



# Police & Fire Commission Agenda

Wednesday, April 19, 2023 @ 4:30 PM

415 Main Street, Onalaska WI 54650

Meeting in person in Council Chambers & Remotely on Zoom

Members of the public wishing to attend remotely and provide public input:

Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81811687427?pwd=VUFSczVtdHB1em00cldyMkd5NE1Qdz09>

Phone Number: 1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 818 1168 7427 Password: 54650

1. Call to Order and roll call.
2. Consideration and action on minutes from the previous meetings (4/10/2023 & 4/12/2023).
3. Public Input (limited to 3 minutes per individual).

## Consideration and possible action on the following items:

4. Election of Officers:
  - A. President
  - B. Vice President
  - C. Secretary

5. **Closed Session:**

To consider a motion to convene in Closed Session under Section 19.85(1)(c) of the Wisconsin Statutes 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:

- Fire Chief Hiring Process

If any action is required in Open Session, as the result of the Closed Session, the Police & Fire Commission will reconvene in Open Session to take the necessary action and/or continue on with the printed agenda.

6. Discussion on Appointment Process for Interim Fire Chief.
7. Adjournment.

Notice is hereby given that members of and possibly a quorum of the Common Council of the City of Onalaska who do not serve on the Commission and members of and possibly a quorum of members of other governmental bodies may attend this meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision making responsibility. No action will be taken by any governmental body at the above stated meeting other than the governmental body specifically referred to above in this notice.

Notices also provided to: Police & Fire Commission (**Mark Dahlke - President, Lori Olson – Vice President, Jim Binash – Secretary**, Patty Fitzpatrick, Jim Wickizer), Common Council (Ald. Leanne Stokes, Ald. Shawn McAlister, Ald. Dan Stevens, Ald. Diane Wulf, Ald. Steven Nott, Ald. Larry Jiracek), Mayor Kim Smith, Interim City Administrator Amanda Jackson, Department Heads, Media

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the City of Onalaska will provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with a disability to ensure equal access to public meetings provided notification is given to the City Clerk within seventy-two (72) hours prior to the public meeting and that the requested accommodation does not create an undue hardship for the City.

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1 The Meeting of the Police & Fire Commission was called to order at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday,  
2 April 19, 2023. It was noted that the meeting had been announced and a notice posted at City  
3 Hall.

4

5 Roll call was taken with the following members present (either in person or remotely): Mark  
6 Dahlke, Lori Olson, Patty Fitzpatrick, Jim Wickizer

7

8 Also Present: Mayor Kim Smith, Ald. Diane Wulf, Human Resource Director Amy Frandsen,  
9 Fire Chief Troy Gudie

10

11 Excused Absence: Jim Binash

12

13 **Item 2 – Consideration and action on minutes from the previous meetings (4/10/2023 &**  
14 **4/12/23)**

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16 Motion by Lori, second by Patty, to approve the minutes from the April 10, 2023 meeting as  
17 printed and on file in the City Clerk's Office.

18

19 On voice vote, motion carried.

20

21 Motion by Lori, second by Jim, to approve the minutes from the April 12, 2023 meeting as  
22 printed and on file in the City Clerk's Office.

23

24 On voice vote, motion carried.

25

26 **Item 3 – Public Input (limited to 3 minutes per individual)**

27

28 Mark called for anyone wishing to provide public input.

29

30 **Diane Wulf, Second District Alderperson/Common Council President/Police and Fire**  
31 **Commission Liaison**  
32 **910 Orchid Place**  
33 **Onalaska**

34

35 "It's a tradition [for the Mayor] to thank the committees, commissions, and boards [at the  
36 Common Council Organizational Meeting] for their service. This is your first meeting of the  
37 year, and I just wanted to thank you for your continued service – your past, present, and future.  
38 I've been driving through at night, and I see your cars in the [City Hall] parking lot. I look at the  
39 time and I know what time your meeting started, so I know you've been putting in a lot of long  
40 hours. I just wanted to let you know that there are those of us who do know the hours you are  
41 putting in, and I thank you for your continued service. You make a lot of important decisions for

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42 us, so thank you for your continued service and good luck with the future decisions.”

