



MICHIGAN CITY FIRE MERIT COMMISSION

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MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA 46360
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MICHAEL NEULIEB, PRESIDENT
FRED ADRIAN, VICE PRESIDENT
DOUG BIEGE, SECRETARY/TREASURER
GREG DEUTSCHER, COMMISSIONER
TOM KULAVIK, COMMISSIONER

Michigan City Fire Merit Commission Meeting Minutes: June 5th, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm. All in attendance were asked to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Those in attendance were Vice President Adrian, Secretary Biege, Commissioner Deutscher, and Commissioner Kulavik. President Neulieb was absent. Also in attendance were Commission Attorney Cory Shoffner, Fire Chief Doug Legault, Training Officer Will Sonntag, and Union Local 475 President Barrett Taylor. City Council Representative Angie Nelson-Deutch was tardy, but present.

Approval of Minutes- A motion to approve May's minutes was made by Commissioner Kulavik, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Deutscher. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Communications and Claims- No report.

Report from City Council Representative- No report.

Report from Commission Attorney- Ms. Shoffner briefly mentioned looking at the ordinance in regards to age limitations in the hiring process; discussion ensued.

Report from Union Local 475- President Taylor continued the discussion, reiterating that, currently, applicants can be 35 years and 364 days old but are then ineligible the day of their 36th birthday.

Following this, President Taylor provided handouts for the commission and mentioned that the list on the provided pages include changes discussed at the meeting between Chief Legault and himself.

Report from Fire Chief Doug Legault-

June Department Anniversaries:

- Driver/Operator Steve Stimley – 33 years
- Assistant Chief James Young – 33 years

- Assistant Chief Michael Orzech - 28 years
- Fire Marshal Jeff Bruder – 27 years
- Captain Joseph Zerbes – 16 years
- Driver/Operator Leo Martorano – 11 years

The call reports for May are as follows:

- 411 calls; of those calls:
- 12 fires
- 332 rescues/medical calls
- 8 hazardous condition calls
- 7 service calls
- 49 good intent calls
- 1 false call
- Narcan was used on 3 calls in May.

A brief discussion took place regarding lateral transfers. Following this, the discussion moved to new applicant testing. Commissioner Deutscher stated that the testing process would need to be postponed until at least next month until the correct number of tests have been acquired. The conversation steers back toward the age requirement. The commission then planned to schedule a meeting to discuss this age change on Thursday, June 21st, 2023, at 4:00pm.

Old Business- No report.

New Business- No report.

Public Comment- No comment.

Commission Comment- Brief discussion ensued.

With no other business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Deutscher. The motion was seconded by Secretary Biege at 5:21pm. Motion carried 4-0.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 10th, 2023, at 5:00pm.