



MICHIGAN CITY FIRE MERIT COMMISSION

100 MICHIGAN BOULEVARD
MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA 46360
219-873-1570
LOUISE MOCK, PRESIDENT
, VICE PRESIDENT
ROBERT POLLOCK, SECRETARY
GEOFF PLUMMER, COMMISSIONER
CHARLES WILLIAMS, COMMISSIONER

Michigan City Fire Merit Commission Meeting Minutes: April 21, 2014

President Mock called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. A quorum was noted with Commissioners Louise Mock, Robert Pollock, Geoff Plummer and Charles Williams all in attendance. Also present were Councilman Chris Schwanke, Attorney Pamela Krause and Fire Chief Ronnie Martin.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Pollock to accept the minutes from the March 3, 2014 meeting. Commissioner Plummer 2nd. **Ayes 4 Nays 0; motion carries.**

Communications/Claims-

Claims-Commissioner Pollock stated the payroll for April 2014 was \$1,276.67.

Claims was for EMT books for training. There are 10 books at \$680.00 and 21 books at \$1,585.50. There will also be a third bill coming in for EMT testing material, there is no dollar amount yet.

Also, Chief Martin asked that a time clock be purchased for the agility test. Commissioner Mock asked what happened to the old clock and Chief Martin stated that the old one no longer works and therefore we need to purchase a new one.

Commissioner Plummer made a motion to pay these bills and Commissioner Williams 2nd. **Ayes 4 Nays 0; motion carries.**

Report from City Council Liaison, Chris Schwanke- No report.

Report from Commission Attorney- That the Board of Works did receive her request to replace Keith Harris on the commission and that nominees are needed.

Report from Union Local 475- No Report

New Business- No Report

Old Business- No Report

Report from Chief Martin- Chief Martin wanted to recognize a few firefighters for their years of service and stated the two new hires are at the academy in Wayne Township and doing well. He was also able to secure two spots for them with the 1st weeks being EMT school and then fire training. The cost would be \$1,350.00 per requisite and asked the commission for approval. Commissioner Pollock made the motion to approve and Commissioner Plummer 2nd. **Ayes 4 Nays 0; motion carries.**

There would be two retirements in April, first John VanEtten would be retiring April 2. At that time, John Mellon would be promoted to Caption and Duane Harrigan to Driver/Operator. Commissioner Pollock made a motion to accept these promotions and Commissioner Williams 2nd. **Ayes 4 Nays 0; motion carries.**

Second, Mark Donaldson would be retiring April 26 and Chris Kosakowski would be promoted to Caption and Alan Kreighbaum promoted to Driver/Operator. Commissioner Pollock made a motion to accept these promotions and Commissioner Plummer 2nd. **Ayes 4 Nays 0; motion carries.**

Chief Martin asked that the commission contact Sara Smith to administer the exam set for the 3rd week in September. Sara has done the exam for the Fire Dept. before, but someone from the commission needs to contact her.

Chief Martin then read a letter from Sgt. Darren Kaplan thanking the Fire Department for their involvement for saving his house and family the night of February 28, 2014. (copy of the letter is at the end)

Public Comment- NAACP asked which list would the next hire come off of with the upcoming retirements. Commissioner Mock stated that one is going through the hiring process now and that one was off of the minority list. And the second one as well will come off the minority list. Chief Martin wanted to remind everyone that the pension board also has a part to play in hiring new firefighters as well.

Marques Reese stood up at this time and thanked the commission.

Commission Comment- Commissioner Mock asked if the retirees would be here for the next meeting? She also asked if Marques Reese would be back as well? Chief Martin also stated he would have some awards to hand out.

Motion to adjourn was made by Commission Pollock and 2nd by Commissioner Plummer. Ayes 4; Nays 0 motion carries.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 5, 2014 at 5:00 pm.

Ron Martin

From: Darren Kaplan
Sent: Sunday, March 09, 2014 12:09 AM
To: Ron Martin
Subject: Kaplan Family Gratitude

Chief Martin,

I would like to take an opportunity to personally thank on behalf of the Kaplan family, our gratitude and appreciation to the Michigan City Fire Department. We are truly grateful for everything the firemen did on the night of February 28th 2014. As Chief, you should be proud of each and every fireman on scene. Their quick response was the difference between being able to restore our home, or a total loss. As a supervisor, your men were extremely professional and compassionate. If you would please share our eternal thanks and extreme gratitude to these fireman on behalf of my entire family. It will be a long process to restore our home, but thanks to the Michigan City Fire Department we did not lose everything.

With the highest regard, respect, and thanks,

Sgt. Darren D. Kaplan
and My entire family