



City of Beaver Dam, Wisconsin
Police and Fire Commission Meeting Minutes
Fire Department Training Room
205 S. Lincoln Avenue
Tuesday, December 10, 2024
5:00 PM

1) Call to Order – Roll Call

President Thea O'Connor called the meeting to order at 5:00pm. Present were Bill Lafler, Mike Stephens, and Thea O'Connor.

2) Approval of Minutes

- a) Discuss and take action on the approval of the November 12 meeting minutes.

Motion by Lafler to approve the November 12 meeting minutes, seconded by Stephens, motion carried by acclimation.

3) Presentations & Reports

- a) Presentation on Wisconsin Task Force 1 by Captain Jahnke and Lt. Weidler.

Captain Wesley Jahnke and Lieutenant Matt Weidler gave a presentation describing what the Wisconsin Task Force 1 is and what they do.

- b) Mayor's Comments

Mayor Marck commented that she felt that WTF1 is amazing and is glad that Beaver Dam is involved. She also expressed her gratitude to the police and fire departments for their help at the holiday parade.

- c) City Administrator's Report

Administrator Thiel reported on the following changes to the Employee Handbook that were approved by the common council. First, the city will now require 3 months' notice of the employee's intended retirement date in order to qualify for the conversion of sick leave to insurance. Second, the city's FMLA policy will now be calculated on a rolling 12-month cycle. Finally, Thiel said that the fire department union negotiations went to mediation and he is meeting with the police department on December 13 for their negotiations.

4) Fire Department Business

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

- We received 12 applications for POC firefighter positions. Seven were eligible. He offered positions to 4 of the 7 eligible applicants.
- POC FF Aaron Lienke starts full-time on Dec 23. He is half-way through his medic class.
- The cab on the new aerial is currently being painted and assembled with the frame assembly starting later this month.
- He is doing research about how we can share apparatus with the rural fire association in accordance with our apparatus replacement plan with hopes of saving

money.

- The live burn practice on November 16 presented some issues with the burn tower. We have adhered to the rules the manufacturer gave us for the proper use, so it should all be covered under warranty.
- The 2025 training plan is almost complete.
- Andy Koenig and Nick Smith have completed their medic class. They are currently working on the required patient contacts. When they have completed those contacts, they can take the national registry test.
- Our department is part of a 501c3 organization. This organization donated \$2500 towards our Beaver Dam Charities Foundation fund.
- We recently held a fundraiser for public education, cadets and the training tower. We don't have totals yet, but we have had some very generous donors.
- Chief then reviewed the operations report.
- Stephens asked how inspections were going. Chief said we are getting more done than in 2023 but we are still not getting all the follow-ups completed.
- The department is getting audited for their 2% dues from the state soon.

- b) Discuss and take action on the resignation of POC Firefighter Bryce Toy.

Motion by Stephens to accept the resignation of POC firefighter Bryce Toy, seconded by Lafler, motion carried by acclamation.

- c) Discuss and take action on carry-over vacation hours/days.

Motion by Lafler, second by Stephens to accept the vacation carry-over hours as requested, seconded by Stephens, motion carried by acclamation.

- Chief Wesle 40 hours
- Deputy Chief Smith 40 hours
- Lana Fassbender 40 hours
- JoAnne Bernhardt 48 hours
- Heather Shoemaker 120 hours
- Kyle Neuman 24 hours
- Nick Smith 96 hours
- Logan Thomas 24 hours
- Emily Seifert 48 hours
- Tim Schoenborn 46 hours
- Justin Woldt 24 hours
- Matt Weidler 24 hours
- Andy Koenig 120 hours

- d) Discuss and take action on the fire inspector job description.

Motion by Stephens, to accept the fire inspector job description as presented, seconded by Lafler, motion carried by acclamation.

5) Police Department Business

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

- On November 12, 4 employees and a dog helped with yard clean-up for some elderly citizens who needed help. This was paid for by Walmart.
- His employees got notification of the updated items that Nathan Thiel discussed earlier.
- Reviewed the department budget balances from Jan-Sept.
- As contracted, the department will be reimbursed \$33,320.46 for their help with the Republican National Convention. Total cost was \$40,094.12.
- There were approximately 8,000-9,000 participants at the Downtown Fall Fest. This year, they set up a command post for the holiday parade. The parade was successful and it worked well having the DPW trucks at the intersections.
- The newest female officer started on November 18. Chief has already received an email from a citizen commenting on her compassion and help.
- He did a presentation about the police department for the Kiwanis Club.
- They received \$12,679.10 for their portion of the annual traffic grant. This grant is through the state and is shared with the county.
- Lafler asked if the department was compensated for their help at the Trump Rally. They did not. Rather, it was done as a mutual aid for the Sheriff's Department.

b) Discuss and take action on carry-over vacation hours/days.

Motion by Lafler to approve the vacation carry-over hours as presented, seconded by Stephens, motion carried by acclamation.

- Matt Edwards 17 hours
- Trina Lynch 8 hours
- Jesse Shilts 34 hours
- Nikki Torres 40 hours
- Jim Van Erem 8.5 hours
- Becky Wendorff 40 hours

c) Discuss and take action on the Police Chief Attending the International Association of Police Chief's conference in Denver, Colorado on October 16-22, 2025.

Motion by Lafler to approve Chief Kreuziger attending the international Association of Police Chief's conference in Denver, Colorado on October 16-22, 2025, seconded by Stephens, motion carried by acclamation.

d) Discuss and take action on removing Officer Molly Lynch from probationary status.

Upon recommendation of her Lieutenant, Sergeant, and Chief for her exceptional professionalism, Stephens made a motion to move Officer Molly Lynch from probationary status to regular status, seconded by Lafler, motion carried by acclamation.

6) Any Other Business for Placement on Future Agenda

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 review and

take action on a leave of absence for a Police Department employee and to discuss and take action on the Paid-on Call Firefighter Eligibility list.

Motion by Lafler to enter into closed session to review and take action on a leave of absence for a Police Department employee and to discuss and take action on the Paid-on Call Firefighter Eligibility list, seconded by Stephens. Motion carried by voice vote. Stephens-aye, Lafler-aye, O'Connor-aye. The commission entered into closed session at 6:08 pm. Discussion was had with respect for the subject matter for which the closed session was called.

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

The commission did not reconvene in open session.

8) Adjourn

While in closed session, Lafler made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Stephens, motion carried by acclamation.

The meeting adjourned at 6:18pm.