

SENATE No. 2271

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)

SENATE, Monday, January 29, 2018

The committee on Public Service, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2077) of Bruce E. Tarr and Ann-Margaret Ferrante (by vote of the town) for legislation relative to the appointment of retired police officers in the town of Essex,- reports the accompanying bill (Senate, No. 2271).

For the committee,
Paul R. Feeney

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An Act relative to the appointment of retired police officers in the town of Essex.

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

1 SECTION 1. Subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen, the Chief of Police may
2 appoint to serve at his pleasure, as he deems necessary, retired Town of Essex police officers as
3 special police officers for the purpose of performing police details or any police duties arising
4 therefrom or during the course of police detail work, whether or not related to the detail work.
5 Such retired police officers must have been regular full time Town of Essex police officers who
6 voluntarily retired from the town and not elsewhere based upon superannuation. The special
7 police officers shall be subject to the same maximum age restriction as applied to regular police
8 officers under chapter 32 of General Laws. Such special police officers must, prior to their
9 appointment, pass a medical examination by a physician chosen by the town, to determine that
10 they are capable of performing the essential duties of a special police officer, the cost of which
11 shall be borne by the special police officers, and shall provide certification to the town that they
12 are covered by personal health insurance.

13 SECTION 2. Special police officers appointed under this act shall not be subject to
14 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 Essex.

SECTION 4. Special police officers shall be appointed for an indefinite term to serve at the pleasure of the Police Chief, subject to removal by the Police Chief at any time with a 14-day written notice.

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 Essex, 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 requirements, regarding uniforms and equipment. Compliance with all requirements will be at no cost to the town of Essex. 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. In no event shall payment under said section 111F of said chapter 41 exceed, in any calendar year, the

limitation on earning 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 either when a physician designated by the town determines that the disability no longer exists or when a special police officer reaches 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 here in to special police officers, shall terminate at such a higher age limit, but in no event shall the benefits 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 or 85H1/2 of said chapter 32, nor eligible for any benefits pursuant thereto.

SECTION 8. Appointment as a special police officer under this act shall entitle any individual appointed as such to assignment to any detail. Special police officers shall be paid the detail rate applicable to regular full time officers but shall not be entitled to any other town benefits.

SECTION 9. Retired Essex police officers, serving as special police officers under this act, shall be subject to the limitations on hours worked and on payments to retired town employees under paragraph (b) of section 91 of chapter 32 of the General Laws.

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