

Minutes of the La Porte City Fire Department

Merit Commission

January 4, 2023

The Merit Commission met in person at Fire Station 1. Present were commission members, Miles Fettinger, Dr. James Edwards, Ian Eldridge, Josh Huelat and Alison Zoll. Chief Andy Snyder, Assistant Chief Kelly Burke, City Councilwoman Julie West and numerous firefighters were also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM.

A motion to accept minutes from December was made by Josh Huelat and seconded by Dr. James Edwards.

Election of officers was held. Josh Huelat was nominated for President by Miles Fettinger but declined. Dr. James Edwards nominated Miles Fettinger for President and was seconded by Josh Huelat. Josh Huelat was nominated for Vice President by Dr. James Edwards and seconded Miles Fettinger. Alison Zoll was nominated for Secretary by Dr. James Edwards and seconded by Miles Fettinger. All nominations passed unanimously.

Old Business – Chief Andy Snyder reported all annual performance ratings have been completed and no appeals were received.

Chief Andy Snyder reported that four applicants are scheduled for their Public Safety Medical evaluations within the next two weeks. The ladder climb, smoke mask and swim tests have been completed, all have passed. One of the four applicants currently has a CPAT certification, the other three will need to complete and pass that as well.

New Business – Chief Snyder reported that the Board of Works and Public Safety authorized the Fire Merit Commission to fill the vacancies of the three retirees: Wayne Seymour, Fire Inspector, Steve Luscomb, Battalion Chief and Eugene Smith, Captain. They also authorized the Merit Commission to make all necessary promotions to fill vacancies in rank and any subsequent positions.

Chief Andy Snyder submitted a letter to the Merit Commission requesting the vacancy created in Fire Inspector be filled at their earliest convenience. The Commission submitted a letter to Chief Andy Snyder with the top three names from the Fire Inspector list. Chief Andy Snyder submitted a letter to the Merit Commission recommending Michael Boardman, the top name on the list, be appointed to fill the vacancy. The Merit Commission agreed, and Michael Boardman accepted the position as Fire Inspector.

Chief Andy Snyder submitted a letter to the Merit Commission requesting the vacancy created in Battalion Chief be filled at their earliest convenience. The Commission submitted a letter to Chief Andy Snyder with the top three names from the Battalion Chief list. Chief Andy Snyder submitted a letter to the Merit Commission recommending Stephen Klimczak, the top name on the list be appointed to fill the vacancy. The Merit Commission agreed, and Stephen Klimczak accepted the position as Battalion Chief. Chief Andy Snyder submitted a letter to the Merit Commission requesting an open

position of Captain be filled at their earliest convenience. The Merit Commission submitted a letter to Chief Andy Snyder with the top three names from the captain list. Chief Andy Snyder submitted a letter to the Merit Commission recommending Tom Lusco, the top name on the captain list, to be appointed to fill the vacancy. The Merit Commission agreed, and Tom Lusco accepted the position of Captain. With the promotion of Stephen Klimczak to Battalion Chief a vacancy in the position of Captain was created. Chief Andy Snyder submitted a letter to the Merit Commission requesting open position of Captain be filled at their earliest convenience. The Merit Commission submitted a letter to Chief Andy Snyder with the top three names from the captain list. Chief Andy Snyder submitted a letter to the Merit Commission recommending Eddie Wineland, the top name on the captain list, to be appointed to fill the vacancy. The Merit Commission agreed, and Eddie Wineland accepted the position of Captain. A motion to make all promotions effective January 7, 2023, was made by Miles Fettinger and seconded by Josh Huelat.

Miles Fettinger made a motion to adjourn, Josh Huelat seconded at 6:54 PM.

Recorded by Dawn Prater

Alison Zoll Merit Commission Secretary