She is currently working in the Brewster Police Department as a reserve officer. Officer Frisbie is certified in CPR/1st responder and firearms in accordance with MPTC regulations.

The Subcommittee did not recommend that the Committee approve the permanent exemption for Officer Frisbie because she lacks the two (2) years of work experience required by the CMRs.

There was a motion to deny the permanent exemption request for Officer Frisbie. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

James Chase

Merrimac College

Chief DelGreco is requesting a permanent exemption for Lt. James Chase. Lt. Chase graduated from the 510-hour New Hampshire full-time Police Academy on November 15, 1996. Upon graduation, Lt. Chase worked at the Salem, New Hampshire Police Department for over twenty (20) years. He recently retired from that department as a deputy chief. Lt. Chase also attended the 372-hour Massachusetts Law Enforcement Training Alliance Basic Reserve Academy on May 9, 2018. Lt. Chase has had no breaks in serve. Officer Chase is certified in CPR/1st responder and firearms in accordance with MPTC regulations.

The Subcommittee made a favorable recommendation to the Committee to approve the

permanent exemption for James Chase.

There was a motion to approve the permanent exemption request for Officer Chase. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Grace Kortchmar

Oak Bluffs

Chief Blake is requesting a permanent exemption for Grace Kortchmar to work as a police officer for the Oak Bluffs Police Department. Officer Kortchmar graduated from the 560-hour Basic Recruit Academy at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center on October 30, 2020. After graduation, Officer Kortchmar began working as a patrol officer for the Leavenworth Police Department in Kansas on April 1, 2020 where she is still currently employed. If an exemption is granted, Officer Kortchmar will become certified in CPR/1st responder and firearms in accordance with MPTC regulations once she relocates to Massachusetts.

The Subcommittee did not recommend that the Committee approve the permanent exemption for Officer Kortchmar because she lacks the two (2) years of work experience required by the CMRs.

There was a motion to deny the permanent exemption request for Officer Kortchmar. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Disciplinary Appeals Hearings

There were no disciplinary appeals hearings this month. There is an instructor certification appeal hearing scheduled for August 2, 2021.

Open Discussion

No items were discussed.

Executive Director's Report

Recruit Officer Training Update

Boston: The current class has ninety-five (95) student officers and is expected to graduate on January 7, 2022.

Boylston: The current class has forty-three (43) student officers. The next class is scheduled to begin on December 6, 2021 with forty-five (45) available seats.

Cambridge/Northeastern: The next class is scheduled to begin in January 2022.

Cape Cod: no update.

FSU: The current class has fifteen (15) student officers and is expected to graduate on September 10, 2021.

Lowell: The current class has thirty-four (34) student officers.

MBTA: The current class has thirty (30) student officers.

Merrimack: The pilot program is scheduled to begin on August 30, 2021.

NECC: The current class has thirty-six (36) student officers and is scheduled to graduate on November 19, 2021.

Plymouth: The current class is scheduled to graduate on July 23, 2021. The next class is scheduled to begin on September 20, 2021 with two (2) seats currently available.

Quinsigamond – the evening pilot program is scheduled to begin on September 13, 2021.

Randolph: The current class has thirty (30) student officers and is expected to graduate on August 13, 2021. The next class is scheduled to begin on November 1, 2021 with thirty-nine (39) available seats.

Reading: The current class has twenty-two (22) student officers. The next class is scheduled to begin on January 17, 2022 with forty-eight (48) seats still available.

Springfield: The next class is contingent upon budgetary issues.

SPMA: RTT is currently running with 169 student officers and is expected to graduate on October 21, 2021.

Western Mass: The next class is scheduled to begin on October 25, 2021 with forty-eight (48) student officers. This class is full.

Worcester: no update.

There was a discussion about the Cooper Standards and specifically the failure rate of those tests. ED Ferullo indicated that he is exploring ways to administer the Cooper Standards more consistently and uniformly and would also allow prospective student officers the opportunity to practice before the official testing. ED Ferullo informed the Committee that one of the facilities that is being considered to replace the Reading academy includes a field house and an 1/8 mile track which could be used for regular practice and administration of Cooper Standards. ED Ferullo is also exploring the possibility of a similar facility in Pioneer Valley. Chief Hicks indicated that the

Committee should review the data regarding the pass/fail rate of the Cooper Standards in the near future to reassess that requirement to academy admission.

Staffing Update

ED Ferullo continues to work with EOPSS on staffing to assure that the MPTC has adequate staff to meet the needs of the agency and the increase in the number of officers it serves.

In Service Update

The in-service training program will be fully remote this year except for the practical skills requirements (firearms and CPR.) At this point in time, the available facilities cannot accommodate live in-service training for the number of officers the MPTC is required to train. Train-the-trainer classes will be offered for the classroom component of the in-service programs to facilitate agencies that wish to provide their officers with in person training this year. Officer Wellness train-the-trainer programs are scheduled for August 10th and 12th.

Old Business

Use of Force Regulations

The Committee approved a draft of the Use of Force regulations at the special Committee meeting on July 1, 2021. Since that meeting POSTC completed their draft of the regulations. A working group of MPTC and POSTC members and staff have met numerous times in the past week reviewing and revising the draft regulations. The MPTC was represented at these meetings by Chief Kyes, John Melander, and Andrea Nardone.

The Committee reviewed the draft document that was agreed upon by the working group and recommendations were made for additional revisions. The working group will continue their work with their POSTC counterparts and report back to the Committee at a special meeting to be scheduled for Monday, July 26, 2021. The legislation requires that the Use of Force Regulations be promulgated by September 2021. To meet this deadline, both the MPTC and POSTC must approve the draft and submit it to the Secretary of State by Wednesday, July 28, 2021.

Bridge Academy

There was a brief discussion on the Bridge Academy. A draft proposal will be provided to the Committee in advance of the next meeting. This topic will be on the agenda for next month's meeting.

New Business

Firearms training protocol and ammunition shortage

There is a nationwide shortage of rifle ammunition. This shortage has not affected the ROC training yet, but the MPTC supply is dwindling and obtaining replacement ammunition will be a problem which will affect the ability to certify officers in rifles based upon the current standards.

There was a motion to allow the Executive Director of the MPTC to make the decision in the future, if there is a shortage of ammunition, to revert to a two (2) day qualification for the rifle until such time as ammunition becomes available and to create a process to bring back those who completed the two (2) day training to complete the certification through the MPTC academy. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

There was a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 1:28PM.