



MICHIGAN CITY FIRE MERIT COMMISSION

100 MICHIGAN BOULEVARD
MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA 46360
219-873-1570

MICHAEL NEULIEB, PRESIDENT
FRED ADRIAN, VICE PRESIDENT
DOUG BIEGE, SECRETARY/TREASURER
GREG DEUTSCHER, COMMISSIONER
WILLIAM ESPAR, COMMISSIONER

Michigan City Fire Merit Commission Meeting Minutes: January 6th, 2025

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 and Commissioner Espar. Also in attendance was Fire Chief Barrett Taylor, Union President Chris Zibutis, and Commission Attorney Cory Shoffner. President Neulieb and Commissioner Deutscher were absent.

Approval of Minutes- A motion to approve the minutes from the December meeting was made by Secretary Biege and was seconded by Commissioner Espar. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Communications and Claims- - No report.

Report from City Council Representative- No report.

Report from Commission Attorney- No report.

Report from Fire Chief Barrett Taylor-

The call reports for December are as follows:

- 389 calls; of those calls:
- 5 fires
- 318 rescues/medical calls
- 15 hazardous condition calls
- 3 service calls
- 35 good intent calls
- 9 false alarms
- Narcan was used 7 times in December.
- MCFD went on 4,994 calls 249 more calls in 2024 than at the end of 2023.

January Department Anniversaries:

- Firefighter Christopher Gaines – 4 years
- Firefighter Kobe Roberson – 2 years

Chief Taylor then read a letter from Training Officer Will Sonntag regarding 2 probationary firefighters and 2 new hires. The MAAC will start on February 17th, 2025, and there will be 4 individuals that can go to the academy. In the letter from Training Officer Sonntag, it states that he has deemed one of the probationary firefighters able to skip the academy due to the fact that he has come from a career department and has the training and certifications; discussion ensued. A motion to allow the individual to forego the academy was made by Secretary Biege and was seconded by Commissioner Espar. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Discussion regarding the open Commission President and Commissioner spots ensues, Chief Taylor noted that no nominations for President and Commissioner have been made thus far. This means that President Neulieb and Commissioner Deutscher will continue to fulfill their roles until nominees are brought forth.

President Taylor discussed promotions, specifically in the situation of one individual passing their promotion at the time and allowing the next person to go. The commission and the attorney decided that they would investigate the subject and report back later.

Report from Union Local 475- No report.

Old Business- No report.

New Business- No report.

Public Comment- No comment.

Commission Comment- Vice President Adrian and Chief Taylor discussed the current truck that is in need of being replaced, conversation ensued.

With no other business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Secretary Biege at 5:15pm. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Espar. Motion carried 3-0.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 3rd, 2025, at 5:00pm.

**APPROVED BY:
ON:**

