



City of Beaver Dam, Wisconsin
Police and Fire Commission Meeting Minutes
Fire Department Training Room
205 S. Lincoln Avenue
Tuesday, September 9, 2025
5:00 PM

1) Call to Order – Roll Call

The meeting of the Police and Fire Commission was called to order at 5:00 pm by President Thea O'Connor. Present were commission members Bill Lafler and Mike Stephens. Also present were Police Chief John Kreuziger, Fire Chief Mike Wesle, Deputy Police Chief Brandon Stommel and guests.

2) Approval of Minutes

- a) Discuss and take action on the August 12 meeting minutes.

Motion by Stephens to approve the August 12th meeting minutes as presented, seconded by O'Connor, motion carried by acclamation.

3) Presentations & Reports

- a) Mayor's Comments

- We are looking forward to the new city administrator, Larry Bierke, starting on September 16. Our interim administrator, Jay Shambeau, will be on-call for a week to aid in the transition.
- Budget talks are going on now with a budget workshop on Sept 15.
- The State Legislature granted Beaver Dam an exemption from the 12% revenue cap on TID districts. This exemption will provide greater flexibility for creating new TID districts, particularly in support of the data center project.
- When 5 Bugles returns in October with additional data, she believes the council will be supportive of a new fire station. She also expressed appreciation for the strong showing of fire department members at the previous presentation.

- b) Present Officer Joseph Salazar with Supervisory Letter of Commendation

Chief Kreuziger presented Officer Joey Salazar with a Supervisory Letter of Commendation summarizing several letters he received from community members over the last number of months expressing his courteous interactions and caring character. He shared a letter from one citizen. He thanked Officer Slazar for his professionalism and commended him for his quality of police service to the BD community.

4) Fire Department Business

- a) Update commission on the operations of the Fire Department

- Reviewed calendar and operations report
- If Inspector MOU is approved later, he will open the application process to work on

the eligibility list.

- New ladder truck is in service and the old one has been picked up by Tomah Fire Department.
- CAD project is still on track and still in the county's budget proposal.
- The department is evaluating options for new gear. An example of the current turnout gear was shown alongside the new gear under consideration. Officers have already ordered new jackets of this type through the Wisconsin Funding Assistance Program. These jackets are designed for both technical rescue and wildland use, allowing State EMS funds to be applied toward the purchase. Additionally, a DNR grant will help offset the cost.
- Presented everything to the council for the station study to the council. The council would like a few more sites analyzed by 5 Bugles, along with a conceptual design for both one and two stations. The GIS study will be completed, and the conceptual designs will be considered and a cost for each presented. The mayor stated that through a straw poll at that meeting, it seemed half wanted 2 stations and the rest just weren't sure. Either way, staffing will be an issue, but for 2 stations, at least six more staff will be needed.

- b) Discuss and take action on moving Firefighter/Paramedic Andrew Koenig from probationary to regular status.

Motion by Lafler to approve moving Firefighter/Paramedic Andrew Koenig from probationary to regular status, seconded by Stephens. Motion carried by acclimation

- c) Discuss and take action on moving Firefighter/Paramedic Jonathan Rash from probationary to regular status.

Motion by Stephens to approve moving Firefighter/Paramedic Jonathan Rash from probationary to regular status, seconded by Lafler. Motion carried by acclimation.

- d) Discuss and take action on the 2026 Fire Department budget.

Chief Wesle shared and reviewed the 2026 budget with the commission members. Then he went over each Capital Outlay requests, which were:

- A new ambulance which is actually a 2028 replacement item but needs to come out of the 2026 budget.
- A Knox Box key control system.
- Dive equipment. Chief is proposing the 8 Diver Set - ups of \$54,330. However, there are a few funding options to supplement this cost, such as Jahnke's Piggly Wiggly is doing a fundraiser, requesting annual funding from the county for equipment replacement, and the County Fire Chief's Association seeking funds from Emergency Management for dive equipment.
- On behalf of the city emergency management, a tornado siren on the data center site. The data center has been asked to fund this, so this is pending their approval and action from the PFC won't be needed at this time.

Motion by Lafler to approve the 2026 budget as presented, seconded by Stephens. Motion carried by acclimation.

Motion by Stephens to approve the Capital budget request to order a new ambulance for

arrival in 2028 for a cost of \$440,000 but won't have a budget impact in 2026, seconded by Lafler. Motion carried by acclimation.

