



## MICHIGAN CITY FIRE MERIT COMMISSION

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MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA 46360  
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RICKY JACKSON, PRESIDENT  
CHARLES WILLIAMS, VICE PRESIDENT  
ROBERT POLLOCK, COMMISSIONER  
GREG DEUTSCHER, COMMISSIONER  
JOHN STIMLEY, COMMISSIONER

### Michigan City Fire Merit Commission Special Meeting Minutes: February 5, 2021

President Jackson called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. A quorum was noted with Commissioners Bob Pollock, Charles Williams, and John Stimley all in attendance. Greg Deutscher was also in attendance via phone call. Also present was Fire Chief Doug Legault.

Chief Legault noted that he started picking names from the hiring list. The first name turned down the offer, but the second accepted. The chief also made note of Deputy Chief Belue's transfer. A motion was made by Commissioner Stimley to accept a new hire. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pollock. **Motion carried 5-0.**

President Jackson and Chief Legault discussed upcoming retirements, the number being six retirements in the next five months. The chief noted that the department will be hiring two more firefighters- one in March and one in June. Discussion ensued regarding the hiring process and requirements. An issue was raised with meeting the requirements for the consent decree. The commission also discussed the difficulties surrounding getting enough qualified individuals on the hiring list, including the idea of widening the age gap below 21 years of age.

Discussion ensued regarding whether the department should go forward with testing, or if they should keep on with the hiring process. The commission also discussed possible advertisement opportunities. A motion was made to open the hiring process for 30 more days by Commissioner Deutscher. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stimley. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Commissioner Pollock suggested of going to job fairs to get more individuals on the hiring list. An issue was raised regarding the timeline of the hiring process and how long it takes, as well as its impact on the hiring list. President Jackson made the suggestion of opening up the hiring process on February 19, 2021 in order to have time to get the word out. Union Local 475 President Barrett Taylor raised an issue regarding residency and location-based hires. Discussion turned back to opening dates, to which those present agreed on the 19<sup>th</sup>. A motion was made by Commissioner Pollock and was seconded by Commissioner Stimley. **Motion carried 5-0.**

**Report from Union Local 475-** President Taylor made a comment regarding numbers and the application process.

**With no other business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Jackson at 6:04 pm and seconded by Commissioner Pollock. Motion Carried 5-0.**

**Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 1, 2020 at 5:00 PM.**