

MANHATTAN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

April 15, 2024

The Manhattan Fire Protection District held its meeting at Manhattan Fire Station #81. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Trustees present were Bill Moncrief, Larry Goodwin, Bill Weber, Nick Kotchou, and Bill Osborne. Trustee's absent were Brian Hupe and Bob Davis. Fire Department personnel present were Chief Malone, Deputy Chief Dave Piper, Battalion Chief Bruce Boyle, and Admin Asst. Kim Ingram. Also in attendance was Attorney John Motylinski, James Howard, Governmental Accounting and reporter Stephanie Irvine.

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

MOTION by Osborne, seconded by Weber to approve the minutes from the March 18, 2024.
Motion Carries.

Treasurers Report & Bills

District Financial Status

James Howard, Governmental Accounting, discussed the 1st Quarter financial analysis. Revenue, expenditures, ambulance fees and year to date fund balances were discussed. Property taxes will not be collected until May so using reserves until these are received.

MOTION by Weber, seconded by Kotchou to approve the treasurer's report and pay the bills as presented. **Motion Carries.**

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Review of Closed Session Minutes

The Attorney has reviewed our closed session minutes and the following minutes can now be open to the public, 12/17/18, 12/19,22 and 10/16/23.

MOTION by Kotchou, second by Goodwin to approve to open the closed Session minutes from 12/17/18, 12/19,22 and 10/16/23. **Motion Carries.**

Policy 1053, Benefits

MOTION by Osborne, seconded by Weber to approve amending Benefits Policy 1053 to add Easter as a part time holiday. **Motion Carries.**

Ordinance 2024-02 Amending Ambulance Rates

Approximately 6 years ago a study was done on ambulance billing collection rates by various local districts. At that time we were well under the average rate and made an increase to our rates. Currently GEMT (Ground Emergency Medical Transport) does a cost analysis on what we can collect per the State. The proposed amount is \$2554.00. This ordinance states we do not need to make an amendment every year based on the GEMT findings. The new rate will allow us to be comparative with surrounding districts and will generate additional revenue. As a reminder, we do not balance bill our residents after insurance payments are received.

Attorney Motylinski mentioned by adhering to the GEMT recommendation put us in compliance with Federal regulations as well.

MOTION by Osborne, seconded by Weber to approve Ordinance 2024-02 Re-Establishing Ambulance and Related Charges of the Manhattan Fire Protection District. On a roll call vote, all voting “AYE”, **Motion Carries.**

Chief's Report

- Phase II of the remodel project at Station 83 has started. This project should be complete by June.
- Currently on Call # 731
- Continue to evaluate construction costs for the new station. Planning to go out for bid soon, waiting for water and sewer project with the Village.
- Continue to work with dispatch and Will County 9-1-1 on issues and attending various meetings.
- Signs at Station 82 and 83 are up and running and Station 82 landscaping will start soon.
- Audit will be presented in May.
- Recently submitted a ComEd grant to assist with the costs of mobile radios. Waiting to hear back.
- Discussed HB5050 – we are well above the curve on this because we have fully consolidated, however, once our Decennial Efficiency Committee report is complete. The County Board has 12 months to report to the House Assembly to reduce the amount of local government by 10 to 20%. This House Bill will go to its Third reading and may pass. Our Attorney will keep us posted on HB5050.
- Discussed the status of the Tier II Pension discussion that Tabled in the House Assembly.

Deputy Chief's Report

- The District was awarded the SFM small equipment grant for \$21,000.00. This will allow us to purchase 20 sets of brush fire & extrication gear, which will reduce the wear and tear on structural firefighting gear.

Battalion Chief's Report

- Concrete at the front entryway of Station 81 has been replaced.
- Discussed new sign at Station 83 and messaging.

Adjournment

MOTION by Weber, seconded by Goodwin to adjourn at 4:29pm. **Motion Carries.**