

MANHATTAN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

November 18, 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. Trustee's present were Bill Moncrief, Larry Goodwin, Bill Weber, Nick Kotchou, Brian Hupe and Bill Osborne. Trustee' absent were Bob Davis. Fire Department personnel present were Chief Steve Malone, Deputy Chief Dave Piper, Battalion Chief Bruce Boyle, Lieutenant McKenna and Admin Asst. Kim Ingram. Also in attendance was Retired Captain Murphy, James Howard, Governmental Accounting (Zoom), Attorney John Motylinski, Atty Kelly Moline and Stephanie Irvine, Vedette reporter.

Public Comment

None

Public Hearing for Proposed 2025 Budget

MOTION by Kotchou, seconded by Weber to open the public hearing at 4:01p.m. regarding the proposed 2025 Budget and Appropriations. **Motion Carries.**

No objections were made.

MOTION by Osborne, seconded Goodwin to close the public hearing at 4:02 p.m. **Motion Carries.**

Truth and Taxation Hearing on 2024 Levy

MOTION by Hupe, seconded by Kotchou to open the public hearing at 4:15 pm regarding the Levying and Assessing of Taxes for 2024. **Motion Carries.**

No objections were made.

MOTION by Osborne, seconded by Kotchou to close the public hearing at 4:16 p.m. **Motion Carries.**

Approval of Minutes

MOTION by Goodwin, seconded by Osborne to approve the minutes from October 21, 2024. **Motion Carries.**

Treasurers Report & Bills

District Financial Status

James Howard, Governmental Accounting, discussed the 10-month financial analysis. Revenues and expenditures were discussed and how they compare to last year. Interest rates might be coming down. He reviewed capital items paid including the recent Station 83 remodel and current balance.

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

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Adopt 2025 Budget & Appropriations Ordinance 2024-04

Not much change in the budget, however next year we will see the borrow for the building. The levy will be over 5% due to growth, hoping to receive a few grants, interest rates are coming down and looking forward to a good year on ambulance collections. Reviewed the total operations expenses and budget. Overall looking at a 326,000.00 surplus in the budget at the end of the year. Things look good but we are staying focused. Chief is working on all capital projects and station improvements this year so they will not be included next year.

MOTION by Kotchou, seconded by Weber to adopt Ordinance 2024-04 Providing for Budget and Appropriations of the Manhattan Fire Protection District Will County, Illinois for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2025 and Ending December 31, 2025. On a roll call vote, all voting "AYE", **Motion Carries.**

VFIS Policy Renewal

Chief Malone explained this policy increased \$2,000.00 from \$16,000 to \$18,000 effective 1/1/25-1/1/26.

MOTION by Hupe, seconded by Osborne to approve the VFIS policy renewal. **Motion Carries.**

Life Insurance Policy

This is the life insurance policy requirement per the CBA, however the District includes all employees in this policy. This year's increase was approximately \$500.00 from \$6,800.00 to \$7,300.00 effective 2/1/25-2/1/26.

MOTION by Osborne, seconded by Kotchou to approve the Life Insurance Policy renewal. **Motion Carries.**

IPRF Work Comp Renewal

The IPRF work comp renewal actually decreased, possibly because the covid year fell off the three-year review. The policy went from \$257,000 to \$254,000 annually.

MOTION by Goodwin, seconded by Weber to approve the IPRF Work Comp Renewal for \$254,000.00. **Motion Carries.**

Selective General Insurance Auto/Accident

The Selective Policy increased \$4,000 from last year. This policy covers our fleet including their values is \$58,615.00 effective 2/1/25-2/1/26.

MOTION by Goodwin, seconded by Hupe to approve the Selective Auto/Accident renewal for \$58,615.00. **Motion Carries.**

Adopt Levy for 2024 Tax Year, Ordinance 2024-05

MOTION by Kotchou, seconded by Goodwin to adopt Ord 2024-05 for the Levying and Assessing of Taxes for the Manhattan Fire Protection District in the County of Will and the State of Illinois for 2024. On a roll call vote, all voting “AYE”, **Motion Carries.**

Board of Commissioners Appointment, Anton Brncich

As our long time Commissioner, Bob Herrick will serve his last meeting in December, the Board of Trustees is appointing Anton Brncich to fill the vacancy effective 1/1/25.

MOTION by Goodwin, seconded by Weber to appoint Anton Brncich to the Board of Commissioners effective 1/1/25. **Motion Carries.**

Deputy Chief Contract Renewal Discussion

As a formality Chief Malone reminded the Trustee’s that the Deputy Chief Piper’s contract renewal will be on the December Agenda.

Fire Chief Contract Renewal Discussion

As a formality Chief Malone reminded the Trustee’s that his contract renewal will be on the December Agenda.

Chief’s Report

- Currently on Call #2406
- Vacation Picks have started for our full-time members.
- Weekly meetings have started for our new fire station with our station committee and architect. We are trying to stay ahead of things as far as planning and design.
- Village water and sewer project should be starting the first week of December.
- The Architect is working to finalize construction documents and hopefully go out to bid early next year.

- Station 83 remodel had a few open items that will be finalized by Wednesday.
- He continues to work with the State of Illinois regarding the \$250,000 grant. All forms have been updated and submitted.
- the Station 83 Open House and recent swearing in ceremony were both great events.
- Continue to work with school safety, EMA, Police and Fire on the Emergency Response Plan.

Deputy Chief's Report

- Chief Piper reviewed the recent month of calls including call times and locations.

Adjournment

MOTION by Hupe, seconded by Weber to adjourn at 4:34pm. **Motion Carries.**