

**Municipal Police Training Committee**  
**Monthly Meeting Minutes**

**Zoom Meeting**

**December 16, 2020**

**Call to Order**

At 10:03 AM, Chief Jim Hicks called the monthly meeting of the Municipal Police Training Committee to order. Since this a virtual, public meeting, Chief Hicks welcomed everyone and reviewed the guidelines and rules. A roll call would be taken to account for who is present at the meeting which will be recorded.

**Attendees: Voting Members**

U/S Terrence Reidy	Aye
Chief Jim Hicks	Aye
AAG Jim O'Brien	Aye
Chief Michael Botieri	Aye
Chief Brian Kyes	Aye
Chief Scott Livingstone	Aye
Chief Thomas O'Donnell	Aye
Superintendent Richard Sullivan	Aye
Superintendent Winnie Cotter	Aye
Sergeant Joseph Vieira	Aye
Major Dan McGinn	Aye

**MPTC Staff**

ED Robert Ferullo, Sheila Gallagher, Joanne Gardiner, Eileen Goodick, Andrea Kenney, Maura Landry, Dori-Ann Ference, Denise Flagg, Laura Nichols, Lynda Kearns, Rick Smith, Lara Thomas, Melixza Esenyie, Alison Taylor, Rose Sauvageau, Nicole Hamwey, Tom Lee and John Melander.

**Guests**

Nicholas DeAngelis, Thomas Flynn, James Graham, Kevin Ristaccio, Thomas Glynn, Chief Riter, Chief Matthew Pinard, Lisa Lane McCarty, James Mulcahy, Ray Mooney, Jeffrey Scott, Joe Cecchi, Jerry O'Rourke, Steve Taranto, Sgt. Steve Rugere, Thomas Grady, and Vincent Lamberti.

**Review/Approval of Minutes**

**Chief Kyes made a motion to approve the minutes for the November 18, 2020. Chief Livingstone seconded the motion and a roll call was taken.**

U/S Terrence Reidy	Aye
Chief Jim Hicks	Aye

AAG Jim O'Brien	Aye
Chief Michael Botieri	Aye
Chief Brian Kyes	Aye
Chief Scott Livingstone	Aye
Chief Thomas O'Donnell	Abstention
Superintendent Richard Sullivan	Aye
Superintendent Winnie Cotter	Aye
Sergeant Joseph Vieira	Abstention
Major Dan McGinn	Aye

**The motion passes and there were two (2) abstentions.**

**Police Standards and Training**

**Temporary Waivers**

The Standards Subcommittee reviewed four (4) temporary waiver requests.

<b>Tammy Broughton</b>	<b>Boxford PD</b>
<b>Sean Caron</b>	<b>Tyngsboro PD</b>
<b>Anthony Mastrangelo</b>	<b>Hamilton PD</b>
<b>Connor Sormanti</b>	<b>South Hadley PD</b>

**Chief O'Donnell made a motion to approve the four (4) temporary waivers. Chief Kyes seconded a motion and a roll call was taken.**

U/S Terrence Reidy	Aye
Chief Jim Hicks	Aye
AAG Jim O'Brien	Aye
Chief Michael Botieri	Aye
Chief Brian Kyes	Aye
Chief Scott Livingstone	Aye
Chief Thomas O'Donnell	Aye
Superintendent Richard Sullivan	Aye
Superintendent Winnie Cotter	Aye
Sergeant Joseph Vieira	Aye
Major Dan McGinn	Aye

**The motion passes.**

**Permanent Exemptions**

The Committee revisited the permanent exemption request for Officer Ilyas Abu

which was tabled during the Committee meeting in November. There were a few questions related to Officer Abu's training and his work experience. After receiving additional information, the Subcommittee made a recommendation to grant the permanent exemption request for Officer Abu.

AAG O'Brien provided a synopsis about the pertinent issues the Subcommittee discussed. The two (2) issues the Subcommittee considered were Officer Abu's training and his work experience. Officer Abu graduated from the Special State Police Officer's (SSPO) academy which is a few weeks shorter than a full-time municipal police academy. Additionally, Officer Abu also attended and graduated from a MPTC Reserve Academy and completed numerous hours of specialized training. The Subcommittee evaluated the amount of training that Officer Abu had and determined that it was comparable to the training a full-time municipal police officer would receive. ED Ferullo added that depending on police reform legislation, the MPTC will likely have to develop bridge academies and Officer Abu's training would exceed that training equivalency.

