MINUTES
MEETING POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION
BERLIN, WISCONSIN
BERLIN CITY HALL – 2ND FLOOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS
October 07, 2026 -6:30pm

President Ron Ross called the meeting to order at 6:32pm. Present: Commissioners Morgan Monohan, Ron Ross, Gary Podoll, and Denise Krentz. Seated virtually: None. Absent: Keith Hess. Also present: Police Chief Noah Knetzger, Fire Chief Doug Dewhurst, liaison Hill, Mayor Burgess, City Admin Jesse Balcom, and Berlin Journal: Paul Weigel. Public appearance: None.

Under general public comments, none.

Under approval of minutes, Krentz moved to approve the open September 02, 2026 P&F Commission minutes. Ross seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Under Fire Department resignation of member Robert Johnson, Ross motioned to approve Johnson's resignation. Monohan seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Podoll moved to approve the fire department expenses as presented. Krentz seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Under Fire Department reporting and updates Fire Chief Dewhurst explained there were 19 calls for last month, and 134 calls for the year. Maintenance issues, none. Upcoming events, candles where lit for the fallen fire fighters for 9/11. This week we had fire prevention week at the schools and daycare. This upcoming Saturday we will be hosting our annual pork roast and open house. Training, we will be conducting thermal imaging training. We will also have department physicals later this month.

Ross moved to approve the Police Department expenses as presented. Krentz seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Police Chief Knetzger stated that the chart provided to the commission shows last month's calls. The chart shows that there were 116 traffic stops, 9 drug investigations, 10 welfare checks, 7 theft investigations, and 2 domestic abuse investigations. The chart indicates, traffic contacts have a slight decrease, while OWI arrests stayed the same. Domestic abuse and drug cases have also decreased.

Under Police reporting and updates, Police Chief Knetzger explained staff attended the county wide night shoot for firearms training. Detective Schmidt attended the touch-a-truck event at the High school. Staff also participated in the ALICE drills at the schools. Staff has completed the state qualification for firearms training. This week we are preparing for homecoming events. The Assistant Chief position has been posted and the deadline for that is October 16. I will be attending TIME coordinator training later this month. The department is signed up to participate in the trunk or treat with the Boys and Girls Club. We have received resignation for a crossing guard position due to health issues. I will be posting that opening soon and have had two people prior to this say they were interested. I will reach out to both of them once posted for their application if they are still interested.

Under old business: None.

Under new business: 2027 budget.

Krentz Motion to convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. Sec 19.85(1)(c), to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility (1) Discussion on Fire Chief compensation) Monohan seconded the motion A roll call vote resulted in four (4) ayes, zero (0) nays, and one (1) absent. Motion carried.

Monohan motioned to convene into open session. Krentz seconded the motion which carried by roll call vote, four (4) ayes, zero (0) nays, and one (1) absent. Motion carried.

Chief Dewhurst rejoined meeting.

Ross motioned to direct Chief Dewhurst to document hours worked per month, accomplishments and training to aid in determining Fire Chief's wages in 2028. Monohan seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

At 7:44pm Podoll motioned to adjourn. Monohan seconded to motion which carried by voice vote.
.

S*ubmitted by Stephanie Skivers*
Administrative Assistant

Next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, November 4, 2026 at 6:30pm at the Berlin City Hall