

Minutes

Police and Fire Commission, Regular Meeting

Monday, October 20, 2025, 5:00 PM

Fire Dept, 401 N Level St, Dodgeville, WI

## **I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

President Tom Demuth called to order the Regular Meeting of the Police and Fire Commission at 5:01 PM on Monday, October 20, 2025 at the Dodgeville Firehouse.

Roll call, the following persons were Present: Marie Fralick, Mike Humke, Tom Demuth, Ken Von Rueden, Mary McKinley. Also present: Chief Brian Whitehouse, City Attorney Eric Hagen. Chief Brandon Wilhelm arrived 5:06 P.M.

## **II. CONFIRMATION AND COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETING LAW**

Posted Friday, October 17, 2025

## **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 1. Motion to approve the minutes from the July 29, 2025** Police and Fire Commission Regular Meeting held at the Dodgeville Fire Department with the correction of start time to 5:00PM was made by Mike Humke. Second by Ken Von Rueden. **Passed 5-0**

## **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

- 2. Dodgeville Fire Department Quarterly Report** was presented by Chief Brian Whitehouse. Chief Whitehouse presented 2025 January – September Review. Calls-98, Members-35, Members per call-14, a decrease in calls from 2024-107, 2023-110. Reduced numbers for Motor Vehicle Accidents, Gas Leak, and CO Call. Department provides multi-aid for structure and motor vehicle accidents.  
Membership activity on the rise. Four new members/applicants receiving (1) Entry Level training through SWTC, internal training, (1) certificate level 1 course, and (1) previous fire training. Also, two high school students taking SWTC course.  
Conducted annual fire prevention training at the schools in September, older students were provided fire extinguisher training. Increased use of social media.  
Continue look at options for 2007 Pierce Engine 1 refurbishment.  
Community “Candy Chute” Halloween activity. Hot dogs and beverages at the Fire Station, “Candy Chute” will be inside in case of rain. November 9<sup>th</sup> annual fundraiser sit-down/drive-through breakfast at Dodger Bowl. Letters to community shortly.

3. **Dodgeville Police Department Quarterly Report** was given by Chief Brandon Wilhelm. The City of Dodgeville Police Department implemented an event operation plan for 'No Kings' Rally including water/sand filled barricades, drones for surveillance. Second 2025 squad car, hybrid regenerative, has been received. Chief Wilhelm will present request for hiring of an officer at the Finance Committee Meeting tonight. One vacant position. Considering a second Seargeant position for night shift. The vacant position will be filled from an eligibility list of candidates. Interviews will be scheduled for upcoming Special Meeting, TBD.
4. **Motion to give approval to fill a vacant full-time officer position** was made by Mike Humke, second by Ken Von Rueden. **Motion passed 5-0**

## V. OLD BUSINESS

### 5. Review of Police and Fire Commission By-Law

Review of By-Laws and Rules of Procedure was led by Attorney Eric Hagen. A draft titled *City of \_\_\_\_\_, POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION, By-Laws and Rules of Procedure* was provided by Attorney Hagen. The following motions were made after the line item was discussed.

**MOTION: ARTICLE 2-1 The Police Chief must establish residency within a fifteen (15) mile radius of the City's jurisdictional limits...** Motion made by Mike Humke, second by Ken Von Rueden. **Motion passed 5-0**

**MOTION: ARTICLE 2-2 Strike residency requirement for subordinates to qualify to be appointed or promoted.** Motion made by Mary McKinley, second by Mike Humke. **Motion passed 5-0**

#### **ARTICLE 3-3a Application**

The word 'Subordinates' shall be added to clarify 'Application Form for Subordinates'.

#### **ARTICLE 3-3h Position Description**

For the hiring process, the Chief of Police and the City of Dodgeville Mayor will review position descriptions. Revised descriptions shall be presented for commission review at the next regular meeting.

**MOTION was made to suspend Robert's Rules of Order to discuss agility test and review criteria.** Motion made by Tom Demuth, second by Marie. **Motion passed 5-0**

**ARTICLE 3.48.d Character Investigation.** Other examinations as deemed warranted by the Chiefs...including physical strength and agility...applied to all applicants for a position.

Discussion was led by Chief Wilhelm regarding Pass-Fail physical agility test for entry level candidates.

**One (1) mile run** – within 12 minutes

**25 Sit-ups** – within 1 minute

**15 Push-ups** – within 2 minutes

**100-yard Obstacle Course** -within 65 seconds

Other required tests to include Math, Writing, and sample Incident Report. Cumulative overall test scores to determine Pass -Fail

**MOTION was made to return to Robert's Rules of Order** by Mary McKinley, second by Ken Von Rueden. **Motion passed 4-0** (Mike Humke was not present)

#### **ARTICLE 4.1 PROMOTIONS**

The Chief will determine the hiring process option for promotions.

#### **ARTICLE 6.2b Discipline, Demotion, Suspension and Termination of Subordinates**

The Chief will report a suspended subordinate including name, brief cause and suspension.

#### **VI.ANY OTHER BUSINESS INCLUDING PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**VII.NEXT MEETING:** January 19th, 2026 at 5:00p.m. at the Dodgeville Fire Department

#### **VIII.ADJOURN**

- 5. Motion to Adjourn** made by Ken Von Rueden at 6:51 PM, second by Marie Fralick.  
**Motion Passed 4-0**