The second issue the Subcommittee evaluated was whether Officer Abu's five (5) year work experience as a campus police officer was equivalent to working for two (2) years as a full-time municipal police officer. Officer Abu worked for three (3) years as Worcester State University and for two (2) years at the Wellesley Police Department. The Subcommittee was sensitive to this exemption request and realized that it could potentially open the floodgates. There were certain factors that resonated with the Subcommittee in making an affirmative recommendation. As a Wellesley College Police Officer he was armed, had full police powers on and off campus. As a Worcester State University Police Officer, Officer Abu is armed, has the power of arrest, drives a cruiser, is involved in different types of investigations, and has chapter 90 powers. The city of Worcester is an urban area where often the Worcester State University Police are working with Worcester Police Department. In addition, he achieved the rank of sergeant at Worcester State University Police and was a first-line supervisor. Since Officer Abu exercised police powers similar to municipal police officers, the Subcommittee determined his work experience was comparable.

Chief Pinard was present and explained to the Committee that Officer Abu is a unique candidate and would be a tremendous asset for the Littleton Police Department. Currently, Officer Abu is working as a reserve officer for the Littleton Police Department since the Committee granted a temporary waiver in September. The Committee asked how many arrests Officer Abu had made, what kinds of arrests and whether he was assigned to any specific units. Chief Kyes commented that Officer Abu's training was not an issue, rather the issue concerned the extent of Officer Abu's work experience. As an officer working for Worcester State University, Officer Abu has been involved in a variety of arrests and has worked with the Worcester Police Department at times. After further discussion, the Committee determined that Officer Abu's training and work experience were comparable to a municipal police officer.

**AAG O'Brien made a motion to grant a permanent exemption for Officer**

**Abu. Joe Vieira seconded the motion and a roll call was taken.**

U/S Terrence Reidy	Aye
Chief Jim Hicks	Aye
AAG Jim O'Brien	Aye
Chief Michael Botieri	Aye
Chief Brian Kyes	Aye
Chief Scott Livingstone	Aye
Chief Thomas O'Donnell	Aye
Superintendent Richard Sullivan	Aye
Superintendent Winnie Cotter	Aye
Sergeant. Joseph Vieira	Aye
Major Dan McGinn	Aye

**The motion passes.**

Chief Hicks asked whether Officer Abu would have to take an online orientation program and exam. According to the CMRs, any officer who receives an exemption, must complete an orientation program related to Massachusetts laws and pass a test on that material. ED Ferullo explained that most permanent exemptions are granted for officers who transfer from another state and are unfamiliar with Massachusetts laws. Since Officer Abu has attended two police academies in Massachusetts and was quite familiar with Massachusetts laws, the Committee determined it was unnecessary for Officer Abu to complete the orientation program.

**Chief O'Donnell made a motion to exempt Officer Abu from the completing the online orientation program and taking the exam. Chief Kyes seconded the motion and a roll call was taken.**

U/S Terrence Reidy	Aye
Chief Jim Hicks	Aye
AAG Jim O'Brien	Aye
Chief Michael Botieri	Aye
Chief Brian Kyes	Aye
Chief Scott Livingstone	Aye
Chief Thomas O'Donnell	Aye
Superintendent Richard Sullivan	Aye
Superintendent Winnie Cotter	Aye
Sergeant. Joseph Vieira	Aye
Major Dan McGinn	Aye

**The motion passed.**

## **Open Discussion**

There was some discussion about the pending police reform bill and whether a vote would occur soon. It was noted that many of the training requirements included in the bill are already part of MPTC's basic recruit curriculum.

Chief Livingstone announced to the Committee that he would not be resigning and would continue to serve as the Western Mass representative on the Committee.

## **Executive Director's Report**

### **Recruit Officer Training Update**

**Boston:** Boston Police Academy started on November 30, 2020, with 110 recruits and 102 remain.

**Boylston:** The next class is scheduled to start date on April 26, 2021.

**Cambridge/Northeastern:** The next class is scheduled to start date on January 18, 2021. The class will have approximately 24-26 students.

