

**Fire Territory Board Meeting**

**Weds., Dec. 6, 2023 - 5:30 p.m. (EST)**

**New Carlisle Library, 408 S. Bray St., New Carlisle, IN 46552**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Board members:**

Dave Wilson, Hudson Twp. Board

Tim Creason, Olive Twp. Board

Marcy Kauffman, New Carlisle town council

Bob Middlebrook, Olive Twp. Board

Keith Batzel, Olive Twp. Board

Jerry Colanese, New Carlisle town council

**Also:**

Josh Schweizer, Fire chief

Chad Hess, Asst. Fire chief

Susie White, executive asst. for the fire township

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Jerry Colanese, acting board president. Previous board president Brian Gray has resigned.

Motion to adopt agenda by Bob Middlebrook. Second by Keith Batzel. Approved 6-0.

Motion to approve minutes of 10-11-2023 by Dave Wilson. Second by Bob Middlebrook. Approved 6-0.

**NEW HIRES:** Two candidates presented for the New Carlisle Fire Department -- Brandon Waldrip and Alex Polito-Parker.

Brandon Waldrip unable to attend in person. He is coming over from the University of Notre Dame fire department. Alex Polito-Parker is presently working part-time and had 13 years previous experience with the Clay Twp. department.

With these hires, there will be 15 full-time fire fighters in New Carlisle.

Bob Middlebrook moves to hire both candidates. Dave Wilson second. Motion approved, 6-0.

The Olive Twp. board has already approved the hirings.

Also, Brian Abbott has been appointed as C shift captain for the NC Fire Department.

**BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2024:** The Town of New Carlisle will have three representatives on the fire township next year: Marcy Kauffman, Will Short and Jerry Colanese. Olive Township will have two

representatives: Will Miller and Bob Middlebrook. Hudson Township will have Dave Wilson and possibly Joyce Forbes, that is to be determined by the end of the year.

**MEETINGS FOR 2024:** The organizational meeting for next year’s fire territory board will be Wednesday, Jan. 10. The group would like to continue meeting on Wednesdays throughout the year.

**IEC DEVELOPMENT:** Josh Schweizer states new development in the IEC will bring sets of issues that the fire department must deal with. It may be necessary to hire a fire marshall, in part to keep an eye on GM and Amazon construction, but that is yet to be determined. Also, it is difficult to conduct the required business inspections without more help.

Jerry Colanese says the fire territory should be keeping a list of expenses – connected to the development – for which reimbursement is expected. Keith Batzel points out that TIF money can’t be used for personnel expenses. Jerry says that we should not be afraid to ask for everything we can get.

Josh Schweizer suggests that eventually there may have to be three fire stations in the fire territory. That is something that needs to be considered, nothing has yet been determined.

Dave Wilson points out that if there is a big fire at Amazon or GM, several area fire departments will be engaged, and he questions how regular citizens, like the ones in Hudson Lake, will be protected.

**FIRE INSPECTIONS:** Chad Hess reports on steps being taken to begin the new fire inspection program.

Motion to adjourn by Bob Middlebrook. Second by Keith Batzel. Motion passed, 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Creason  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Middlebrook, Territory Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dave Wilson, Territory Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Marcy Kauffman, Territory Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keith Batzel, Territory Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Creason, Territory Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerry Colanese, Acting Board President