

MANHATTAN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

April 20, 2026

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 (Zoom), Brian Hupe and Mike Shivers. Fire Department personnel present were Chief Steve Malone (zoom), Deputy Chief Dave Piper Battalion Chief Bruce Boyle, Firefighter Jeremy Wilson and Admin Asst. Kim Ingram. Also in attendance was James Howard (zoom) Governmental Accounting, Attorney John Motylinski, Ottosen Britz and Stephanie Irvine, Vedette Reporter.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

MOTION by Shivers, seconded by Davis to approve the minutes from March 16, 2026. **Motion Carries.**

Treasurers Report & Bills

District Financial Status

James Howard, Governmental Accounting, presented the March 3-month financial analysis stating 3% of the budget revenue has been collected. Ambulance fees collected were \$131,300 and expenditures look good at 25% of the budget. Remember, we are drawing from reserves until taxes come in.

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

Chief Malone advised the last payment was made on RE83 and is now paid off.

NEW BUSINESS

Earthrise CBA and Tax Abatement Pending Attorney Review

This agreement was approved last year, but there have been a few minor changes. This pertains to receiving 95% of the tax money up front. These minor changes and timing are still being finalized by the Attorney but is still planned to be received by the end of the calendar year. Discussed the Will County approval process and State Laws.

MOTION by Hupe, seconded by Davis to approve the modifications to the Earthrise CBA and Tax Abatement pending Attorney Review. On a roll call vote, all voting “AYE”, **Motion Carries.**

Review Closed Session Minutes

MOTION by Shivers, seconded by Davis to open closed minutes 4/18/22 and 10/21/24 per attorney reaccommodation. **Motion carries.**

Chief's Report

- Currently looking to switch IT companies due to lack of support with our current vendor. VC3 has been reviewed and could save the district over \$3,000 per month. They would also help manage the new station project.
- Telephones have been installed with new vendor Rival 5 and we are saving approximately \$150.00 per month. The previous vendor contract was reduced from 3 years to a 1 year contract which we fulfilled.
- Will be working with the Board of Commissioners and the Attorney on a new testing process.
- Recently attended Legislative Day in Springfield. Working with Senator Joyce on intersection issues.
- Continue to discuss the IGA with the Village of Manhattan. There are a few challenges.

Deputy Chief Report

- The March operational report was discussed showing 30% of the time we run back to back calls. Workforce is stable. Response times and significant incidents were discussed. 60% of the time we arrive to the scene in 6 minutes and 20 seconds. He explained the changes from NFIRS to NERIS and the new reporting. Continues to meet with Will County Chiefs to discuss the hospital situation. Franciscan Hospital is closing in 2027 and Prime purchased Olympia Fiels.

Battalion Chief's Report

- Fleet is on track.
- New Brush Trucks should arrive by end of 2026
- Crashed Ambulance 81 is in service and working well. In September the next ambulance will go in to be refurbished.
- Various repair projects started at Station 83.
- New Fire station continues to move along.

Fire Marshal Update

- Recent Public Education update – Several Learn not to Burn classes for preschoolers, and a total of 22 programs conducted. Attended the Illinois Fire Inspectors Assoc. Fire & Life Safety Conference. Working on a Knox box program with both Villages. He is visiting all local businesses and providing information including a QR code to streamline forms and information. Solar farm construction will be starting.

Adjournment

MOTION by Hupe, seconded by Shivers to adjourn at 4:36m. **Motion Carries.**