

**PIKE TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT
MERIT COMMISSION
4881 WEST 71ST STREET
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46268**

President:

Stephen Buschmann

Vice President:

Natrina DeBow

Secretary:

Russell Sipes

Members:

Steve Hendrixson

Nancy Poore

January 17, 2024
Regular Meeting

ATTENDEES:

Merit Commission – Natrina DeBow, Nancy Poore, Steve Hendrixson, Stephen Buschmann

Pike Township – Chief Jeff Beam, Lt. Steve Mills, Lt. Jim Boros, HRM Kris Harrison

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Copies of the December 23, 2023 minutes were distributed for review. There was a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and approved.

AGENDA/NEW BUSINESS:

The meeting was called to order at 1805 hours.

The meeting began with The Pledge of Allegiance.

The next item on the agenda was the Election of Officers. Commissioner Hendrixson made the motion to retain the current officers. The motion was seconded by Vice-President DeBow and passed unanimously.

The next item was the 2024 Meeting Schedule. Meetings are normally held on the third Wednesday of each month. The June meeting is scheduled for the second Wednesday due to the Juneteenth holiday falling on the third Wednesday. If there is no new business to review, the meetings are canceled. This schedule is compatible with each of the Committee members' schedules.

There were seven employees who were recommended for promotion from Probationary FF to FFI: K Bennett, C. Hankenson, T. Jones, J. Kindred, Z. Kunkel-Ruiz, N. Wilkey and B. Woods. Chief Beam stated that these firefighters have completed all necessary

training and are eligible for promotion on January 17. President Buschmann asked for a motion to promote K Bennett, C. Hankenson, T. Jones, J. Kindred, Z. Kunkel-Ruiz, N. Wilkey and B. Woods to the rank of FFI as of January 17. Vice-President DeBow made the motion which was seconded by Commissioner Hendrixson. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Beam requested the first three names from the Captain Promotion eligibility list. President Buschmann asked for a motion to give the Chief the names of Ryan Masters, Gregory Roberts and Daniel Pitts. Commissioner Poore made the motion; Vice-President DeBow seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Chief Beam stated that Lt. Masters was transferring into a promotable position on February 3 and that he intends to promote him to Probationary Captain on that date.

MISC. BUSINESS:

Chief Beam gave an update on Senate Bill 54 that would give the Mayor of Indianapolis and the City-County Council the ability to consolidate Decatur, Wayne and Pike Township Fire Departments without approval of the township trustee or township board. The Senate Committee held a hearing and there was overwhelming opposition to the bill. The Senate Committee plans to vote on the bill next week.

The meeting adjourned at 1821 hours.