**Lowell:** No new update.

**FSU:** No new update.

**Merrimack:** will start in 2021.

**NECC:** is currently in full-remote learning due to a COVID exposure.

**Plymouth:** The current class is scheduled to graduate on December 31, 2020, and next academy will start on March 1, 2021, with twenty-nine (29) of the thirty-five (35) seats filled.

**Randolph:** The next class is scheduled to start date on February 8, 2021. This class will be held in the new building which has the capacity to allow for forty-eight (48) students in a COVID friendly environment. A second academy will start in March 2021, to accommodate two cities that have significant hiring needs. There is sufficient space in the new building to run two (2) academies at the same time.

**Reading:** The current class is in week 12 and recently completed training pistol training. The class is scheduled to graduate on March 5, 2021.

**Springfield:** The class is currently in in week five. There are no spring or summer

academies scheduled at this time.

SPMA: The current class of sixty-eight recruits is currently in week 12.

Transit: The next class is tentatively scheduled to start on January 4, 2021.

WMASS: The next class is scheduled to start on March 22, 2021.

Worcester: No new update. The next class is scheduled to begin January 25, 2021, with 32 students.

### **Facilities Update**

The MPTC Headquarters and Randolph Police Academy are on track to move to the new facility at 42 Thomas Patten Drive in Randolph on January 1, 2021.

### **FY 2020-21 Budget**

There is no new update at this time. This topic was postponed until next month's meeting. There is a meeting scheduled later today to discuss the potential ramifications the police reform bill will have on the budget.

### **Specialized Training**

ED Ferullo announced that the MPTC has trained numerous officers in Fair and Impartial policing. Approximately, 2000 officers have attended the training and eighty (80) officers attended the instructor train-the-trainer.

### **New Business**

#### **Code of conduct**

The police reform legislation will likely impact any code of conduct. A draft of the code of conduct will be presented at the January, Committee meeting.

### **Old Business**

#### **In-Service:**

Since November 23, 2020, all in-service courses are available on Acadis. All the train-the-trainer courses were completed by November 25, 2020. There is one catchall Legal train-the-trainer that is scheduled for Friday, December 18, 2020. In total, 11,745 police officers across the state have successfully completed in-service training online. The Acadis Support team is responding to any technical glitches. ED Ferullo asked the Committee to determine in-service topics earlier this year to ensure enough time for developing the curriculum.

Quinsigamond Community College

Lara Thomas commented that there is another meeting scheduled for January. Chief Hicks asked if Captain Cecchi and his team at Quinsigamond could provide a summary of the proposal for the next meeting.

Election of Chair

ED Ferullo opened the floor for nominations.

**Sgt. Joe Vieira made a motion to nominate Chief Hicks. Chief Livingstone seconded the motion and a roll call was taken.**

U/S Terrence Reidy	Aye
Chief Jim Hicks	Aye
AAG Jim O'Brien	Aye
Chief Michael Botieri	Aye
Chief Brian Kyes	Aye
Chief Scott Livingstone	Aye
Chief Thomas O'Donnell	Aye
Superintendent Richard Sullivan	Aye
Superintendent Winnie Cotter	Aye
Sergeant Joseph Vieira	Aye
Major Dan McGinn	Aye

**The motion passes.**

Chief Hicks was elected Chair of the Municipal Police Training Committee.

Adjournment

At 11:30 Chief Hicks announced that the Committee will be adjourning into Executive Session and will not return to regular session.

**Chief O'Donnell made a motion to adjourn the meeting and move into Executive Session. AAG O'Brien seconded the motion and a roll call was taken.**

U/S Terrence Reidy	Aye
Chief Jim Hicks	Aye
AAG Jim O'Brien	Aye
Chief Michael Botieri	Aye
Chief Brian Kyes	Aye
Chief Scott Livingstone	Aye

Chief Thomas O'Donnell	Aye
Superintendent Richard Sullivan	Aye
Superintendent Winnie Cotter	Aye
Sergeant Joseph Vieira	Aye
Major Dan McGinn	Aye