43

44 Mark called three times for anyone else wishing to provide public input and closed that portion  
45 of the meeting.

46

47 **Consideration and possible action on the following items:**

48

49 **Item 4 – Election of Officers:**

50

51 A. President

52

53 Lori nominated Mark Dahlke to serve as President of the Police and Fire Commission.

54

55 Mark accepted the nomination.

56

57 On voice vote, motion carried.

58

59 B. Vice President

60

61 Motion by Patty, second by Mark, to nominate and elect Lori Olson as Vice President of the  
62 Police and Fire Commission.

63

64 On voice vote, motion carried.

65

66 C. Secretary

67

68 Patty nominated Jim Binash to serve as Secretary of the Police and Fire Commission.

69

70 On voice vote, motion carried.

71

72 **Item 5 – Closed Session**

73

74 To consider a motion to convene in Closed Session under Section 19.85(1)(c) of  
75 the Wisconsin Statutes for the purpose of considering employment, promotion,  
76 compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over  
77 which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercise s responsibility:

78

- 79 • Fire Chief Hiring Process

80

81 If any action is required in Open Session, as the result of the Closed Session, the  
82 Police & Fire Commission will reconvene in Open Session to take the necessary

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83 action and/or continue on with the printed agenda.

84

85 Motion by Patty, second by Jim, to convene in Closed Session.

86

87 On roll call vote: Mark Dahlke – aye, Lori Olson – aye, Patty Fitzpatrick – aye, Jim Wickizer –  
88 aye. In Closed Session.

89

90 Motion by Lori, second by Patty, to reconvene in Open Session.

91

92 On roll call vote: Mark Dahlke – aye, Lori Olson – aye, Patty Fitzpatrick – aye, Jim Wickizer –  
93 aye. In Open Session at 5:25 p.m.

94

### 95 **Item 6 – Discussion on Appointment Process for Interim Fire Chief**

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97 Amy told commission members Fire Chief Gudie will serve in that capacity until Tuesday, May  
98 2, and she said the Common Council had approved proceeding with funding for the Interim Fire  
99 Chief position. Amy said she is looking to engage with the commission today in an initial  
100 discussion, with the actual appointment perhaps occurring at a subsequent meeting.

101

102 Mark asked Amy if she is looking for a motion from the commission to appoint an Interim Fire  
103 Chief, subject to the Common Council process.

104

105 Amy told Mark the Common Council process in which it had approved funding the Interim Fire  
106 Chief position is complete.

107

108 Mark asked if there has been an interview process in the past for an Interim Fire Chief.

109

110 Mark was told no.

111

112 Patty inquired about the expectations for the Interim Fire Chief position, asking if it will be  
113 limited duty or if the individual will have the same duties Fire Chief Gudie currently has.

114

115 Fire Chief Gudie said the individual serving as Interim Fire Chief will have the same  
116 responsibilities as the Fire Chief. Additional comments Fire Chief Gudie made were inaudible  
117 on the Zoom recording.

118

119 Mark asked if there is a formal process in which either Mayor Smith or someone else has  
120 accepted Fire Chief Gudie's resignation.

121

122 Fire Chief Gudie said it had gone through both Amy and Mayor Smith prior to becoming public  
123 knowledge.

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124  
125 Mayor Smith told commission members Fire Chief Gudie had formally resigned his position  
126 with the City of Onalaska, and she said there also is a process in which the State of Wisconsin  
127 must be notified.

128  
129 Motion by Patty, second by Jim, to appoint Assistant Fire Chief Les Norin as the City of  
130 Onalaska's Interim Fire Chief, effective Wednesday, May 3, 2023.

131  
132 On voice vote, motion carried.

133  
134 **Adjournment**

135  
136 Motion by Lori, second by Patty, to adjourn at 5:30 p.m.

137  
138 On voice vote, motion carried.

139  
140  
141 Recorded by:

142  
143 Kirk Bey