

**MINUTES
EIGHTH UTILITIES DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2016 – 7:00 P.M.
DON WILLIS HALL
18 MAIN STREET
MANCHESTER, CT 06042**

The Board of Directors of the Eighth Utilities District of Manchester, Connecticut held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, October 17, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Don Willis Hall, 18 Main Street, Manchester, Connecticut.

Mrs. O'Marra called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Voted: Mrs. Bowen moved the approval of the minutes of the September 19, 2016 Regular Monthly Meeting.
Seconded by Mr. Luzusky.

Voted: Mrs. Bowen moved the approval of the bills for payment. This includes the interim bills, the regular bills, the tax refunds and additions to the bill list.
Seconded by Mr. Tyler.

Voted: Mrs. Bowen moved the approval of the Treasurer's Report.
Seconded by Mr. Topping.

Voted: Mrs. Bowen moved the approval of the Fire Chief's Report.
Seconded by Mrs. Gionet.

Fire Chief Moore stated that calls for service are still trending upward. This is the sixth consecutive month that we have had more than 10% increase. In the past calls are up and down. That is not the case this year.

We were called for mutual aid by Manchester Fire, Rescue, EMS, Bolton and South Windsor mutual aid last month.

Chief Moore stated we did not receive the SAFER grant. There was over \$1 billion in requests through FEMA for SAFER grants from a pool of about 300 million and we were not one of the 300 million. FEMA received requests totaling more than one billion dollars, and they only had three million dollars to award.

We received a donation of a building to use for training for the next two weeks. Sixty-two Buckland Street is being torn down located in the Burr Corner's plaza. We will have full access to the building and have started training. This is a wonderful opportunity for our firefighters to train in an actual building instead of the simulated training that we

have in the training center. We have invited our mutual aid departments to train with us as well.

Chief Moore stated that under new business he would like to introduce the new Firefighter/EMT.

Voted: Mr. Tyler moved the approval of the Fire Marshal's Report.
Seconded by Mrs. Gionet.

Fire Marshal Roback reported that the fire department received 48 free smoke alarms and 9 free CO detectors from Operation Save-A-Life which is sponsored by WTNH-Channel 8 with Kidada, fire extinguishers from Home Depot. This will help with our free smoke alarm program that we have going in the district. Also with that the Bloomfield Fire Marshal's Office kindly donated 96 9-volt Energizer batteries that they received. Every year Energizer donates batteries.

Fire Marshal Roback read a thank you note from Community Child Guidance Center for bringing the fire truck for a visit.

Voted: Mr. Gionet moved the approval of the Tax Collector's Report.
Seconded by Mr. Topping.

Mr. Gionet stated that we doing very well with collection of taxes. He stated that Terri had passed her final test (score of 96) and has her final test in December.

Voted: Mr. Topping moved the approval of the Public Works Department Report.
Seconded by Mrs. Bowen.

Mr. Topping stated that the town plans to begin their street paving in the spring. He continued that the Public Works employees will camera our sewer lines prior to and after the streets are paved.

INSURANCE

REPORT

Mrs. O'Marra reported that we finished the CIRMA self-audit. While working on the audit it was discovered that the Public Works employees are misclassified. CIRMA currently has them classified as Sewer Treatment Plant Technicians. We have asked CIRMA to reclassify them to a position that more reflects their job functions.

COMMUNICATIONS

Fire Marshal Roback stated that Ginny said thank you for the well wishes after her surgery.

REPORTS

There were no reports this month.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA BY BOARD MEMBERS

Mrs. Bowen stated that she would like to add

Discussion/Possible Action - Approval of the minutes of the Executive Session which was held on September 19, 2016 as Item #5 under New Business.

Voted: Mr. Tyler moved the addition of Discussion/Possible Action – Approval of the minutes of the September 19, 2016 Executive Session as Item #5 under New Business.

Mr. Topping seconded.

TIME FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS

There was no discussion by the public on agenda items.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion/Possible Action - FM Permit Fee Refund - \$18,417.88 - Gianna Drive

Attorney LaBelle contacted the attorney for Nordic Builders regarding their request for a refund and has not heard back from him.

Voted: Mr. Tyler made a motion to table the discussion.
Seconded by Mr. Napoli.

Discussion/Possible Action – Bid Waiver for Roof Replacement at 18 Main Street

This was an emergency repair that the Board voted on over the phone.

Voted: Mr. Tyler made a motion to approve the roof replacement.
Seconded by Mr. Napoli.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion/Possible Action – Ratification of the Hiring of a New Firefighter/EMT – Matthew Ziegler

Mrs. Bowen introduced the new Firefighter/EMT, Matthew Ziegler, to the Board members. She reported that there was quite an extensive process which included a written test, oral panel interview, and the Chief's interviews. Mrs. Bowen welcomed Mr. Ziegler.

Voted: Mr. Tyler moved the approval of the hiring of Matthew Ziegler as a Firefighter/EMT.
Seconded by Mr. Napoli.

Discussion/Possible Action – Approval of Electronics Policy

Voted: Mr. Napoli moved the approval of the Electronics Policy.
Seconded by Mrs. Gionet.

Discussions/Possible Action – Fire Prevention Program Schedule

Fire Marshal Roback stated that the Fire Prevention Program theme is stressing the importance of smoke alarms, stop, drop and roll, and planning evacuations. Pokémon is the theme of this year's program.

Discussions/Possible Action – Fire Department Breast Cancer Tee Shirts

Mrs. Bowen stated that Breast Cancer tee shirts and sweatshirts were for sale. Short sleeve shirts are \$15; long sleeve shirts are \$20; and sweatshirts are \$32.

Discussion/Possible Action – Approval of the Minutes of the September 17, 2016 Executive Session

Voted: Mr. Napoli moved to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2016 Executive Session.
Seconded by Mr. Tyler.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Fire Chief Moore stated that the Fire Department will be participating in the annual "Trick or Treat" event at Buckland Hills Mall again this year.

Fire Marshal Roback stated that during fire prevention month everyone should check their smoke alarms. If they are older than the 10 year manufacturing date, the Fire Marshal's office will provide and install new ones.

Jason Smith reported that Rescue 7 has been transported to New York for refurbishing. It will be out of the district for approximately 16 weeks.

Mr. Topping stated that he has spoken to over 2,500 residents during his campaign. Many have discussed taxes/tax burden. The majority of District residents who he has spoken to are happy with how the District manages its budget.

Voted: Mr. Napoli made a motion to adjourn.
Seconded Mr. Luzusky.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Note: All votes were unanimous unless otherwise noted.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Mary O'Marra, President
Deberah Bowen
Karen Gionet
Leonard Luzusky
Gerard Napoli
John Topping
Joseph Tyler

FRANCES MCCARTER
CLERK
EIGHTH UTILITIES DISTRICT