



## MICHIGAN CITY FIRE MERIT COMMISSION

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

Michigan City Fire Merit Commission Meeting Minutes: September 8, 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, Charles Williams and David Gring all in attendance. Also present was Fire Chief Ronnie Martin, Attorney Pamela Krause and Councilman Chris Schwanke.

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 August 4, 2014 meeting. Commissioner Gring 2<sup>nd</sup>. **All Accepted.**

### **Communications/Claims-**

Claims-Commissioner Pollock stated the payroll for September 2014, which included attorney fees was \$1,426.27. Commissioner Pollock also stated that he has talked to the Controller's office and that the commission has only used 46% of their budget for 2014. **All Accepted.**

**Report from City Council Liaison-** No Report

**Report from Commission Attorney-** No Report

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

**New Business-** None

**Old Business-** Commissioner Gring asked Councilman Schwanke about why were the changes to the Ordinance not brought before the council for them to vote on. Councilman Schwanke stated that not only himself, but several councilmen and the mayor were not comfortable with the changes. Commissioner Gring stated that he would like to know how each councilman felt about each change. Chief Martin suggested that after the promotional testing in October that the commission and council get back to working on the ordinance changes. Councilman Schwanke thought that was a good idea and he would include the city council.

Commissioner Pollock stated that for the agility test, the commission will pay for the firefighters that help out of the commission budget. That he understands there was some confusion last time and it will not happen again.

However the bad news was with the stair master that the firefighters were asking for. The commission did not have the money in the budget to purchase a stair master and he knows there is not money in the budget for next year. However, Chief Martin stated that he and Commissioner Pollock will talk about this. Commissioner Gring asked if someone could donate and the answer was yes.

Commissioner Mock reminded everyone how we are working together and not divided. That this is all for the better of Michigan City.

**Report from Chief Martin**- Chief Martin reminded everyone that Budget sessions would be starting soon.

He also wanted to remind everyone that we are here for one purpose and that division has to stop.

The commission asked Chief Martin about the stair master and how long was it used at the training facility and Chief Martin answered 2 months. Then they asked how long was it used at the station it was housed at and Chief Martin answered 22 months.

Chief Martin introduced the three new Firefighters. Brock Kohler, Marques Reese and Armand Buslon. Armand Buslon comes from the Gary Fire Department and at that time, Chief Martin asked the commission to waive the academy for Mr. Buslon. Commissioner Pollock made a motion and Commissioner Gring 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Ayes 5 Nays 0; Motion Carries.**

With the retirement of Larry Butcher, the next Firefighter to be promoted to Driver/Operator was Joe Zerbes. Commissioner Pollock made a motion to accept this and Commissioner Williams 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Ayes 5 Nays 0; Motion Carries.**

Chief Martin wanted it on record that his academy of choice would be Wayne Township, they produce quality product. They have impressed both Chief Martin and his wife. However, everything has a financial component. You can't have everything you want but you should always strive for what you want.

**Public Comment**- Spencer Walker asked about the candidate testing. Commission Mock stated that there will be another test, that the ones that passed the first test will be held and the commission will run another ad for firefighters.

Tony Stahoviak stated that he agreed with Chief Martin that Wayne Township is the academy everyone would prefer.

**Commission Comment-** Commissioner Pollock stated that it was a great Fireman's ball that was held. That everyone did a great job.

**Motion to adjourn was made by Commission Pollock and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Williams, Ayes 5; Nays 0 motion carries.**

**Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 6, 2014 at 5:00 pm.**