

MANHATTAN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

October 20, 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, Brian Hupe and Mike Shivers. Members absent were Bill Weber, Bob Davis and Nick Kotchou. Fire Department personnel present were Chief Steve Malone, Deputy Chief Dave Piper, Battalion Chief Bruce Boyle, Fire Marshal, Lt. Dave Kolosh, Firefighter Jeremy Wilson and Admin Asst. Kim Ingram. Also in attendance was James Howard (zoom) Governmental Accounting, Attorney John Motylinski, (zoom) Ottosen Britz and Stephanie Irvine, Vedette reporter.

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

MOTION by Shivers, seconded by Hupe to approve the minutes from September 15, 2025.
Motion Carries.

Treasurers Report & Bills

District Financial Status

James Howard, Governmental Accounting, presented the 9-month financial analysis where 79% of the budget revenue has been collected. He discussed the revenue highlights, expenditures and stated ambulance revenue and interest collected looks good. Next month we will see the report of proceeds from the bond revenue. Interest rates might start to go down and we may need to look at investing from our money markets.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Determination of Levy

Accountant James Howard presented information regarding the 2025 proposed tax levy. He explained the CPI has gone down to 2.9% and the EAV is 830,205,165, new growth is 12.8M, no public hearing will be needed, we are capped by PTELL, but we can capture the rate at 4.99%. Growth is up but CPI is down, our tax rate is now .9004 which has dropped since the consolidation.

MOTION by Hupe, seconded by Shivers to approve the Levy Determination as presented.
Motion Carries.

Draft Operational Budget Presentation

Chief Malone presented the draft Operational Budget. He discussed revenue, expenses and various line items. Department health insurance increased 16% and work comp insurance increased 20%. We asked our general liability insurance broker to research rates because that could increase 20% as well. In 2026 the two brush trucks will cost \$775,000.00 and new station costs for furniture, signage, etc. will be built into the operational budget.

Award Landscape Bid for New Station as Recommended by ICI

Chief Malone explained this is the final bid to be approved. The price given in July is still being honored to seed and blanket 21 acres. We continue to negotiate the IGA with the Village of Manhattan.

MOTION by Hupe, seconded by Goodwin to approve to Award landscaping bid as presented and recommended by ICI Builds to seed and blanket 21 acres. **Motion Carries.**

Approve Utility Easements

MOTION by Goodwin, seconded by Hupe to approve the utility easements subject to Attorney review. **Motion carries.**

Chief's Report

- Currently on call 2134
- The Open house at Station 83 went well with a good showing from the community.
- Meetings with the public, taxing bodies and stakeholders are planned for next week as the last part of the Strategic plan.

Deputy Chief's Report

- We have been Awarded the AFG source capture grant for Station 83.
- The September Operational Report was given and showed a 3% monthly increase.
Recent calls and training hours were discussed and staffing remains consistent.

Battalion Chiefs Report

-Facilities remain in good shape and furnace maintenance has been performed. Fleet is going well and we are preparing for the winter. Discussed unexpected vehicle expenses incurred this year that have affected the budget.

Fire Marshall Report

-A report from FLSE Jackie Palkovitz detailed a busy fire prevention month schedule and various CPR classes. He continues to work on solar developments. He will be attending the Village of Peotone board meeting to discuss updating fire codes. Things are moving in the right direction.

Adjournment

MOTION by Shivers, seconded by Hupe to adjourn at 4:45pm. **Motion Carries.**