Motion by Lafler to approve the Capital budget request to order the Knox Box key control system for the cost of \$20,850, seconded by Stephens. Motion carried by acclimation.

Motion by Stephens to approve the Capital budget request to order of purchasing full replacements of 8 diver set-ups for the cost of \$54,330, seconded by Lafler. Motion carried by acclimation.

5) Police Department Business

a) Update commission on the operations of the Police Department

- The August department calendar was reviewed.
- The co-responder grant has been awarded and will begin on October 1. It will fund a Dodge County Human Services employee who will operate out of the BDPD. The grant provides approximately \$70,000 toward the salary, with the remaining cost covered by the county. This is a one-year grant.
- He shared a letter from the school superintendent thanking the department for its dedication and service.
- He reviewed the 2025 budget to date. The department is at 44.19% as of June 30.
- Officer Cody McClean was sworn in at the beginning of the month.
- The department has a K-9 agreement with the UW School of Veterinary Medicine that should an emergency arise anytime, they would provide services at a reduced cost. In return, they did a photo with the department and the UW Chancellor, Dean of Students and Representatives Mark Born, John Jagler, Mayor Marck, the K-9 handlers and the K-9s.
- He is proud of the relationship they have with the school system. There was a meeting with the school crossing guards.

b) Discuss and take action on the Records Clerk job title change.

He shared an email from Records Clerk Supervisor Trina Lynch that included several examples of titles for police department support staff. He recommended using "Public Safety Administrative Specialist." O'Connor emphasized the importance of proper classification, and Stephens noted this will lay the groundwork for reviewing compensation and wages. The goal is to ensure specialized clerks are classified appropriately compared to other city clerks. O'Connor also requested clarification on the scope of the PFC's jurisdiction and plans to meet with the new city administrator regarding this.

Motion by Stephens to re-title the police department support staff to "Public Safety Administrative Specialist and Specialist Supervisor", seconded by Lafler. Motion carried by acclimation.

c) Discuss and take action on the 2026 Police Department budget.

Chief had Deputy Chief Stommel assist him with presenting the budget. DC Stommel went over the changes in the projected 2026 budget. Then he went over the capital outlay requests of:

- Two marked squads at the cost of \$145,000
- Two unmarked squads at the cost of \$65,000

- Mobile data computers and vehicle docks at the cost of \$49,168
- Host server replacement at the cost of \$40,547
- Portable and mobile radio system at the cost of \$266,640

Motion by Lafler to approve the 2026 police department as presented, seconded by Stephens. Motion carried by acclamation.

Motion by Stephens to approve the capital budget request of two marked squads at the cost of \$145,000, seconded by Lafler. Motion carried by acclamation.

Motion by Lafler to approve the capital budget request of two unmarked squads at the cost of \$65,000, seconded by Stephens. Motion carried by acclamation.

Motion by Stephens to approve the capital budget request of host server replacement at the cost of \$40,547, seconded by Lafler. Motion carried by acclamation.

Motion by Lafler to approve the capital budget request of mobile data computers and vehicle docks at the cost of \$49,168, seconded by Stephens. Motion carried by acclamation.

The capital budget request for a portable and mobile radio system at the cost of \$266,640 was tabled.

6) Any Other Business for Placement on Future Agenda

Review of the fire department's non-represented employee's wage scale.

7) Closed Session

- a) Pursuant to Wisconsin Statute SEC. 19-85(1)(c). Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the government body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, in particular, to discuss the Fire Inspector's position MOU and the Police Department's Auxiliary Officer eligibility list.

Motion by Lafler to enter into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statute SEC. 19-85(1)(c), considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the government body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, in particular, to discuss the Fire Inspector's position MOU and the Police Department's Auxiliary Officer eligibility list, seconded by Stephens. Motion carried by voice vote, Lafler-aye, Stephens-aye, O'Connor, aye.

- b) Commission may reconvene in open session to act upon any/all items discussed or deliberated during closed session.

The commission reconvened in open session.

Lafler made a motion to approve the MOU for the Fire Inspector position, seconded by Stephens. Motion carried by acclamation.

Stephens made a motion to approve the Police Department's Auxiliary Officer eligibility list, seconded by Lafler. Motion carried by acclamation.

8) Adjourn

Stephens made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Lafler. Motion carried by acclamation.