

Police and Fire Commission Regular Meeting

Monday, July 20, 2026, 5:00 PM

City of Dodgeville, Fire Station

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

President Tom Demuth called to order the Meeting of the Police and Fire Commission at 5:04PM on Monday, July 20, 2026 at the City of Dodgeville Fire Station.

Roll call, the following persons were Present: Tom Demuth, Mary McKinley, Ken VonRueden. Also present, Chief Brandon Wilhelm, Lieutenant Ben Conway and Chief Brian Whitehouse. Absent, Mike Humke.

II. CONFIRMATION AND COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETING LAW

Posted Friday, July 17, 2026.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **MOTION** to approve minutes as written for April 20, 2026 Meeting. Motion made by Ken VonRueden. Second by Tom Demuth. Motion passed 3-0

IV. ELECTIONS

2. **MOTION** made by Mary McKinley nominating Tom Demuth as PFC President. Second by Ken VonRueden. Motion passed 3-0
3. **MOTION** made by Tom Demuth nominating Ken VonRueden as PFC Vice President. Second by Mary McKinley. Motion passed 3-0
4. **MOTION** made by Tom Demuth nominating Mary McKinley as PFC Secretary. Second by Ken Von Rueden. Motion passed 3-0

V. NEW BUSINESS

President Tom Demuth purposed change in agenda to hear Police Department Report since Chief Whitehouse would be arriving 5:15 PM. Change was approved.

6. Police Department Quarterly Report was presented by Chief Wilhelm.

#1 call need is for service for mental health issues. OWI up 140%

Calls for service increased 20% 2026 over 2025, 2,595/2157.

Arrests increased by 140% 2026 over 2025, 127/53.

Citations increased by 82% 2026 over 2025, 62/53.

Electronic Bicycle or Scooter rules and regulations have been updated and posted, flyers to be mailed with the August Utility bills

Special Event Involvement for both Police and Fire Department included: Farmers Appreciation Day and Parade, requiring approximately 100 hours of City employee time preparing, holding, and removal.

Radar Sign – requested estimates for replacement of junction box. Crosswalk Flags updated on July 16, 2026.

Training planned for June 25, 2026 - July 26, 2026. Submitted officer costs to the State for approval, department hours 665 hours, averaging 60 hours per officer.

5. Fire Department Quarterly Report by Brian Whitehouse.

Calls for 2026, 81. 2025, 63. Storms, hospital (electrical panel), Washington Street apartments were the origin for some.

Intersection/ revised traffic pattern near north Kwik Trip is presenting flow problems for emergency vehicles and semi's unable to make turn. Traffic back-up for north bound travel due to single lane. Concern before changes were implemented was expressed by Chief Whitehouse to the State.

Fire Department will have a third engine. Equipment to include LED flood lights, 2000Gal water capacity.

Training Tower is an on- going project.

Open House is on track.

7. Discussion related to Police Hiring Process

Discussion was lead by Chief Wilhelm. Commission was informed candidate previously approved accepted another position. The City of Dodgeville will open accepting applications for DPD June 1, 2026 till July 15, 2026. If no candidate applications are accepted, process will reopen August 31, 2026 and will be assessed after 10 days. At that point applications will be accepted for candidate without certification. Special Meeting may be called dependent on candidate interviews.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Search continues to appoint a member to fill vacant position. Notify Tom Demuth.

VII. NEXT MEETING; Regular Meeting, Monday, October 19, 2026 at 5:00 PM

VIII. ADJOURN

8. MOTION by Ken VonRueden to adjourn meeting at 5:49 PM. Second by Mary McKinley. Motion Passed 3-0

Respectfully Submitted by Mary McKinley