



City of West Allis

Meeting Minutes

Police and Fire Commission

Thursday, November 20, 2025

6:00 PM

West Allis Police Department
11301 W. Lincoln Ave.

REGULAR MEETING AND CLOSED SESSION

A. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Manthei called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Mark Manthei, Kimberly Cosby, Michelle Sutinen, Amy Heron and Sagar Tolani

Also present: Fire Chief Jason Schaak, Deputy Chief Tyson Novinska - Fire Department; Police Chief Pat Mitchell, Deputy Chief Bob Fletcher - Police Department; CAO Erin Hirn - City of West Allis; Bridget Morawetz, Recording Secretary

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the October 16, 2025 Regular and Closed Session Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Sutinen noted that her last name was spelled incorrectly in the minutes and requested that correction.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tolani and seconded by Commissioner Heron to approve the minutes with the corrections per Commissioner Sutinen's request.

The motion carried by the following votes:

Aye: 5, Commissioners Manthei, Cosby, Sutinen, Heron, Tolani

Nay: 0

D. FIRE DEPARTMENT

1. Request to consider promotion to Deputy Chief

Chief Schaak presented the resume of Captain Curt Maly to the Commissioners. He stated that Ct. Maly has been with the department for 24 years and has been at the rank of Captain since 2018. Chief Schaak stated that the department will be asking the Commissioners for their approval at the December meeting to promote Ct. Maly to Deputy Chief of Community Risk Reduction.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

2. Fire and Rescue Report

Chief Schaak stated that October was Fire Prevention month and Acting Lieutenant Steve Dufek presented the 2025 program to approximately 2300 students at 12 different schools. Chief Schaak noted that A/LT Dufek participated in a baby safety shower event hosted by Aurora Women's Pavilion. He stated that A/LT Dufek presented information on fire and home safety for infants and young children.

Chief Schaak stated that the department's code enforcement team has completed 3713 fire inspections to date reaching and exceeding the yearly inspection goal by 1%.

Chief Schaak also highlighted some of the benchmark numbers as well as October mutual aid information.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

3. Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) and EMS Report

Chief Schaak stated that the department received 39 referrals from Aurora Hospital for MIH assistance in October. He noted that that is the most referrals in a single month ever received since the inception of the program almost five years ago. He noted that improved understanding of MIH functions in conjunction with the Aurora at Home program were beneficial to this referral increase.

Chief Schaak shared that firefighter and paramedic Rachel Lensing assisted with the implementation of updated pediatric paramedic kits designed to enhance pediatric emergency medical services. He noted that the updated kits streamline access to critical equipment, dosing references and improved labeling to support rapid identification during high-stress situations.

Chief Schaak reviewed the benchmarks and the highlighted calls that were also included in this report.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

4. Department Administration and Communications Report

Chief Schaak stated that the training department recently conducted a six-month evaluation for the firefighter recruits that began in April 2025 and all passed the testing requirements with no issues or concerns.

Chief Schaak stated that the October social media post Behind the Badge spotlighted Equipment Operator Jake Levenhagen. He stated that EO Levenhagen is the fourth in his family to join the WAFD team.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

5. QPR Performance Report

Chief Schaak did not speak to anything included in this report and the Commissioners had no additional questions or comments.

The report was placed on file.

6. Fire Department Financial Report

Chief Schaak did not speak to anything included in this report and the Commissioners had no additional questions or comments.

The report was placed on file.

E. POLICE DEPARTMENT

- 7. Request for purchase approval: Seven (7) squad cars in 2026

Chief Mitchell requested approval from the Commissioners to purchase seven (7) squad cars. He stated that funding was approved in the 2026 department operating budget for the purchases.

A motion was made by Commissioner Heron and seconded by Commissioner Tolani to approve this request as presented.

The motion carried by the following votes:

Aye: 5, Commissioners Manthei, Cosby, Sutinen, Heron and Tolani

Nay: 0

- 8. Request for approval: Begin Police Officer recruitment process

Chief Mitchell requested approval to begin a Police Officer recruitment process.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tolani and seconded by Commissioner Heron to approve this request as presented.

The motion carried by the following votes:

Aye: 5, Commissioners Manthei, Cosby, Sutinen, Heron and Tolani

Nay: 0

- 9. Request for purchase approval: Motorola Command Central and Dispatch Console Solution

Chief Mitchell requested approval to purchase command central and dispatch console solution from Motorola.

Chief Mitchell stated that the current infrastructure is a Motorola design and has proven to be reliable and durable. He stated that funding for this purchase was requested through the city's capital budget process and approved by the Common Council on November 11th.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tolani and seconded by Commissioner Sutinen to approve the purchase as presented.

The motion carried by the following votes:

Aye: 5, Commissioners Manthei, Cosby, Sutinen, Heron and Tolani

Nay: 0

- 10. Police Department financial report

Chief Mitchell stated that the training account is currently overbudget due to four recruits attending Fox Valley Police Academy. He stated that the hotel costs and per diems will be reimbursed by the State after completion of the program.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

11. Monthly performance report

Chief Mitchell stated that at the October 27th quarterly Neighborhood Partnership Meeting, he presented information on crime trends and crime data covering July through September 2025. He also noted that Becca Marszalkowski from the Southwest Suburban Health Department presented information regarding opioid overdose prevention and use of Narcan.

