



Town of McCandless

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TOWN OF McCANDLESS

MINUTES

Meeting of the Personnel Board

October 21, 2025, at 4:00PM

1. Call to order by Mr. Matt Shipley

- Attendees: John Schwend, Chief Ryan Hawk, Matt Shipley, Eric Fischer, Steve Korbelt, Rita Martin, Brian Snyder, Joe Wall, Amy Wehrspann, Michael Witherel, (June Drnevich – recording minutes), Sherry Wurzel – Stenographer
- One citizen was present

2. Public Comments on Agenda Items

- A citizen questioned the appointment of a new Personnel Board Solicitor
- She did not know that the Town of McCandless needed a new Personnel Board Solicitor

3. Minutes of August 26, 2025, and September 16, 2025, were approved

- Eric Fischer made a motion to approve the minutes from August 26, 2025
- Rita Martin 2nd the motion. All were in favor.
- Eric Fischer made a motion to approve the minutes from September 16, 2025
- Rita Martin 2nd the motion. All were in favor.

4. New Business

- Appointment of Solicitor
 - Amy Wehrspann made a motion to approve Michael Witherel as the new Personnel Board Solicitor
 - Eric Fischer 2nd the motion. All were in favor.
- Hearing for Disqualified Candidate
 - Mr. Witherel opened the hearing and stated the reason for the hearing was to hear the appeal of a disqualified candidate for the position of police officer. Mr. Joshua Lippert, appellant, appeared before the board representing himself, and Mr. Steve Korbelt appeared representing the Town.
 - Mr. Korbelt presented a binder with evidence and entered it into the record:
 1. Mr. Lippert's 2025 police officer application
 2. Open records request form submitted by the Town of McCandless to the Metro Nashville Police Department
 3. Waiver and release for background investigations dated 5/20/25
 4. Set of discipline records from Mr. Lippert from the Metro Nashville Police Department

5. Additional employment records from Mr. Lippert from the Metro Nashville Police Department
 6. Set of performance evaluations from Mr. Lippert from the Metro Nashville Police Department
 7. Letter from the Personnel Board to Mr. Lippert regarding disqualification dated 9/22/25
 8. Email from Mr. Lippert to Steve Korbel indicating his intent to appeal dated 9/22/25
 9. Email from Mr. Lippert to Steve Korbel formally filing an appeal dated 9/26/25
 10. Series of emails regarding Steve Korbel's receipt of 9/26/25 email dated 9/29/25
 11. Series of emails received where Steve Korbel did respond that he received Mr. Lippert's appeal dated 9/29/25
 12. Article 137 – Personnel Board Town of McCandless code of ordinances
 13. Ordinance 1554 which amended article 137
 14. Ordinance 1558 again further amending article 137
- Mr. Korbel made an opening statement to explain The Town of McCandless' position.
 - Mr. Lippert was disqualified because of his application, which is tab1, exhibit 1, question #18
 - Question # 18 asks if he has ever been subject to disciplinary action while in any position. If yes, please explain and provide the name of the employer and the approximate date
 - Mr. Lippert answered “no”
 - Tab 4 is Mr. Lippert's disciplinary record
 - Mr. Lippert's disciplinary record is 253 pages long
 - Mr. Lippert has 11 disciplinary actions recorded by the Metro Nashville Police Department
 - Mr. Korbel stated that by answering question #18 in the negative that Mr. Lippert made a misstatement on his application and according to Article 137 of the Town of McCandless' ordinances candidates are required to answer honestly.
 - Mr. Lippert presented his objections to the disqualification
 - Mr. Lippert stated that he misread question #18 and that he did not try to mislead the Town of McCandless.
 - Mr. Lippert stated a number of reasons why he had disciplinary action in his Nashville file as well. A full transcript is available from the stenographer.
 - The Board adjourned to Executive Session to seek legal counsel at 4:39 p.m.
 - The Board returned to Regular session at 4:47 p.m. Upon the Board's return, a motion was made by Eric Fischer with a second from Amy Wehrspann to uphold Mr. Lippert's disqualification.

5. Public Comments (General)

- 4:39 No public comments

6. Adjourn

- Personnel Board Meeting adjourned at 4:49 pm