

**VILLAGE OF NORTH PRAIRIE
PUBLIC SAFETY & PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
NORTH PRAIRIE MUNICIPAL CENTER, 130 N HARRISON STREET, NORTH PRAIRIE, WI 53153
January 30TH, 2026 AT 5:00 P.M.**

1. Call to Order: **Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.**
2. Roll Call: **Trustee Schroeder, Trustee Samuels and Trustee McCormack. Also Present: Captain Tim (North Prairie Police Department), approximately 18 residents, and a quorum of the Village Board.**
3. Public Comment.

At the sole discussion of the Committee Chair, citizens are invited to make comments to the Committee, under the following procedures. Committee members should not be expected to discuss issues presented at this time, citizens, comments limited to 2 minutes each; in the event public comments exceed 15 minutes, the Committee will continue with the regular agenda and resume public comment after the Committee business has been completed, public comments on specific personnel matters are not appropriate subject for this forum and should be referred to the Village Office; any comments which may violate an individual right of an employee will not be permitted: **Several residents spoke regarding the future of the North Prairie Police Department. Residents expressed support for maintaining a Village Police Department, citing concerns regarding response times, visibility, community familiarity, and proactive policing. One resident referenced a recent incident in a neighboring municipality where an on-duty officer's presence prevented further escalation, emphasizing the value of local coverage. Other residents expressed support for retaining the department but requested clearer financial comparisons between maintaining the department and contracting with the Waukesha County Sheriff's Department. A resident provided a presentation analyzing historical Village budget trends, asserting that police operating costs have remained consistent year-over-year and suggesting that capital expenditures in other departments have driven budget volatility. Discussion occurred regarding statutory coverage by the Waukesha County Sheriff's Department. It was clarified by Captain Tim that statutory coverage is always available; however, response times may vary depending on call priority and deputy location within the quadrant. Additional public comments addressed community expectations for patrol coverage, municipal court considerations, potential referendum timing, and long-term strategic planning. Written comments submitted by residents Elizabeth Nottling and Caroline Baisley were read into the record.**
4. Approval of the December 22nd minutes: **A motion was made by Trustee Schroeder and seconded by Trustee Samuels to approve the December 22, 2025, Public Safety & Protective Services Committee meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.**
5. Approval of the January 14th minutes: **A motion was made by Trustee Schroeder and seconded by Trustee Samuels to approve the January 14, 2026, meeting minutes with amendments clarifying reference to Eagle's January 8, 2026, Board discussion regarding termination of the Kettle Moraine Fire District agreement. Specific authorization for Trustee Schroeder to contact Lake Country Fire District and for Trustee Samuels to contact the Mukwonago Fire Department. Motion carried as amended.**
6. Approval of the January 20th minutes: **A motion was made by Trustee Schroeder and seconded by Trustee Samuels to approve the January 20, 2026, meeting minutes with correction to reflect the accurate agenda posting date. Motion carried.**
7. Police

- a. Discussion and/or Action: Input received during the January 20, 2026, public informational meeting regarding the Police Department. Discussion will include a summary of public comments related to maintaining a Village Police Department, contracting police services with the Waukesha County Sheriff's Department, and reliance on statutory coverage: **The Committee reviewed and discussed input received during the January 20, 2026, public informational meeting regarding the future of the Village Police Department. Discussion included resident feedback supporting retention of a Village-operated Police Department, with emphasis on local control, officer familiarity with residents, proactive patrol presence, and community engagement. Concerns raised by residents included potential response time differences under a Sheriff's Department contract and the impact on neighborhood visibility. Some residents requested clearer financial comparisons and long-term cost projections before making any final determination. The Committee acknowledged the range of viewpoints expressed and confirmed that resident input would factor into ongoing deliberations.**
- b. Discussion and/or Action: potential policing models for the Village of North Prairie. Discussion will include maintaining a Village Police Department with possible modifications to staffing or coverage, contracting police services with the Waukesha County Sheriff's Department, and reliance on statutory coverage. Consideration will be given to operational structure, service levels, response-time expectations, and long-term sustainability: **The Committee discussed potential policing models available to the Village of North Prairie. Options reviewed included maintaining the Village Police Department with modifications to staffing structure (including part-time versus full-time Chief), contracting with the Waukesha County Sheriff's Department for dedicated coverage, and reliance on statutory coverage. Discussion included operational structure, projected patrol hours, administrative support needs, leadership configuration, and anticipated service levels under each model. Committee members considered the balance between maintaining local control and managing long-term sustainability. No formal action was taken under this item at that time.**
- c. Discussion and/or Action: comparative cost information related to available policing options. Discussion will include current Police Department expenditures, estimated costs associated with Sheriff's Department contractual coverage, and the fiscal implications of statutory coverage. Short-term and long-term budget impacts and potential tax implications will also be considered: **The Committee reviewed comparative cost information associated with available policing options. Current Police Department expenditures were discussed alongside projected costs for potential Sheriff's Department contractual coverage and the implications of statutory coverage. Budget estimates presented included projected annual costs under both full-time and part-time leadership models. Discussion addressed short-term fiscal impact, long-term sustainability, and potential tax implications. The Committee noted that financial considerations must be weighed alongside community expectations and service level priorities.**
- d. Discussion and/or Action: Resident expectations regarding patrol coverage, weekend coverage, officer availability, and response times under each policing model, based on information gathered during the public informational meeting: **A motion was made by Trustee Samuels and seconded by Trustee Schroeder to maintain the North Prairie Police Department with a similar financial commitment from the village budget. Motion carried up on vote Trustee Schroeder-Aye, Trustee Samuels -Aye and Trustee McCormack-Aye. As a result of this action, Items 7.e, 7.f, and 7.g were not rendered applicable for further discussion or action.**

- e. Discussion and/or Action: Community-based policing considerations, including officer visibility, familiarity with residents, youth engagement, and community presence, and how these elements may be maintained or addressed under different policing models: **No further discussion occurred due to action taken under Item 7.d.**
- f. Discussion and/or Action: Review legal, contractual, and procedural considerations associated with potential changes to police services. Discussion may include contractual requirements, notice obligations, transition considerations, and coordination with the Village Board: **No further discussion occurred due to action taken under Item 7.d.**
- g. Discussion and/or Action: Whether additional public engagement is warranted prior to advancing recommendations, including the potential for additional informational meetings, surveys, or other methods of gathering resident input: **No further discussion occurred due to action taken under Item 7.d.**

8. Fire

- a. Discussion and/or Action: Regarding any updates or information discussed at all previous Village meetings: **The Committee discussed Fire Department matters and any updates previously presented at Village meetings. The discussion included ongoing considerations related to fire service structure and the Village's participation in existing arrangements. No formal action was taken under this item.**

9. Court

- a. Discussion and/or Action: Regarding any updates or information discussed at all previous Village meetings: **Trustee Schroeder reported that the Finance Committee has reviewed the Village's participation in the Joint Municipal Court and voted to recommend initiating the statutory withdrawal process. The Finance Committee concluded continued participation presents administrative and financial burdens disproportionate to benefit. A recommendation to begin formal withdrawal notification will be brought before the Village Board.**

10. Adjourn: A motion was made by Trustee McCormack and seconded by Trustee Samuels to adjourn at 7:14 p.m. Motion carried.

December 29th, 2026

Michael P McCormack, Chair Public Safety & Protective Services Committee