Chief Mitchell stated that after officers responded to a suspicious vehicle in the parking lot of a hotel, the vehicle fled the scene and led the officers on a high speed chase. He stated that as the car was fleeing, an occupant in the vehicle fired rounds at the pursuing squad car. Chief Mitchell stated that two suspects were eventually arrested and charged accordingly by the DA's office.

Lastly, Chief Mitchell recognized and congratulated Sergeant Lonnie Christianson who was recently appointed to the Board of Directors for the Wisconsin Crisis Negotiators Association.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

12. Training Bureau Report

Chief Mitchell stated that going forward this report will not include the field training performance review statements for Probationary Officers. Chief Mitchell stated that rookies are in a learning phase when they enter field training and reports on their progress are reviewed by their superiors daily. He noted that resignations or other issues regarding probationary officers will continue to be brought before the Commissioners as needed.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

13. Patrol Bureau Report

Chief Mitchell stated that after conducting a valid traffic stop on a jeep, the vehicle fled the scene and upon deployment of a stop stick device, the suspect fled the jeep. Chief Mitchell stated that use of the department's drone quickly located the suspect hiding in a residential yard location. He noted that after announcing that a k-9 was on scene, the suspect surrendered and was arrested without incident. Chief Mitchell noted that the suspect was a convicted felon and has been charged with numerous offenses to include recklessly endangering safety - 2nd degree.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

14. Criminal Investigations Bureau Report

Chief Mitchell stated that the department has been assigned as the lead investigation agency for a M.A.I.T (Milwaukee Area Investigative Team) activation for

an incident that occurred on October 9th. Chief Mitchell stated that an off-duty Milwaukee police officer was involved in a fatal civilian shooting after a road rage incident.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or concerns and the report was placed on file.

15. Community Services Bureau Report

Chief Mitchell did not speak to anything included in this report and the Commissioners had no additional questions or comments.

The report was placed on file.

16. Communications Bureau Report

Chief Mitchell did not speak to anything included in this report and the Commissioners had no additional questions or comments.

The report was placed on file.

17. Tavern Violations Report

Chief Schaak did not speak to anything included in this report and the Commissioners had no additional questions or comments.

The report was placed on file.

18. Closed Session: Discipline of two police officers

For agenda item #18, the Board may convene in closed session pursuant to the provisions of Section 19.85(1)(b)(f) of the Wis. Stats., to consider dismissal, demotion, licensing or discipline of any public employee or person licensed by a board or commission or the investigation of charges against such persons, and to consider financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigations of charges against specific persons except where par.(b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data or involved in such problems or investigations.

Immediately upon completion of the closed session, the Board of Police and Fire Commission may reconvene in open session at said time and place to consider any other matters on the agenda

F. POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION

19. PFC Financial Report

The PFC financial report was presented and the Commissioners had no additional questions or comments.

The report was placed on file.

20. Request for approval: Collective bargaining agreement with WAPPA for 2026-2029

A motion was made by Commissioner Tolani and seconded by Commissioner Heron to approve the agreement as presented.

The motion carried by the following votes:

Aye: 5, Commissioners Manthei, Cosby, Sutinen, Heron and Tolani

Nay: 0

21. Communication and discussion: Joint Fire Department Term Sheet

CAO Erin Hirn reviewed with the Commissioners the joint fire department initial term sheet that was presented to Common Council on November 11, 2025.

CAO Hirn stated that neither West Allis nor Wauwatosa's Common Council members have officially agreed to move forward with the merger. She stated that once both cities have agreed, the timelines for implementation of merger steps can then begin.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

22. Closed session: 2025-2026 goal setting review discussion with Fire Chief

23. Request for approval: 2025-2026 Fire Chief Goals

A motion was made by Commissioner Tolani and seconded by Commissioner Cosby to approve the 2025-2026 Fire Chief goals that were presented and discussed in closed session.

The motion carried by the following votes:

Aye: 5, Commissioners Manthei, Cosby, Sutinen, Heron and Tolani

Nay: 0

For agenda #22, the board may convene in closed session pursuant to the provisions of Section 19.85(1)(c) of the Wis. Stats. which permits a governmental body upon motion duly made and carried, to convene in closed session for the purpose of considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.

Immediately upon completion of the closed session, the Board of Police and Fire Commission may reconvene in open session at said time and place to consider any other matters on the agenda.

On a motion made and seconded, the meeting convened into closed session at 7:24 pm.

On a motion made and seconded, the meeting reconvened into open session at 8:01 pm

G. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.



All meetings of the Police and Fire Commission are public meetings. In order for the general public to make comments at the committee meetings, the individual(s) must be scheduled (as an appearance) with the chair of the committee or the appropriate staff contact; otherwise, the meeting of the committee is a working session for the committee itself, and discussion by those in attendance is limited to committee members, the mayor, other alderpersons, staff and others that may be a party to the matter being discussed.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The City of West Allis does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of race, color, religion, age, marital or veterans' status, sex, national origin, disability or any other legally protected status in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its services, programs or activities.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT NOTICE

Upon reasonable notice the City will furnish appropriate auxiliary aids and services when necessary to afford individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in and to enjoy the benefits of a service, program or activity provided by the City.

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY STATEMENT

It is the policy of the City of West Allis to provide language access services to populations of persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) who are eligible to be served or likely to be directly affected by our programs. Such services will be focused on providing meaningful access to our programs, services and/or benefits.