TOWN OF SCHERERVILLE SCHERERVILLE, INDIANA

FIRE MERIT BOARD MEETING July 9, 2026

The Fire Department Merit Board Regular Meeting was called to order by President Roger Florkiewicz at 5:33 p.m., in the Schererville Town Hall Meeting Room, 10 E. Joliet Street, Schererville, IN.

Attendance was taken with the following Board Members present: President Roger Florkiewicz, Vice President Tim Arvanitis, Secretary Paul Petrie, and David Turoci. Staff members present: Fire Chief Robert Patterson, Deputy Fire Chief David Meyer, and Acting Recording Secretary Jon Gettemans. Also present: Attorney Christian Bartholomew. Absent: Tom Fulk

THEREUPON, Approval of the Minutes

Tim Arvanitis made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2026 Regular Meeting, seconded by Paul Petrie. Motion Carries (4 – 0).

THEREUPON, Correspondence - None

THEREUPON, Old Business - None

THEREUPON, New Business

ITEM A. Approval of New Hiring List

Fire Chief Patterson thanked the Board members, specifically Tim Arvanitis and Tom Fulk, for their assistance with conducting in-person interviews for the hiring list being presented for approval. Chief stated that the hiring process has been completed and requested the Board's approval of the hiring list so the Department may begin the process of filling one current vacancy.

Chief Patterson further requested that, should the Department exhaust the approved hiring list without identifying a suitable candidate for hire, authorization be granted to immediately begin a new hiring process to avoid delays associated with waiting for a subsequent Board meeting.

President Florkiewicz recommended that the requests be separated into individual motions.

David Turoci made the motion to approve the current hiring list, seconded by Tim Arvanitis. Motion carries (4-0).

Tim Arvanitis made the motion to approve a new hiring list (should the current hiring list be exhausted), seconded by Paul Petrie. Motion carries (4-0).

Attorney Bartholomew advised that an additional motion should be considered to specifically authorize the hiring of one individual from the newly approved hiring list. A motion was made and seconded. During discussion, Dave Turoci questioned how this motion differed from the previous initial motion. It was explained that the prior motion approved the hiring list itself, while the current motion specifically authorized the Department to hire one individual from the approved list to fill the existing vacancy.

Additional discussion occurred regarding the applicable Board rules. It was clarified that the current hiring list was established under the previous Board rules, while any newly initiated hiring list would be subject to the new rules adopted by the Board at its previous meeting.

Tim Arvanitis made the motion to hire one individual to fill the vacancy from the approved hiring list, seconded by David Turoci. Motion carries (4-0).

THEREUPON, Reports - None

THEREUPON, Board Members

David Turoci questioned who would be involved with the next hiring process. Fire Chief Patterson stated that the president of the board appoints who will be involved. Roger Florkiewicz volunteers himself and Paul Petrie to be involved in the next hiring process.

THEREUPON, Business from the Floor

Schererville Firefighters Local 4279 Vice President Collin Zackavec invited Merit Board members to the second annual Schererville Firefighters Golf Outing to golf and/or sponsor a hole. He specified that the golf outing would take place on August 28, 2026 with registration beginning at 0800 hours and a shotgun start at 0900 hours.

David Turoci recognized and congratulated Collin Zackavec as recently winning an award with the Fire Department (Paramedic of the Year).

THEREUPON, Adjournment

There being no further business, Tim Arvanitis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by David Turoci. Motion carries (4 – 0). The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

_____

ROGER FLORKIEWICZ
SCHERERVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT
MERIT BOARD PRESIDENT
A TRUE COPY

_____

TIM ARVANITIS
SCHERERVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT
MERIT BOARD VICE PRESIDENT
A TRUE COPY