

Minutes of the February 4, 2008, Michigan City Fire Merit Commission Meeting
(As Amended)

President Bart Lombard called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. A quorum was noted as present with Commissioners Bart Lombard, John Stimley, Louise Mock, John Skierkowski, and Keith Harris in attendance. Others present included Angie Starks, Pamela Krause, Larry Butcher, Ron Martin, Doug Bolka, Kyle Kazmierczak, Mike Osborne, Randy Dibble, Mark Baker, Greg Wantland, Rick Santana, and Kathy Dubie.

Keith Harris asked that the spelling of the Republican Council Chairwoman be corrected in the December, 2007, and January, 2008, minutes and moved that the January minutes be approved as corrected. The motion was seconded by Louise Mock and the minutes were approved.

Communications: John Stimley reported that Stanard & Associates says they are still owed \$833.30. Since the bill should have been forwarded to the Board of Works in October, 2007, Kathy Dubie agreed to check this further.

Other Business: Angie Starks is the new City Council liaison. President Lombard thanked Councilwoman Boy for her past cooperation and said he looks forward to working with Councilwoman Starks.

New Business: Attorney Krause submitted her yearly contract for signatures and said that the document from Chief Lamb will be discussed during the workshop which will follow this meeting.

Commissioner Skierkowski reported that he had discussed procedures followed by the Police Commission to evaluate the police chief. He said that the chief evaluates himself and forwards the evaluation to the commissioners. If they do not agree or have questions, they meet with the chief. Commissioner Skierkowski said that he personally does not feel the commission should evaluate the fire chief because it does not observe the day-to-day operations. He suggested there is a need to amend the ordinance.

Regarding the status of the applicant process, Bart Lombard said the applications may be submitted year-round. The commission has received three applications since the first of the year. Commissioner Harris agreed to create an excel spreadsheet which will be used for future applicant compilations. President Lombard asked for help in compiling the non-minority list; in setting date to tabulate scores; and in beginning the process of minority applicants.

John Skierkowski suggested meeting at 4:30 p.m. on March 3 to complete the score tabulations. Bart Lombard added that the commission must set the date for the testing as well as the tutoring, etc.

John Stimley agreed to head this portion of the process.

Larry Butcher discussed the DVD which will be created and used for future applicants.

Kyle Kazmierczak agreed to look into sites which might be available for future CPAT testing. Old Business: John Skierkowski reported that the commission met in executive session prior to today's meeting. He then moved to affirm the rating of the bi-annual performance appraisal as presented by the captain. The motion was seconded by Keith Harris. On the motion, individual affirmative votes were made by Bart Lombard, John Stimley, Louise Mock, John Skierkowski, and Keith Harris. The motion to affirm the rating passed.

Chief Lamb reported on recent activities. Bart Lombard requested that the applicant brochures be finalized and printed for distribution as needed.

Comments: Commissioner Harris went on record to thank Chuck Greis and Randy Novak for providing a tour to himself, Louise Mock, and Bart Lombard.

Commissioner Lombard thanked Roy Romine for his help in getting the commission's telephone operational. The number in City Hall is 873-1570. Bart added that he staffs the office on Wednesdays. He also thanked the city for processing payment of claims, and asked commissioners to wear their badges.

Comments from the Public: Doug Bolka, Local 475 President, asked for clarification on the two hiring lists and how hiring would be done. He was told that the consent decree would be followed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.