

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

President: Steve Buschmann
Vice President: NaTrina DeBow
Secretary: Russ Sipes

Members: Steve Hendrixson
Nancy Poore

November 19, 2025

Regular Meeting

An Executive Session was held prior to the Regular meeting. No decisions were made during the Executive Session.

ATTENDEES:

Merit Commission –Stephen Buschmann, Russ Sipes, Steve Hendrixson, NaTrina DeBow, and Nancy Poore

Pike Township – Chief Jeff Beam and HRM Jill Smith

CALL TO ORDER:

At 1824, President Buschmann called the meeting to order. As noted above, an Executive Session was held prior to the regular meeting to review one applicant for the position of Probationary Firefighter. There were no decisions made. The meeting began with The Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Copies of the October 22, 2025 minutes were distributed for review. President Buschmann asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Secretary Sipes made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hendrixson and approved by all.

AGENDA/NEW BUSINESS:

President Buschmann stated that the Commission had reviewed one applicant in the executive session. President Buschmann asked for a motion to approve the following applicant:

Applicant 24-481

Secretary Sipes made the motion to approve the applicant, Vice President DeBow seconded, and the motion was approved by all.

Officer Appointment Information

Officer Name	Appointing Authority	Term Start Date	Term Expiration Date
Stephen Buschmann	Pike Township Trustee	January 1, 2025	December 31, 2028
NaTrina DeBow	Pike Township Board	January 1, 2023	December 31, 2026
W. Russell Sipes	Pike Township Trustee	January 1, 2023	December 31, 2026
Steve Hendrixson	Pike Township Fire Dept.	January 1, 2025	December 31, 2028
Nancy Poore	Pike Township Fire Dept.	January 1, 2023	December 31, 2026

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MISC. BUSINESS:

Chief Beam thanked the board for the approval of the applicant. He informed the Board that there will be eight recruits with Pike in the next recruit academy. There will also be 5 recruits from Zionsville, 1 recruit from Speedway, 1 recruit from Lebanon and 3 recruits from Plainfield. Our candidates will start on December 29, 2025 with three days of administrative tasks and then the official start date of the Academy will be January 5, 2026. The Academy is approximately 6 weeks long ending in June. Chief Beam stated that we anticipate there will be no business and the December meeting will be cancelled. There was no Merit Commission Business.

ADJOURNMENT:

President Buschmann asked for a motion to adjourn meeting at 1829. Secretary Sipes made the motion to adjourn, Vice President DeBow seconded, and all were in favor.

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Officer Name	Appointing Authority	Term Start Date	Term Expiration Date
Stephen Buschmann	Pike Township Trustee	January 1, 2025	December 31, 2028
NaTrina DeBow	Pike Township Board	January 1, 2023	December 31, 2026
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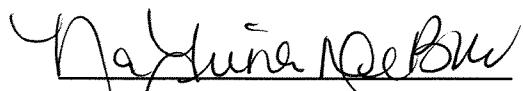
APPROVAL OF MINUTES: November 19, 2025



Stephen Buschmann, President

absent

Steven Hendrixson, Member



Natrina DeBow, Vice President

absent

Nancy Poore, Member



Russell Sipes, Secretary

Signed on January 21, 2026.