



Chief David P. Cahill
Chairman

State of New Hampshire
POLICE STANDARDS & TRAINING COUNCIL
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Donald L. Vittum
Director

PUBLIC MINUTES

February 27, 2018

The 489th meeting of the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Chairman David Cahill in classroom one at the Arthur D. Kehas Law Enforcement Training Facility and Campus in Concord, New Hampshire.

Members Present: Chairman, Chief David Cahill, Sunapee Police Department, Vice Chairman, Chief William Hart, Londonderry Police Department, Sheriff Douglas Dutile, Grafton County Sheriff's Office, Sheriff David Dubois, Strafford County Sheriff's Office, Colonel Christopher Wagner, NH State Police, Chief Peter Morency, Berlin Police Department, Chief Enoch Willard, Manchester Police Department, President Susan Dunton, NHTI, Debra Noyes and Mark Long.

Members Absent: Judge Sawako Gardner, 10th Circuit-District Division – Portsmouth, Helen Hanks, Commissioner, New Hampshire Department of Corrections, Attorney General Gordon MacDonald, and Honorable Melissa Countway-Vetanze.

Staff Present: Director Donald Vittum, Chief Timothy Merrill, Major David Parenteau, (Ret.), Lieutenant Christopher Paquette, Anne Paquin, Investigative Paralegal and Charlene Mains, Program Assistant II.

Guests Present: Chief Robert Merner and Lieutenant Christopher Cummings, Portsmouth Police Department, Investigator Richard Tracy, Investigator/Attorney III Scott Chase, Department of Justice, Pamela Heath and Major Russell Conte, NH State Police.

Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Cahill called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made to approve the Minutes of the January 23, 2018 Council meeting by Sheriff Dutile. Following a second by Chief Morency, the voice vote was in favor of the Motion with the exception of Debra Noyes, who abstained.

Motion made to approve the Allen Non-Public Minutes of the January 23, 2018 Council meeting by Sheriff Dutile. Following a second by Chief Morency, the voice vote was in favor of the Motion with the exception of Debra Noyes, who abstained.

Motion made to approve the Non-Public Minutes from the Director's Report Council meeting by Chief Morency. Following a second by Sheriff Dubois, the voice vote was in favor of the Motion with the exception of Debra Noyes, who abstained.

9:03 a.m.

Chief Hart and President Susan Dunton enter the meeting.

Director's Report

Director Vittum stated that he had nothing new other than what was contained in the minutes of the January meeting.

Financial Report

Chief Merrill indicated that PSTC's financials are where we should be. There is a kick off meeting scheduled for March 15th for the new budget, and there will be more information to share after that meeting.

Previous/Unfinished Business

Chairman Cahill directed Council members' attention to two items from Previous/Unfinished Business – review of the results of the strategic Planning Session and the Corrections Advisory Committee. Commissioner Hanks was not able to attend the meeting today, and the two items were moved to the March meeting.

New Business

Portsmouth Police Department Waiver

Chief Robert Merner and Lieutenant Christopher Cummings, Portsmouth Police Department, introduced themselves. Chief Cahill asked whether they would like the hearing public or non-public, and Chief Merner stated non-public.

Motion to enter non-public session at 9:05 a.m. pursuant to RSA 91-A:3,II(c) made by Sheriff Dubois. Following a second by Debra Noyes, a roll call vote was taken and was unanimous in favor of the Motion.

Motion made by Chief Hart at 9:12 a.m. to exit Non-Public Session. Following a second from Sheriff Dubois, a roll call vote was taken and was unanimous in favor of the Motion.

Motion made to seal the minutes of the Non-Public session concerning the Portsmouth Police Department Waiver as the information would likely adversely affect the reputation of any person other than a member of this Council made by Chief Hart. Following a second from Debra Noyes, a voice vote was taken and was unanimous in favor of the Motion.

Motion made by Chief Willard to grant the waiver requested. Following a second from Chief Hart, a voice vote was taken and was unanimous in favor of the Motion.

