	MEDFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT	**POLICY NO. 4.19**

SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS

MASSACHUSETTS POLICE ACCREDITATION STANDARDS REFERENCED: **16.3.1, 16.3.2, 16.3.3, 16.3.5, 16.3.6, 16.3.7**	DATE OF ISSUE: 08/29/2021 EFFECTIVE DATE: 08/29/2021 REVISION DATE: 08/29/2022
ISSUING AUTHORITY: Michelle Guerette Chief of Police	

BACKGROUND:

Special police officers generally assist full-time sworn personnel in performance of details. To accomplish these tasks, they require law enforcement powers equivalent to those of full-time officers. Such authority is granted under Chapter 81 of the Acts of 2010.

The intent of this directive is to ensure that special police officers receive training equal to that required of full-time officers in those areas corresponding to their assigned duties and responsibilities. The subject matter in the training program should cover topics related to assigned duties and responsibilities to the same extent that full-time officers are trained to perform like functions. Training hours and schedules may vary to accommodate the special police officer and the course duration may be extended.

POLICY:

The Town of Medfield Board of Selectmen will appoint special police officers pursuant to Chapter 81 of the Acts of 2010. Special police officers are granted the same authority and perform many of the same duties as full-time police officers, but on a part-time basis and related to working police details. Special police officers are required to follow all written directives that apply to full-time police officers, unless directed otherwise by the Chief of Police. ***[16.3.1]***

PROCEDURES:

All candidates for employment as special police officers must meet the following basic selection criteria:

1. Not be a convicted felon;

2. Be at least 21 years of age;

3. Be a high school graduate or possess a General Equivalency Diploma; ***[16.3.9]***

4. Have the ability to obtain a Massachusetts drivers license; and

5. Have the ability to obtain a Massachusetts License to Carry a Firearm.

6. Must have been regular a Medfield Police Officer who retired based on superannuation.

7. Separated in good standing, meaning that such officer was not charged with or suspected of criminal activity at the time of retirement, nor was he or she under investigation, or facing disciplinary action for an ethical violation of departmental rules, or for any act of dishonesty.

8. Is not unqualified to be a police officer for reasons relating to mental health.

The selection process for hiring special police officers shall consist of an interview with the Chief of Police and a recommendation from the Chief to the Board of Selectmen for appointment as a special police officer.

In order to maintain the parallel training equivalents as full-time officers, the following procedures shall be required: ***[16.3.2]***

1. All sworn special police officers shall complete an academy training program as specified by the Massachusetts Municipal Police Training Committee prior to any routine assignment in any capacity in which the special police officer is allowed to carry a weapon or is in a position to make an arrest. ***[16.3.3]***

2. Special police officers shall attend annual reserve officer in-service training under the direction of the Massachusetts Municipal Police Training Committee. The training hours may be extended over a longer period of time than full time officers. ***[16.3.5]***

3. Special police officers shall be trained annually in the use-of-force policy and tested for weapons proficiency with lethal and non-lethal weapons at the same frequency as full-time officers. ***[16.3.6]***

4. Special police officers shall be provided with public liability protection equal to that provided to full-time officers. ***[16.3.7]***

CHAPTER 81 AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF RETIRED POLICE OFFICERS AS SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS IN THE TOWN OF MEDFIELD.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:

SECTION 1. The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Medfield may appoint, as they deem necessary, retired Medfield police officers as special police officers for the purpose of performing police details or any other police duties arising therefrom or during the course of police detail work, whether or not related to the detail work; provided however that such retired police officers shall have been regular Medfield police officers who retired based upon superannuation. These special police officers shall be subject to the same maximum age restriction as applied to regular police officers under chapter 32 of the General Laws. Prior to appointment, retired police officers shall pass a medical examination conducted by a physician or other certified professional chosen by the town, to determine whether such officers are capable of performing the essential duties of a special police officer and the cost thereof shall be borne by the retired officers.

SECTION 2. Special police officers appointed under this act shall not be subject to chapter 31 of the General Laws or to section 99A of chapter 41 of the General Laws.

SECTION 3. Special police officers appointed under this act shall, when performing the duties under section 1, have the same power to make arrests and to perform other police functions as do regular police officers of the Town of Medfield.

SECTION 4. Special police officers appointed under this act shall be appointed for an indefinite term, subject to removal by the police chief, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, at any time, upon 14 days written notice. Upon request, the police chief shall provide the reasons for such removal in writing.

SECTION 5. Special police officers appointed under this act shall be subject to the rules and regulations, policies and procedures and requirements of the chief of police of the Town of Medfield, including restrictions on the type of detail assignments, requirements regarding medical examinations to determine continuing capability to perform the duties of a special police officer, requirements for training, requirements for firearms qualifications and licensing and requirements regarding uniforms and equipment. Costs associated with meeting these requirements are to be paid by the special police officers. Special police officers appointed under this act shall not be subject to section 96B of chapter 41 of the General Laws.

SECTION 6. Special police officers appointed under this act shall be sworn before the town clerk, who shall keep a record of all such appointments.

SECTION 7. Special police officers appointed under this act shall be subject to sections 100 and 111F of chapter 41 of the General Laws. The amount payable under said section 111F of said chapter 41 shall be calculated by averaging the amount earned over the prior 52 weeks as a special police officer working police details, or averaged

over such lesser period of time for any officer designated as a special police officer less than 52 weeks prior to the incapacity. The payment under said section 111F of said chapter 41 shall not exceed, in any calendar year, the limitation on earnings contained in paragraph (b) of section 91 of chapter 32 of the General Laws. Payment under said section 111F of said chapter 41 shall terminate when special police officers reach the age of 65. In the event the age limitation applicable to regular police officers serving a town is increased from 65 years of age, the termination of benefits under said section 111F of said chapter 41, as provided herein to special police officers, shall terminate at such a higher age limit but shall not extend beyond the age of 70 for any special police officer. Special police officers appointed under this act shall not be subject to section 85H of said chapter 32 nor shall they be eligible for any benefits pursuant thereto.

SECTION 8. An appointment as a special police officer under this act shall entitle any individual appointed as such to assignment to any detail, as authorized by the police chief.

SECTION 9. Special police officers appointed under this act, shall be subject to the limitations on hours worked as provided in paragraph (b) of section 91 of chapter 32 of the General Laws.

SECTION 10. This act shall take effect upon its passage.