

Minutes of the La Porte City Fire Department

Merit Commission

November 1, 2023

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 PM.

A motion to accept the minutes from October was made by Dr. James Edwards and seconded by Alison Zoll.

Old Business –Annual performance ratings are proceeding ahead of schedule and should be completed well before the December 10th deadline.

Jason Heckathorn passed the ladder climb, swim test and mask practice. He is scheduled for CPAT on November 28th and Public Safety Medical Exam on December 4, 2023.

Regarding lowering the hiring age to 18, Chief Andy Snyder reported that since we have a Merit System in place the state statute prohibits us from hiring outside of the 21-40 age restrictions. South Bend Fire is not a Merit governed department, so they are not bound by this same restriction. However, new legislation passed this year is mandating all Fire Departments not currently governed by merit systems to implement one by January 2025. So South Bend Fire Department will no longer be able to hire 18-year-olds once this takes effect.

Chief Andy Snyder reported that all went well oral interviews.

Alison Zoll made a motion to adjourn, Josh Huelat seconded at 7:30 PM.

Recorded by Dawn Prater

Alison Zoll Merit Commission Secretary