



POLICE REVIEW & ADVISORY BOARD

A Department of the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Minutes from the Meeting of February 28, 2024

Board Members present: Acting Chair Gina LaRoche, Maria Arlotto, Brendan Koscher

City Staff present: Executive Director Brian Corr; CPD Director of Professional Standards, Training and Certification James Mulcahy; CPD Sergeant Michael LeVecque

Acting Chair LaRoche called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Public Comment

There were no comments from members of the public.

Review and Approval of Minutes

The Board voted by roll call vote to approve the minutes of January 31, 2024, on a motion from Board Member Koscher, seconded by Acting Chair LaRoche, with Board Member Arlotto and Acting Chair LaRoche voting in favor and Board Member Koscher abstaining.

Executive Director's Report

- Exec. Dir. Corr provided an update on the online complaint form being developed by the City's IT staff, noted that it included the suggestions offered by Board members, and reported that he had spoken to the City's communications staff and that it should be possible to include an announcement about the launch of the complaint form after it is activated.
- He reminded the Board that the upcoming training on the CPD's Clinical Support Unit (CSU) will take place March 15 and that it will be a training on the entire the Family and Social Justice Section, of which CSU is a part, along with the Family Justice Group and the Social Justice Unit.
- Exec. Dir. Corr reported that the Finance Committee of the City Council will hold a hearing on March 26 to discuss the CPD Fiscal Year 2025 Budget before it is submitted to the City Manager, and that once the information is provided to that committee, it will be a public document and he will transmit it to the Board. He noted that the Board's review of the CPD Budget will take place during its March 27th meeting and that CPD Commissioner Christine Elow and Director of Planning, Budget and Personnel Manisha Tibrewal will present the budget to the Board.

CPD Professional Standards, Training and Certification Unit Report

- Dir. Mulcahy provided an update about the current session of the CPD/Northeastern University Police Academy. He stated that he is currently teaching criminal law and eyewitness investigation procedures. He noted that the current cadet class should provide a number of great new police officers, and that all cadets have been passing their exams and doing well in the Academy.
- He reported that the CPD Training and Certification Unit is conducting the annual in-service training for all officers, and that training will exceed the Mass. Municipal Police Training Committee (MPTC) training requirements with an additional day of training. He noted that the

training includes deployment of less-lethal weapons, CPR, and use of defensive tactics. In response to a question about what would constitute a less-lethal weapon, he explained that this referred to the 40mm sponge round and its launcher, noting that after the fatal police shooting of Sayed Arif Faisal in 2023, there had been criticism that there was only one launcher for the less-lethal projectiles available and that CPD is increasing its capacity to deploy less-lethal options.

Consideration of Complaints before the Board

- Board Member Koscher moved that the Board enter executive session pursuant to Section 21(a)(1) of the Mass. Open Meeting Law to discuss complaint PR-2023-005 pending before the Board. The motion was seconded by Acting Chair LaRoche and approved by a unanimous roll call vote. The Board entered executive session at 6:17 p.m.

Adjournment

At the end of the executive session, the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 p.m., on a motion from Board Member Koscher, seconded by Board Member Arlotto.

Documents Used During the Meeting

- Police Review & Advisory Board Meeting Minutes of January 31, 2024