

MINUTES

CITY OF WESTFIELD FIRE MERIT BOARD

August 15, 2016

In attendance: Merit Board members Bryan Kercheval, Bob Benson, and Eric Lohe. Julie Sole and Chris Wilkes were not in attendance. Chief Marcus Reed, Deputy Chief Joseph Lyons, and other Westfield firemen were also in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by President Bryan Kercheval at 7:06 pm. A quorum was present. The Pledge of Allegiance was shared by all. Marcus Reed was welcomed as the new Westfield Fire Chief.

MINUTES - The minutes from the April 18, 2016 meeting of the Merit Board were approved as presented.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA - There were no additions to the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Hiring Update - Deputy Chief Lyons shared that there are two firefighters leaving. He is going back through the hiring list to determine if there are any on the current hiring list that could fill the vacancies.

Lieutenant Promotion List - The Board was presented with a letter by firefighter Timothy O'Hara requesting that since he was on the lieutenant promotion list, that he be considered for the open position. The letter is attached.

The Board indicated that the current promotion list on which Mr. O'Hara was listed had expired as of October 2015. The Board reviewed the Merit Law to see if the promotion list could be reopened to allow Mr. O'Hara to be considered for the position.

Captain Jason Lemons and firefighter Scott Wolfe spoke in favor of promoting Mr. O'Hara.

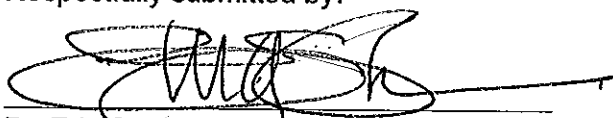
After considerable conversation, the Board voted unanimously to reopen the promotion list thus opening the way for Mr. O'Hara to be considered for the lieutenant position.

Chief Reed then requested that the way be made possible, after he has a conversation with Mr. O'Hara, for Mr. O'Hara to be approved for the open lieutenant position. The Board approved unanimously Chief Reed's request to promote Mr. O'Hara to lieutenant. As is true for all promotions, it comes with a one year probationary period.

Promotion List - Chief Reed and the Board made a commitment to work toward always having a current list open for promotions.

With the Board having completed all the business for the night, the Board was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:



Dr. Eric G. Lohe
Secretary, Westfield Fire Merit Board