

Police and Fire Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2026

Attendance: Deb Rice, Vikki Peterson, Nathan Manwiller, Jason Thompson, Fire Chief Ryan Simmons, Lieutenant Andrea Droessler, Lieutenant Ryan Knoersnchild.

- The meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m. by Jason Thompson
- There were no citizen comments or observations.
- The meeting minutes from the May 5th meeting were reviewed. Nathan Manwiller motioned and Deb Rice 2nd a motion to approve the minutes. Motion carried.
- Fire Department Update:

Membership Update

- There has been some change in our membership. We have had some members leave us due to graduation and others who just did not have the time to volunteer anymore due to life changes. We are currently at 45 volunteers. However, we have received applications from 5 individuals interested in volunteering. We will be reviewing and processing the applicants in the next several weeks.

Report of Calls for Service

- The fire department responded to 22 incidents in May. FD response summary for May is as follows:

Fires	0
Vehicle Crashes.....	4
Gas Odor/CO Alarms	5
Alarm System Activation	9
EMS Lift Assist	0
Other.....	4

Information Updates

- Fire Station Project Update – The subcontractor has completed the curb and gutter in various areas around the site. They have also now completed all the concrete driveways and parking lots. Sidewalks have also been completed with only asphalt paving to be completed. Asphalt paving is tentatively scheduled for the week of June 15th. The only site utility work to complete yet is the bioretention pond. This work is currently being done and then they will move to overall site grading.

Flooring is nearing completion throughout the building. Terrazzo flooring is completed in the lobby, carpet is completed in all areas except the meeting/training room, and LVT flooring is completed throughout the entire building. The carpet will be completed next week after the hearing loop is installed.

Ceiling tiles are completed in most areas. The ceiling contractor is waiting for the remaining ceiling tiles to arrive before they can complete the ceilings and expect the tiles to arrive early July.

Most of the electrical, plumbing and HVAC contractors are preparing for equipment startup and commissioning. The painters have completed most of the painting and will begin working on touchup painting as areas are completed.

The apparatus bay is currently getting the epoxy floor coating applied and should be completed by the end of this week.

We continue to be pleased with the progress being made and Kraemer Brothers anticipates the building being substantially completed in July allowing the fire department to begin moving in August/ September 2026 with a grand opening/ribbon cutting and open house planned to occur on Monday, October 5, 2026 @ 4:00pm. On Saturday, October 10th from 11:00am – 3:00pm, an open house will occur for a second opportunity for community members to view the new facility.

- Community Events – We will be participating in SHC Berry Fest and the annual 4th of July fireworks coming up.
- County Paging and Radio System – We have been working with Grant County and Racom to resolve some issues with the new county paging and radio systems. We are experiencing a decline in paging coverage as well as radio coverage. The new county radio system has also impacted our local radio channel and repeater as it is co-located on the county's Platteville tower and shares much of the same antenna infrastructure. We currently are experiencing very large/drastric decrease in our radio repeater power output. As a result of this, we are having coverage issues and are unable to have clear radio communications in much of our rural coverage and within commercial properties within the city. There is no current solution to these issues but we are continuing to work with our partners to find a resolution.
- Police Department Updates

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The entire department received recertification on our firearms. This is an annual requirement that was conducted while officers were on shift over the course of two days. All of our instructors are in-house trainers.
- Sergeant Kris Purkapile attended a mental health training in Iowa that focused on employee assistance programs and strategies to cope with the stresses of a law enforcement position. Sergeant Purkapile will be conducting department wide training on this topic soon.
- The department conducted the annual liquor license checks at all establishments that have a license. Most were in compliance with the regulations. The few that were not were given education on what was needed and each issue was resolved at the time of contact.

MAJOR OBJECTIVES FOR THE COMING MONTH.

-The department continues to make employee wellness a priority. We are contracted through HealthyMinds LLC in Madison to conduct a one-on-one wellness check with each employee. The intent is not disciplinary or evaluative in nature, but rather to provide employees with an opportunity to discuss stress management, resiliency, and overall wellness in a confidential environment. Participation supports our continued focus on employee well-being, recognizing that maintaining a healthy workforce contributes to long-term organizational effectiveness, employee retention, and quality service to the community. At this time, meetings have been made available to all employees and have been incorporated as one component of our ongoing wellness efforts.

-June begins a busy time for special events in the City, where we will provide coverage for many things happening in the community (Pride in the Park, pool opening, youth sports, etc). It is a great opportunity to connect with the public

- As part of the transition of code enforcement responsibilities from the former Code Enforcement Officer position to the Police Department, staff has begun a review of the City's ordinances to identify sections that may require updates to align enforcement authority with current operations.

The purpose of this review is not to expand enforcement powers or create new regulations, but to ensure the ordinances accurately reflect who is responsible for administration, enforcement, notice procedures, and compliance actions under the City Code.

During this process, staff is identifying provisions that currently assign enforcement authority to individual departments, positions, or officials that may no longer align with the City's organizational structure. Where appropriate, recommended ordinance amendments will be brought forward to clarify enforcement responsibility, preserve technical decision-making authority where needed, and improve consistency throughout the Code.

This review is expected to occur incrementally by chapter and proposed revisions will be presented to Council for consideration as they are completed.

-I have spoken with Sheriff Reukauf in regards to the next steps in the possibility of dispatch consolidation. We agreed that any future meeting that will include this topic by either the City Council or the County Board we will both attend to facilitate the discussion and present the same information for a shared future understanding.

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- Motion was made by Nate Manwiller and Seconded by Vikki Peterson to enter into closed session for the purpose of interviewing a candidate for an open police officer position
- Motion was made by Nathan Manwiller and seconded by Deb Rice to name Ethan Schultz to the eligibility pool for the position of Police Officer. Unanimous vote.
- Nathan motioned and Deb 2nd to adjourn the meeting at 5:58pm. Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Josh Grabandt
Chief of Police