Scott Chase, Attorney General's Office

Scott Chase of the New Hampshire Attorney General's office was present with Chief Investigator, Richard Tracy.

Chief Investigator Richard Tracy and Scott Chase were seated. Major Parenteau summarized that Scott Chase was present to request an extension of his fitness testing requirement and to be exempt from taking the law package. Mr. Chase was before the Council in September and, during that meeting, was granted full-time police officer certification based on prior training and experience upon successful completion of a medical exam, fitness test and the law package of the full-time academy. Mr. Chase was before the Council to request a waiver of the law package requirement.

Chief Cahill asked if they wanted to be heard in public or non-public, and Chief Investigator Tracy said non-public.

Motion to enter non-public session at 9:16 a.m. pursuant to RSA 91-A:3,II(c) made by Debra Noyes. Following a second by Chief Hart, a roll call vote was taken and was unanimous in favor of the Motion.

Motion made by Chief Hart at 9:25 a.m. to exit Non-Public Session. Following a second from Debra Noyes, a roll call vote was taken and was unanimous in favor of the Motion.

Motion made to seal the minutes of the Non-Public session concerning Scott Chase, Attorney General's Office, as the information would likely adversely affect the reputation of any person other than a member of this Council made by Sheriff Dubois. Following a second from Debra Noyes, a voice vote was taken and was unanimous in favor of the Motion.

Motion made by Sheriff Dutille to extend the PT until the end of the 176th full-time academy. Following a second from President Dunton, a voice vote was taken and was unanimous in favor of the Motion.

Motion made by Chief Hart that based on Mr. Chase's membership in the New Hampshire Bar, his attendance at the full-time academy, and the fact that he has taught various law classes at the Police Academy, that Council waive the requirement to take the test, or the Law Package. Following a second from Chief Willard, a voice vote was taken and was unanimous in favor of the Motion.

Addendum #1 – Pamela Heath – Department of Safety

Colonel Wagner advised he would recuse himself from the room. Chairman Cahill informed Colonel Wagner he may stay.

Major David Parenteau presented facts to the Council relative to Pamela Heath. Pamela Heath retired from the State Police on January 16th of this year. She was to be hired as a part-time Marine Patrol officer and, through circumstances of the State Police protocols,

Human Resources and hiring procedures, Colonel Wagner was prepared to hire her the following week. However, he was told by the HR Department that she would need to be hired on a Friday, which put her one day over the 30-day rule for lapse in certification.

Major Conte introduced himself and confirmed that Major Parenteau stated precisely what happened. He went on to state that this was no fault of Ms. Heath. There is a process that HR goes through now, and apparently going from full-time to part-time is treated as a new employee. Because there is a due process, and a new employee can only be hired on certain dates, it tied the hands of Colonel Wagner, and everybody was put in a bad position. Major Conte said they are willing to fix it, depending on how many days in the month and so on, but this was certainly not done with any malice. The HR Department is promising to fix this process and he hopes it does not become the norm.

Motion made by Sheriff Dubois to grant the request as the CEO of the agency made the decision well in advance of the deadline but due to administration error this situation occurred. Following a second from Chief Hart, a voice vote was taken and was unanimous in favor of the Motion, with the exception of Colonel Wagner, who abstained from voting.

Consent Calendar

PT&E Requests

Officer Ellen Arcieri, Brentwood Police Department (DOH: 02/01/18) will be granted full-time police officer certification based on prior training and experience upon successful completion of the medical exam, entrance fitness test, and the Law Package of the Full-Time Police Officer Academy.

Officer Olivia Siekman, Wilton Police Department (DOH: 01/15/18) will be granted full-time police officer certification based on prior training and experience upon successful completion of the medical exam and entrance fitness test.

Officer Tony Ssonko, Bedford Police Department (DOH: 02/20/18) will be granted full-time police officer certification based on prior training and experience upon successful completion of the medical exam and entrance fitness test.

