

MICHIGAN CITY FIRE MERIT COMMISSION

100 EAST MICHIGAN BOULEVARD
MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA 46360
219-873-1570
KEITH HARRIS, PRESIDENT
JOHN SKIERKOWSKI, VICE PRESIDENT
LOUISE MOCK, SECRETARY
ROBERT POLLOCK, COMMISSIONER
GEOFF PLUMMER, COMMISSIONER



Michigan City Fire Merit Commission Meeting Minutes: May 6, 2013

President Harris called the meeting to order at 5:00p.m. A quorum was noted with Commissioners Keith Harris, Geoff Plummer, and Robert Pollock in attendance; John Skierkowski, Louise Mock, noted as absent. Others present Chief Ronnie Martin, and Secretary Dawn Howader.

Commissioner Harris asked for an approval of April 1, 2013 minutes. Motion for approval of minutes by Commissioner Pollock, and 2nd by Commissioner Harris; **Ayes 3 Nays 0; motion carries**

Commissioner Harris asked for an approval of April 22, 2013 Special Meeting minutes. Motion for approval of minutes by Commissioner Pollock, and 2nd by Commissioner Plummer; **Ayes 3 Nays 0; motion carries**

There were claims for payroll in the amount of \$1,426.67. Commissioner Harris asked for approval for payment of claims, Commissioner Pollock motioned for approval of payment and Commissioner Plummer Second the motion: **Ayes 3 Nays 0; motion carries**

Reports from City Council Liaison

Nothing to report at this time.

No reports from Fire Merit Commission Attorney Krause.

New Business

Report from Union: Firefighter Spencer Walker sent his condolences Commissioner Mock and to the Mock family. He stated that the union has come up with a committee to partake in the handling of the election of who is to receive the reward and what to name it. The committee has been established and has 4 members thus far. Vice President Steinborn is kind of involved but not on the committee. He is steer-heading the people on the committee.

Commissioner Harris asked Public Information Officer Mark Baker to give some information about the Firefighter Phil Show/Program. Officer Baker stated that the program is an on going program that is sponsored by the Michigan City Fire Department. They supply books, age appropriate for Pre-3rd grade students. All Michigan City Schools are involved in it. He stated that they visit the schools, answer

questions, give out books, and put on a show with audience participation. Commissioner Harris asked if they could attend a show and if they needed to let him know. Officer Baker stated that he has given the Commission an itinerary, and they are welcome anytime. The Mayor and City Council are also invited. They have scheduled 14 shows for the year.

Old Business

Commissioner Harris stated that on April 22, 2013 there was a Special Meeting held regarding the disciplinary action. He had asked Chief Martin to give his comments or suggestions regarding the matter and received an email from Chief Martin regarding the time for the suspension. Not every member of the Commission received this email, Commissioner Pollock was handed a copy to review. Commissioner Harris opened the floor to the Chief. Chief Martin stated that he is hesitate to discuss this in this forum like this. Commissioner Pollock gives his email address, skrpollock@gmail.com. Commissioner Harris asked if there was a motion and also stated that the Commission asked the Chief for his suggestion/comments but the Commission has the final decision to make. Motion was made by Commissioner Pollock to accept Chief Martin's order of suspension and 2nd by Commissioner Plummer;

Ayes 3 Nays 0; motion carries

Merit Ordinance Changes: Commissioner Harris wanted to make sure everyone had copies of the requested ordinance changes to review so it may be discussed at the June meeting. The Commission will make sure Chief Martin and the stations receive a copy. Public hearing on this will be at the June meeting also. In June the changes could be made and by July submit to City Council.

Report from Chief Martin: Chief Martin expressed his condolences to Commissioner Mock and her family. He congratulates the Union on getting the committee together. He stated that this is a great start on getting the Michigan City Fire Fighters recognized. He wanted to recognize Fire Fighter Ron Oman on his 30 years of service and Assistant Chief Tom Zuwacki for his 35 years of service. The schedule for May and Training are as follows; Tour of the GAF plant for 3 days, Dr. Jackson at the administration building will give classes on cultural awareness, tour of Ivy Tech, Annual Aerial Training, annual Ground Ladder Training, Mr. Baker will be leading a S.I.D.S. awareness class and Pump Testing. Chief stated that he will be attending a Fire Fighter Phil show in June.

Commissioner Harris asked if there were any questions or comments for Chief Martin. Commissioner Harris asked about the newest recruits on the department. Chief stated that Marcus Thompson is at the Gary Academy Monday-Friday for 16 weeks then he will go to EMT training at Methodist Hospital. Chief stated that he will be going over to the academy to check on him.

Public Comments: None.

Commissioner Comments: None.

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Pollock and 2nd by Commissioner Plummer Commission voted (4) Ayes – (0) Nays motion carries. 5:18 p.m.

Next meeting June 3, 2013 @ 5 p.m.