

Burlington Fire Commission Meeting

Tuesday October 13, 2026 08:30-09:21

Members Present: Chair Jake Perskinson, Vice Chair Kevin McLaughlin, Linda Sheehey, and Ashley Bond (via Zoom). Chief Curtin, Deputy Chief Stephen Petit, Deputy Chief Troy Ruggles, Data Analyst Jeff Nicholson, and Administrative Assistant Meghan Sweeney.

Call to Order –

The meeting called to order October 13, 2026 at 08:40 am.

Motion to Amend/Adopt Agenda-

Chair Commissioner Perkinson asked for a motion to adopt the agenda as submitted. Motion moved by Commissioner McLaughlin and seconded by Commissioner Sheehey. Approved by acclamation.

Public Comment –

No comment from member of public.

Accept Minutes from August Meeting-

Commissioner McLaughlin motioned to accept minutes as written. Commissioner Sheehey seconded the motion. With no objections minutes accepted as written.

Chief's Oral Report-

Summary:

Please reference Agenda Packet for reports provided to Commission

The following is summary from AI:

The meeting covered September incident statistics, personnel updates, and departmental activities. Chief Curtin reported a 5% increase in incidents compared to the previous year, with medical calls being the highest category, and discussed upcoming apparatus replacements facing significant delays due to manufacturing constraints. The department is pursuing several grants for equipment and training, including one for EMS training equipment and another for safer staffing and PFAS-free PPE. The meeting also addressed the Community Response Team (CRT) performance data, which showed that three-quarters of CRT responses resulted in either no patient found or patients refusing services, leading to discussions about potentially evolving the CRT's role.

Service Transition and Fleet Management

The meeting discussed transitioning services away from police response and toward fire department and other services, with particular focus on working with the street medicine team from UVM and CRT collaboration. The discussion covered fleet management and bonding processes, where DC Ruggles explained how the city manages vehicle replacements through a

capital replacement program with Dave Hammond from DPW, though concerns were raised about the combined funding pot limiting flexibility in apparatus purchases.

Old/New Business-

- * The team scheduled an award ceremony for November 17th or 19th, with a separate executive meeting needed to vote on nominations, and confirmed a morning meeting for October 30th.
- * CRT was discussed during oral report

Adjournment-

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Sheehey and seconded by Commissioner McLaughlin at 9:21.

Fire Commission
Tuesday, October 13, 2026 08:30
Fire Station #1
136 South Winooski Avenue
SIGN-IN SHEET

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