

MANHATTAN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

September 15, 2025

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, Bob Davis, Nick Kotchou, Brian Hupe and Mike Shivers. Fire Department personnel present were Chief Steve Malone, Deputy Chief Dave Piper, Battalion Chief Bruce Boyle, Fire Marshal, Lt. Dave Kolosh, Lt. Eric Murphy and Admin Asst. Kim Ingram. Also in attendance was James Howard (zoom) Governmental Accounting, Attorney John Motylinski, Ottosen Britz and Stephanie Irvine, Vedette reporter, John Falduto, Sawyer Falduto, Anthony Micelli, Speer Financial (zoom), Monica Adaminski, Lauterbach & Amen (zoom).

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

MOTION by Shivers, seconded by Weber to approve the minutes from August 18, 2025.
Motion Carries.

Treasurers Report & Bills

District Financial Status

James Howard, Governmental Accounting, presented the 8-month financial analysis where 56% of the budget revenue has been collected. He discussed the revenue highlights, expenditures and stated ambulance revenue and interest collected looks good.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation of FYE 24 Audit

Monica Adaminski, Lauterbach & Amen was present via zoom to present the Manhattan FPD FYE 2024 Audit. She stated the district has received an unmodified opinion, which is the cleanest opinion. She reviewed the audit summary, income statement, a very healthy year end balance, pension information and various reports.

MOTION by Davis, seconded by Weber to approve the FYE24 audit as presented. **Motion Carries.**

Engagement of Sawyer Falduto Asset Management LLC

This was discussed at our last board meeting and we have been working with our accountant James Howard and Anthony Micelli to set up the account. As explained the objective is to earn as much interest as possible and timing is also important. A report will be provided monthly.

MOTION by Davis, seconded by Weber to hire Sawyer Falduto as investment manager for the District. On a roll call vote, all voting “AYE”, **Motion Carries**.

Establish Schwab Account

MOTION by Kotchou, seconded by Shivers to open Schwab account(s). On a roll call vote, all voting “AYE”, **Motion Carries**.

Earthrise LOI

The Earthrise LOI was previously approved but has been updated to reflect legal modifications regarding the timing of payouts.

MOTION by Shivers, seconded by Kotchou to approve the modifications to the Earthrise LOI. **Motion carries**.

Consideration of an ordinance 2025-03 providing for the issue and sale of approximately \$8,750,000 of General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) to construct and equip a new fire station

Anthony Micelli, Speer Financial, was present to explain the open auction bidding process on the bonds. 48 bids from 7 underwriters were received. The final bid went to Baker Group at 4.13%. October 7th is the closing and everything will be locked in.

MOTION by Goodwin, seconded by Kotchou to approve the ordinance 2025-03 providing for the issue and sale of approximately \$8,750,000 of General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) to construct and equip a new fire station. On a roll call vote, all voting “AYE”, **Motion Carries**.

Chief's Report

- Discussed house fire that took place today in Peotone.
- Currently on call 1881
- A meeting was held today with Senator Joyce, State Rep. Jackie Hass, IDOT and Will County Department of Transportation regarding Rt. 50 and Countyline Road. This year alone we have responded to 17 accidents at that location. A very good conversation took place and we can expect to see a 4-way stop at that location by the end of the year, and a stop light in 2-3 years. Other dangerous roads need attention as well.
- The full time final eligibility list will be posted after the Board of Commissioners meeting on September 24th.
- New station update – things are moving along, next week the foundation and site utilities will be starting.

- An internal Swot analysis was conducted with all three shifts. An external stakeholders meeting will be scheduled in October. This is part of finalizing our strategic plan.

Deputy Chief's Report

- Reviewed the August 2025 operational report. During the days of the Will County Fair, there were approximately 40 incidents. A command van was on site for the first time and that was very helpful. He also discussed the monthly incidents, locations and call times.

Fire Marshall Report

- A report from FLSE Jackie Palkovitz detailed August's busy schedule including visiting 19 households and replacing 91 smoke alarms. Peotone FFA (Future Farmers of America) has made Manhattan FPD the recipient of this year's fundraiser.
- The Village of Peotone will be updating their fire codes next month and this is moving in the right direction. Will continue to work with the Village of Manhattan on this as well.

Adjournment

MOTION by Kotchou, seconded by Weber to adjourn at 4:44pm. **Motion Carries.**