



## MICHIGAN CITY FIRE MERIT COMMISSION

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MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA 46360  
219-873-1570  
MICHAEL NEULIEB, VICE PRESIDENT  
FRED ADRIAN, COMMISSIONER  
GREG DEUTSCHER, COMMISSIONER  
DOUG BIEGE, COMMISSIONER  
TOM KULAVIK, COMMISSIONER

### Michigan City Fire Merit Commission Meeting Minutes: February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm by Vice President Neulieb. All in attendance were asked to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Those in attendance were Vice President Neulieb, Commissioner Adrian, Commissioner Biege, and Commissioner Kulavik. Commissioner Deutscher was absent. Also present were Chief Legault, Commission Attorney Cory Shoffner, Union Local 475 President Barrett Taylor, & Fire Marshal Bruder.

**Approval of Minutes-** A motion to approve the minutes from the monthly meeting on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, was made by Commissioner Adrian. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Biege. **Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Kulavik abstained due to not being on the commission at the time.**

**Communications and Claims:** Vice President Neulieb noted that the only topic under this discussion was regarding the hearing in December, and that those under the bill should have been paid.

**Report from City Council Representative-** No report.

**Report from Commission Attorney-** Ms. Shoffner noted that if the commissioners do receive city emails that she receives them.

**Report from Union Local 475-** No report.

**Report from Fire Chief Doug Legault-** Chief Legault began his report by welcoming Commissioner Kulavik to the commission. Following this, he expressed his condolences to the loved ones of the two retired firefighters that have recently passed away- John Orłowski and Jeff Santana. There was a brief moment of silence in remembrance.

The call reports for January are as follows:

- 356 calls, of those calls:
- 12 fires

- 275 rescues/medical calls
- 7 hazardous condition calls
- 7 service calls
- 33 good intent calls
- 3 false calls
- Narcan was used on 4 calls.

Chief Legault proposed to set up a workshop with the commission and the Merit Ordinance Committee to discuss possible changes. President Taylor said that details are currently in the works, such as speaking with the union members.

As of January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Firefighter Jamie Marvel has fulfilled his probationary period. Chief Legault recommended that Firefighter Marvel has his probationary status removed and now referred to as a First Year Firefighter. A motion to allow Firefighter Marvel to become a First Year Firefighter was made by Commissioner Kulavik and seconded by Commissioner Adrian.

**Motion carried 4-0.**

Following this, Chief Legault requested to take the next two names from the promotional list due to 2 upcoming retirements, the first role will be Driver/Operator as of Alan Kreighbaum's retirement effective February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. Vice President Neulieb stated that the next individual to be promoted will be Firefighter Joseph Guncheon.

The second promotional role will be the status of Captain with the upcoming retirement of Captain Dave Nespo on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023. The next individual in line to become a captain will be Lieutenant Anthony Stahoviak. With his promotion, the next individual to take his place as a lieutenant will be Driver/Operator Jacob Irvin. Due to Mr. Irvin's promotion, the next Driver/Operator will be Firefighter Chris Zibutis.

A motion to promote these individuals, effective as of February 22<sup>nd</sup> and February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, was made by Commissioner Biege. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kulavik. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**Election of Officers-** A motion to table the election of officers until all commission members are present was made by Commissioner Kulavik and seconded by Commissioner Adrian. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**Old Business-** Vice President Neulieb brings up the comment from Commissioner Kulavik made from last month's meeting regarding all MCFD vehicles containing AEDs. Commissioner Kulavik states that he has been in discussion with Chief Legault and is content with the outcome.

Following this, discussion ensues regarding a cutoff date for the next hiring process. Vice President Neulieb proposes the date of April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, as the cutoff date. A motion to approve the cutoff date of April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, was made by Commissioner Adrian. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Biege. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**New Business-** No new business.

**Public Comment-** No comment.

**Commission Comment-** Brief discussion ensued amongst those present. Commissioner Adrian asks Chief Legault of the current fleet of trucks. Chief Legault states that the oldest fire truck, which is nearing 16 years old, will be the next to be replaced. The replacement is currently in progress; more discussion ensues.

**With no other business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Kulavik. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Adrian at 5:20pm.**

**Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 5:00pm.**