



POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

August 27, 2026 at 5:30 PM
303 Mansion Street Mauston, WI

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call:** The Police and Fire Commission met on August 27, 2026, in the Council Chambers at Mauston City Hall. Vice Chair Gary Purvis called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. Members present were Jack Hammer, Deborah Shuman, Gary Purvis, and Katie Gruman. Also present were Fire Chief Brent Lenorud (departing at 5:49 p.m.), Police Chief Michael Zilisch, and City Administrator Daron Haugh. Member absent was Brian McGuire.
2. **Minutes:** Motion by Hammer, seconded by Gruman, to approve the July 23, 2026, minutes. Motion carried by voice vote.
3. **Financial Report:** Motion by Gruman, seconded by Purvis, to approve the financial report as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.
4. **Fire Chief's Report:** The July 2026 calls for service were reviewed. There were 10 calls in the City and five calls in the rural area for a total of 15 calls. The Fire Department also participated in community events, including the Mauston and Lyndon Station parades, Mauston fireworks, and school presentations. Chief Lenorud reminded the Commission of the Recognition Banquet on September 28. He also reported that letters had been mailed to firefighters who had not responded to calls for an extended period, requesting the return of department equipment. He also expressed concern regarding the small number of firefighters regularly responding to calls and noted that further discussion regarding staffing will be needed. Motion by Shuman, seconded by Gruman, to approve the Fire Chief's report. Motion carried by voice vote.
5. **Police Chief's Report:** The July 2026 statistical reports were reviewed. There were 1,989 calls for service in July 2026, compared to 2,120 calls in July 2025 and 2,035 calls in the previous month. Chief Zilisch reported that the local Cops at Culver's event was successful and that funds raised through the statewide event will be converted to gift cards to assist families in need during the upcoming holiday season. He also reported that the July 4th event was successful and discussed law enforcement challenges associated with increased community participation. Motion by Hammer, seconded by Shuman, to approve the Police Chief's report. Motion carried by voice vote.
6. **Closed Session:** Pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute 19.85(1)(c) considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Motion by Hammer, seconded by Shuman, to convene in closed session. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. The

Commission convened in closed session at 5:58 p.m. to conduct an interview for the Police Officer position. Sergeant Arenz and Sergeant Sanner joined the closed session.

7. **Reconvene in Open Session:** Motion by Hammer, seconded by Gruman, to reconvene in open session. Motion carried by voice vote. The Commission reconvened in open session at 6:57 p.m.
8. **Result of Closed Session Matters:** The Commission reached consensus for Chief Zilisch to continue with the hiring process.
9. **Adjourn:** Motion by Shuman, seconded by Purvis, to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Chair

Date