



MICHIGAN CITY FIRE MERIT COMMISSION

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BART LOMBARD, PRESIDENT
JOHN STIMLEY, VICE PRESIDENT
LOUISE MOCK, SECRETARY
JOHN SKIERKOWSKI, COMMISSIONER
KEITH HARRIS, COMMISSIONER

Minutes of the February 1, 2010, Michigan City Fire Merit Commission Meeting.

President Bart Lombard called the meeting to order. A quorum was noted as present with Commissioners Bart Lombard, Keith Harris, John Stimley, John Skierkowski, and Louise Mock in attendance. Others present included Attorney Pam Krause, Councilwoman Pat Boy, Chief Dave Lamb, Deputy Chief Randy Novak, Probationary Firefighter Andrew Belue and Secretary, Gale Neulieb.

On a motion by Keith Harris, second by John Stimley and Louise Mock the minutes of the January 4, 2010 meeting were approved. **Motion 5-0.**

President Lombard asked Commissioner Mock to present the IRS 2010 Standard Mileage Rates along with the Mileage Claim form (101) to the Commission.

Councilwoman Boy addressed the Commission stating she would be the Commission's new Council Liaison for 2010.

President Lombard advised the Commission that he spoke to Councilwoman Boy, Commissioner Mock and Stimley regarding scheduling a meeting with the Human Rights Department and Personnel to discuss the letter received from Mayor Oberlie regarding the recruitment of female candidates.

Councilwoman Boy stated that she would contact TaTanesha Clark, Human Rights to schedule a meeting.

President Lombard presented an invoice regarding additional work done by Attorney Krause in the amount of \$1,612.50 from 2009, advising Ms. Neulieb would contact the Controller's Office requesting the appropriation be taken out of the 2009 budget.

President Lombard advised Commissioner Skierkowski of the additional work Attorney Krause did was outside the contractual agreement.

John Stimley made a motion to pay the invoice, second by Keith Harris and approved. **Motion 5-0.**

Chief Lamb introduced one of the three probationary firefighters, Andrew Belue, stating that all three will be sworn in on February 8, 2010 and leaving for the fire academy on February 15th for 20 weeks of training.

Andrew Belue addressed the Commission thanking them for the opportunity, stating he was looking forward to starting his career/training.

Chief Lamb advised the Commission that Firefighter Dwayne Harrington would be returning back to work after serving on the Air Force Reserves. Chief Lamb stated that he has been gone for over a year and will be back on shift February 4, 2010.

Discussion ensued among President Lombard, Commission Harris and Skierkowski regarding changing the CPAT test requirements to certified testing in the Fire Merit Commission Ordinance.

Chief Lamb stated that Larry Butcher, M.C.F.D. Training Officer has been in contact with a few surrounding fire departments advising that our fire department may be able to build/replicate the CPAT equipment.

Commissioner Harris advised that the Code Review Committee addressed changes to the section regarding disciplinary action procedures; amending the language in municode to meet the state statute standards.

Keith Harris advised Councilwoman Boy offered to write and sponsor a new ordinance with the proposed amendments the commission has offered, and repeal what is not necessary.

Discussion ensued among Attorney Krause, President Lombard, Councilwoman Boy, Chief Lamb, Deputy Chief Novak and Keith Harris regarding amendments/modifications to the proposed ordinance.

President Lombard TABLED this matter until the next meeting (March 1, 2010).

Commissioner Skierkowski stated that he returned the disc with the firefighter's reviews from January thru June 2009 to Recording Secretary Neulieb to file.

President Lombard asked Recording Secretary Neulieb to contact Sarah Sanders-Smith to attend the next Commission meeting (March 1, 2010) to schedule a date for the next 2010 Promotional Testing and address any questions the Commission may have.

President Lombard asked the Chief's Office to contact the Union to see what dates would be available for the 2010 Promotional Testing by the next meeting.

John Skierkowski asked Attorney Krause what the status of the correspondence the Commission received in 2009 from the EEO Commission requesting information from the Fire Merit Commission was.

Attorney Krause stated that she would check with the City Attorney regarding this matter.

President Lombard presented a copy of the Fire Merit Commission's 2010 Budget for the Commission to review.

Commissioner Harris stated that at the disciplinary hearing in December, Attorney Krause was going to contact Attorney Ulfert asking for the record; a written statement advising he was no longer Firefighter Steve Stimley's attorney.

Attorney Krause stated that she spoke to Attorney Ulfert, but did not receive any correspondence in writing. Ms. Krause advised she would take care of that matter.

President Lombard reminded everyone of the swearing in of three (3) Probationary Firefighters, Monday, February 8, 2010, 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall.

There were no comments by the Commission.

There were no comments from the general public.

President Lombard asked if there were any more comments or questions and hearing none, a motion by Commissioner Skierkowski, second by Commissioner Harris the meeting was adjourned at 5:41 p.m.