Public Safety Committee Meeting

Location: Academy Building
       66 Central Square
       Room 201B
       Bridgewater, MA

Date & Time: Tuesday, January 22, 2019
              7:00 p.m.

Agenda

A. Call to Order
B. Approval of Minutes – December 11, 2018
C. Public Comment
D. Items for Action
   • Order O-FY19-038: Adoption of MGL c. 147 x. 21A - Authorizing the Appointment of Police Cadets
   • Order O-FY19-039: Home Rule Petition - Authorizing the Town of Bridgewater to Appoint Police Cadets
E. Adjourn
Bridgewater Town Council
In Town Council, Tuesday, January 8, 2019
Council Order: O-FY19-038

Order O-FY19-038
ADOPTION OF MGL c. 147 s. 21A – AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF POLICE CADETS

WHEREAS, The Town wishes to develop a police cadet program within its Police Department, and
WHEREAS, Massachusetts General Law permits the development of such a program upon acceptance of
the provisions of MGL c. 147, s. 21A;

ORDERED, that the Town Council assembled adopt MGL c. 147, s. 21A and authorize the Town Manager
to take any action relative thereto to implement a Police Cadet program.

Explanation:
The Police Chief has requested that the Town adopt the specific provision of Massachusetts General Laws to allow for the police cadet program.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:
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Order O-FY19-039

HOME RULE PETITION – AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER TO APPOINT POLICE CADETS

WHEREAS,

The Town of Bridgewater seeks to employ police cadets under certain circumstances;

ORDERED, that the Town Council requests the Town Manager to present to the General Court a Home Rule Petition to read substantially as set forth below and to request its representatives in the General Court to introduce legislation seeking a special act to read substantially as set forth below to allow the appointing authority of the Town of Bridgewater to appoint police cadets under certain circumstances to the Police Department of the Town and to authorize the General Court with the approval of the Town Manager to make constructive changes in perfecting the language of the proposed legislation to secure passage, or to take any other action related thereto.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY OF THE TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER TO APPOINT POLICE CADETS UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OF SAID TOWN:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter thirty-one of the General Laws, any person who has completed not less than one year of service as a police cadet in the police department of the town of BRIDGEWATER under the provisions of section twenty-one A of chapter one hundred and forty-seven of the General Laws may, subject to a program established by the appointing authority of said town be appointed to fill a vacancy in a position in the lowest grade in the police force of said town, without certification from an eligible list prepared under the provisions of chapter thirty-one of the General Laws; Such program shall include provisions for recruitment of applicants for appointment as police cadets in said town and for appointment from an eligible list prepared after a competitive examination administered under the supervision of the appointing authority of the town.

SECTION 2. Not more than thirty-three and one-third percent of the total number of appointments to the regular police force of the town of BRIDGEWATER in any calendar year shall be made under the provisions of this act. The appointing authority of said town shall report in writing to the personnel administrator in said division of personnel administration any appointment made under the provisions of this act.

NOT FOR ACTION – FIRST READING ONLY
SECTION 3. The appointing authority of the police department of the town of BRIDGEWATER shall institute appropriate recruitment procedures for such police cadet force in order to effectuate the purposes and, to the extent practicable, shall be consistent with the provisions of section twenty-six of chapter thirty-one of the General Laws and consistent with basic merit principles and which realize the purposes of this paragraph.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2019.

Explanation:
The Police Department is proposing to hire a limited number of cadets to the Department this year and in future years. This special legislation allows the Department to hire a cadet with no less than one year with the department as a full-time officer without going through the full civil service process, as long as the Department follows a defined and written procedure to conduct such hiring.

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