Officer Peter Albert, Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office (DOH: 12/05/17) will be granted full-time police officer certification based on prior training and experience upon successful completion of the medical exam and entrance fitness test.

Requests for Extensions

Note: Extensions granted until the first council meeting following the fitness testing for the requested Academy, and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested Academy.

Bryan Verdegaal, Keene Police Department (DOH: 01/02/18 **Not Part-time certified**) is granted an extension through the end of the 176th Full-Time Police Officer Academy and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested academy with the stipulation that the officer must remain actively enrolled in the 176th Academy and may continue working only in the direct presence of a certified officer.

Melissa Evans, Hinsdale Police Department (DOH: 06/05/17 **Not Part-time certified**) is granted an extension through the end of the 176th Full-Time Police Officer Academy and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested academy with the stipulation that the officer must remain actively enrolled in the 176th academy and may continue working only in the direct presence of a certified officer.

Devon Rego, Merrimack County Sheriff's Office (DOH: 01/08/18 **Not Part-time certified**) is granted an extension through the end of the 176th Full-Time Police Officer Academy, and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested academy with the stipulation that the officer must remain actively enrolled in the 176th Academy and may continue working only in the direct presence of a certified officer.

Kevin Culpon, Merrimack County Sheriff's Office (DOH: 07/23/17) is granted an extension through the end of the 276th Part Time Academy and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested academy with the stipulation that the officer must remain actively enrolled in the 276th Part Time Academy and may continue working only in the direct presence of a certified officer.

Michelle MacLeod, Bartlett Police Department (DOH: 02/05/18 **Not Part-time certified**) is granted an extension through the end of the 176th Full-Time Police Officer Academy and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested academy with the stipulation that the officer must remain actively enrolled in the 176th academy and may continue working only in the direct presence of a certified officer..

Michael Mosher, Bartlett Police Department (DOH: 02/05/18 **Not Part-time certified**) is granted an extension through the end of the 176th Full-Time Police Officer Academy and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested academy with the stipulation that the officer must remain actively enrolled in the 176th academy and may continue working only in the direct presence of a certified officer.

Bryce Lineman, Littleton Police Department (DOH: 02/08/18 **Not Part-time certified**) is granted an extension through the end of the 176th Full-Time Police Officer Academy and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested academy with the stipulation that the officer must remain actively enrolled in the 176th academy and may continue working only in the direct presence of a certified officer.

Antoinette Webster, Farmington Police Department (DOH: 12/28/17 **Part-Time certified**) is granted an extension through the end of the 176th Full-Time Police Officer Academy and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested academy with the stipulation that the officer must remain actively enrolled in the 176th academy.

Tyler J. Thorgerson, NH DOC (DOH 07/15/18) is granted an extension through the end of the 108th Corrections Academy and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested academy with the stipulation that the officer must remain actively enrolled in the 108th Corrections Academy and may only work in the direct presence of a certified Corrections Officer.

Ongoing Physical Fitness Testing – Medical Extension Requests

Meridith Holmes, Franconia Police Department

Christopher Dowling, Merrimack Police Department

Motion by Sheriff Dutile to approve the Consent Calendar as written. Following a second by Debra Noyes, a voice vote was taken and was unanimous in favor of the Motion.

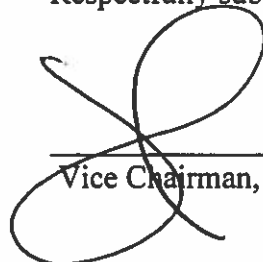
Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

The next meeting of the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council will be held on March 27, 2018.

Chairman Cahill indicated that he would be available for the March meeting but will not be attending the April meeting, or the April graduation. Chief Hart will be attending both events in April.

Motion by President Dunton to adjourn at 9:34 a.m. Following a second by Chief Willard, the voice vote of the Council was unanimous in favor of the Motion.

Respectfully submitted,


9/24/2018

Vice Chairman, Chief William Hart