Michigan City Fire Merit Commission Meeting Minutes: July 1, 2019

President Jackson called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. A quorum was noted with Commissioners Charles Williams, Bob Pollock, and Greg Deutscher all in attendance. Commissioner Edward Zaknoen was absent. Also present was Attorney Cory Schoffner and Fire Chief Randy Novak.

At this time, President Jackson asked all present to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes**- Commissioner Pollock made the motion to table the minutes from the June 3, 2019 Regular Meeting; June 19, 209 Executive Session; and the June 19, 2019 Special Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. **Motion Carried 4-0.**

**Communications/Claims**- Commissioner Pollock made a motion to accept the claims and payroll for June 2019. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. **Motion Carried 4-0.**

Commissioner Pollock gave an update on the commission budget stating 69% has currently been used as of the end of June 2019; Commissioner Pollock addressed the commission stating there was an ordinance before the City Council going on 2nd Reading where the commission was asking for an additional $17,000.00 for additional expenses which had been discussed at previous meetings.

Commissioner Pollock stated he is working on the 2020 budget and would like to increase the budget line item that include the hiring expenses for five (5) new firefighters to eight (8).

Commissioner Pollock made the motion to accept the budget report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Deutscher. **Motion Carried 4-0.**

**Report from City Council Representative**- Absent

**Report from Commission Attorney**- No Report
**Report from Union Local 475**- No Report

**Report from Fire Chief Randy Novak**- Chief Novak stated that Probationary Firefighter Kevin Vahst will start on July 8, 2019 and will plan on attending the academy in the fall with Probationary Firefighter Jacob Kubath; Probationary Firefighter Vahst replaces Firefighter Kevin Hutson.

Chief Novak asked the commissioner to provide the next name on the hiring list to replace Firefighter Michael Hamby who resigned July 2, 2019.

Commissioner Pollock made the motion to provide Chief Novak with the next name on the hiring list. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. **Motion Carried 4-0.**

July Anniversaries are:

- Firefighter David Teeters 29 Years
- Captain John Mellen 25 Years
- Lieutenant Craig Krivak 19 Years
- Driver Operator Barrett Taylor 16 Years
- Driver Operator Christian Bietry 10 Years
- Firefighter Jenna Tepavcevich 4 Years
- Firefighter Nicholas Pabon 4 Years
- Firefighter William Sonntag 4 Years
- Firefighter Christopher Blake 2 Years

Chief Novak stated he provided all the commissioners on the firefighter who is receiving Driver/Operator training.

**Old Business**- Commissioner Jackson stated that as of July 1, 2019 the commission has received 22 completed applications for the August 17th written test and 12 were incomplete; the Fire Merit office will be reaching out to those 12 asking for the information that is missing.

**New Business**- Commissioner Pollock made a motion to accept the resignation of Firefighter Michael Hamby effective July 2, 2019. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. **Motion Carried 4-0.**

**Public Comment**- None

**Commission Comment**- Commissioner Pollock addressed the commission and asked for guidance from the commissioner attorney regarding the appeal that was received.
Commissioner Pollock made the motion that since this was an appeal that was already heard by the commission, he moved to deny the appeal. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. **Motion Carried 3-1; Commissioner Deutscher voting in favor of hearing the appeal.**

With no other business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Pollock at 5:12 pm and seconded by Commissioner Williams Motion Carried 4-0.

**Next Meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 5, 2019 at 5:00 PM.**