



MICHIGAN CITY FIRE MERIT COMMISSION

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RICKY JACKSON, PRESIDENT
CHARLES WILLIAMS, VICE PRESIDENT
ROBERT POLLOCK, COMMISSIONER
GREG DEUTSCHER, COMMISSIONER
MIKE NEULIEB, COMMISSIONER

Michigan City Fire Merit Commission Special Meeting Minutes: September 21, 2021

President Jackson called the meeting to order at 5:25pm. He then asked all present to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. A quorum was noted with Commissioners Bob Pollock, Charles Williams, and Mike Neulieb all in attendance. Commissioner Deutscher was absent. Fire Chief Doug Legault was also in attendance, as well as members of the City Council and Union Local 475.

The commission discussed section 54-176 of the Fire Merit Ordinance. Prior to this meeting, there was an executive session. No comments were made by the Commissioners. According to this specific section of the Fire Merit Ordinance, members of the Fire Department may be assigned to an acting rank no longer than 90 days, except for an instance where an acting rank is created due to illness, military leave without pay, of any officer who holds permanent rank, or any vacancy in a spot that is considered a permanent rank. All acting ranks must be filled in accordance with the rules provided for promotion selection. According to President Jackson, past administrations did not fill all vacant roles. The ordinance states that all of these spots must be filled, except for the Fire Chief. When a new administration takes over, these roles may be completely changed and those in the administrative roles may be sent back online with their respective pay.

Fire Merit Attorney Cory Shoffner stated that, according to Indiana Code 36-8-3.5-11, in the occurrence of the removal of an individual from an upper level, policy-making position, they are only removed from their specified role and not the department itself.

Discussion ensued between those present regarding the details of the Ordinance and the Indiana Code.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:47pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 4, 2021 at 5:00 PM.