



# POLICE REVIEW & ADVISORY BOARD

*A Department of the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts*

## Minutes from the Meeting of February 24, 2021

**Board Members present:** Ann Coyne, Chair Ted Robitaille, Beverly Sealey

**City Staff present:** Executive Director Brian Corr, Project Coordinator Crystal Rosa; CPD Director of Professional Standards and Training and Certification Unit James Mulcahy, Lieutenant Phil McDavitt

**Chair Robitaille called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.**

### Public Comment

There were no comments from members of the public.

### Review and Approval of Minutes

On a motion from Board Member Coyne, seconded by Board Member Sealey, the Board discussed an edit to be made to the minutes and unanimously approved the minutes of January 27, 2021 as amended.

### Executive Director's Report

ED Corr provided an update on staff activities and collaborations:

- ED Corr announced that the City Manager's Office will be publicizing that there is a vacancy on the Board and applications will be accepted until March 29.
- ED Corr and Deputy Superintendent Riley have scheduled a training for members of the Board on the City's Vision Zero initiative for the Board for Wednesday, March 24.
- ED Corr provided a general update on the City Manager's Taskforce to Examine the Future of Public Safety in Cambridge which is being co-chaired by Councillors Simmons and McGovern and includes a diverse set of Cambridge residents, and involves the participation of Police Commissioner Bard and the City Manager.
- As part of the City's response to the pandemic, ED Corr continues to supervise the City's call center for people seeking COVID-19 testing who live or work in Cambridge.
- ED Corr presented to the Rockland County, NY "People's Panel on Policing" on February 3 as part of its efforts to promote county-wide police reform and creation of civilian oversight.

### Professional Standards Unit Report

Director Mulcahy shared updates from the Cambridge Police Department (CPD):

- Director Mulcahy announced that CPD is updating its records management system (RMS) to a cloud-based RMS.
- Director Mulcahy reported that as part of the FY 2022 budget process, Commissioner Bard provided CPD's annual report to City Council under the City's surveillance ordinance.
- Director Mulcahy informed the Board that CPD has assigned cadets to help with both managing traffic flow at the City's COVID-19 testing sites and staffing the call center.
- Director Mulcahy announced that a new officer started at the Cambridge/Northeastern Univ. Police Academy after becoming eligible by serving a year in the cadet program. There will be

another civil service exam opening soon, and Director Mulcahy explained that officers are not transferring laterally from other departments to become Cambridge police officers. They must be trained through the academy, and the two-year cadet program serves as a pathway for recruiting residents into the academy.

- Director Mulcahy noted that he recently taught three classes at the police academy on criminal law, constitutional law, and criminal procedure.

### **Consideration of Complaints before the Board and Adjournment**

Board Member Coyne moved that the Board enter executive session pursuant to Section 21(a)(1) of the Mass. Open Meeting Law to discuss complaints CC 2020-004. The motion was seconded by Board Member Sealey and approved by a unanimous vote. The Board entered the executive session at 6:37 p.m. and adjourned the meeting from executive session at 6:54 p.m.

### **Documents Used During the Meeting**

- Police Review & Advisory Board Minutes of January 27, 2021