

MANHATTAN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

September 23, 2024

The Manhattan Fire Protection District held its meeting at Manhattan Fire Station #83. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Trustee's present were Bill Moncrief, Larry Goodwin, Bob Davis, Nick Kotchou, Brian Hupe and Bill Osborne. Trustee' absent were Bill Weber. Fire Department personnel present were Chief Steve Malone, Deputy Chief Dave Piper, Battalion Chief Bruce Boyle, Lt. Christensen, FF Phelon, FF Blanton, FF Helis and Admin Asst. Kim Ingram. Also in attendance was James Howard, Governmental Accounting (Zoom) and Stephanie Irvine, Vedette reporter, Mike Shivers, Roger Hupe, Tom Gilbert.

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

MOTION by Osborne, seconded by Davis to approve the minutes from August 19, 2024.
Motion Carries.

Treasurers Report & Bills

District Financial Status

James Howard, Governmental Accounting, discussed the 8-month financial analysis. Revenue, expenditures were discussed and ambulance fees were up this month. Property taxes are coming in, interest rates look good but need to monitor this as rates are coming down. Expenditures and budget balances are on track.

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

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

Chief's Report

- Station 83 remodel is complete and the permit arrived last week. We will continue to decorate and add historical items. The final cost was approximately \$820,000 and we are waiting on the \$250,000 grant from the State pending completion of our audit.

- New Station Update – the Village of Manhattan awarded the sewer and water bid. Work should start soon and be complete by November. We will be working with the Village on an IGA. The station floorplan is finalized, but still looking at construction types and roof construction, etc. Current cost estimates are higher than anticipated.
- Continue to look at the budget and work with Accountant James Howard to forecast the next few years. An Administrative budget meeting was held this morning and he will be meeting with department heads soon. Insurance policies have gone up and we continue to do due diligence on evaluating vendors including IT and telephone for cost savings.
- An open house at Station 83 is scheduled for October 25th from 4pm -6pm in conjunction with a home football game
- October 17th will be a swearing in ceremony for 2 full time members and 12 part time members.
- The Lieutenant’s testing process will be completed in January. We are using an outside testing company for this process. Our Firefighter eligibility list will expire in 2025 and the testing process will start early next year. Battalion Chief training program began this month as well.
- School Safety Meetings are going well. Peotone is working on drills and Manhattan will meet next week. There is a push for standardization across the county.
- During the 5 days of the Will County Fair there were 85 incidents attended to, 18 at the fair itself requiring an ambulance. We were able to fully staff the first aid tent, an extra station ambulance and provide crews for the main events.

Deputy Chief’s Report

- We continue to work with LCC on dispatch times as well as overall call times. We do see improvements and the average call time for 161 calls is 10.52.

Battalion Chief’s Report

- Recently met with the Village of Manhattan to discuss Fire Prevention. We were able to identify things that need to be worked on, but overall, very good meeting.
- The Holiday Inn in Peotone is moving along with the sprinkler piping.
- Dave Kolosh has started in the Fire Prevention Department.
- The new Tahoe will be outfitted soon. The refurb ambulance is in Indiana to prep for paint and should be back to us by the end of the year. Discussed the delay in ordering new ambulances, it could take 2-3 years to get one. Fire apparatus is almost 3-4 years to get one in stock. Inventory is very limited.

Adjournment

MOTION by Davis, seconded by Hupe to adjourn at 4:20pm. **Motion Carries.**