

Mantoloking Reporter

SEPTEMBER 17, 2012

Number 457

The regular monthly meeting of the Mayor and Council was called to order at 4:30 PM by Mayor Nebel. All council members were present .

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the minutes of the August council meeting were passed.

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Councilman Witkowski, Finance Committee , moved to accept the report of the Municipal Finance Officer, Michele Swisher. As of July 31, year to date expenditures \$2,573,959.20,encumbered \$92,836.10 for a balance of \$1,375,178.48 vs budget of \$4,041,973.78. Revenue to date \$5,486,643.33

Bill payments in the amount of \$251,060.18 were approved for the month of September -below normal! Three additional resolutions were moved and passed - tax refund due to a successful appeal, the hiring of a payroll service provider and the acceptance of the "Best Practices Check List" - 80% of which does not really apply to Manto. It is basically a check list which , if embraced, will help municipalities improve financial accountability and transparency.

Councilman Gillingham, Public Safety Committee - moved three resolutions in addition to the reports below for Police, Fire and OEM. The first was to approve the insertion of a revenue item into the 2012 budget in the amount of \$593.59- available as a grant from the State of NJ Alcohol Education Rehab Fund. The remaining 2 involved the sale of surplus municipal property - police vehicle - to Chicago Motors for \$3,507.00 and the approval of the application for membership in the Manto Fire Company of Chris Nelson. **Welcome Chris!!**

Police Chief Mark Chief Wright reported a total of 263 police responses during August. These included various alarms, 21 agency assists, 21 ordinance violations, 4 arrests, 5 animal complaints, 21 boat summonses, 258 traffic stops, 9 mv accidents and 3 police info and assistance. There were responses to 4 fire and 15 burglary alarm activations. At the close of the month, \$31,852.59 of the annual police budget has been expended, \$7,675.78 committed, leaving an unexpended balance of \$73,039.00.

Fire Chief Larry Gilman The MFC responded to 24 fire calls, held 2 drills and the regularly scheduled business meeting during the month of August. Included were various fire and co alarms, wires down, mv accident, gas/co leaks , etc.

Repeating from July so the message stays front and center:

Chief Gilman also reported on the intention of the MFC to engage in a membership drive to attract more and younger volunteer recruits to our ranks as part of a longer term strategy. One notion being considered is to offer to reimburse the recruit for attending the Fire Fighter One Training Course, currently requiring a commitment of **185 hours**. Eligibility would be contingent upon successful completion and passing of the course and a few other stipulations to be worked out. Estimated cost per recruit is approx \$1500.00. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please contact Larry or any MFC member !!

Another important reminder- please leave a house key with the Police station....easy access is a big advantage to both the Police and MFC when responding to alarms.

OEM Coordinator Robert McIntyre A training drill was conducted by Craig Symons and Lt John Barcus on the Audible Alert/Warning System and the Emergency Notification System - reverse 911. Courtney Bixby completed an exercise with the OEM and MFC

simulating an emergency evacuation response. Conclusion reached is that Manto has various capabilities to effectively respond to high bay water conditions. Alternatives are being evaluated for an effective and cost sensible replacement for the "army truck".

Councilwoman Nelson, Public Works Committee, moved 3 resolutions for the refund of escrow fees, the appointment of a plumbing code official , deputy plumbing official and for approval of the final payment for improvements to Old Bay and Bridge Avenues.

Public works department, as always, had a very busy month of August. In addition to responding to MFC calls, their tasks included an assortment of repairs and installations in the Borough, including an automatic door for handicap access and fire exit sign in the rear of Borough Hall. Carpentry work at the Police Station , repair of beach access steps, maintenance of PW vehicles, 2 street sweeps ,overgrowth trimmings, Bergen beach clean ups and garage door and trim repair at the fire house we also completed!

Construction Official Wardell submitted his report, issuing 14 permits and 4 updates during August.. These covered new home electric, pool,irrigation, dune boardwalk extension,gas piping and re-roofing. Total fees/penalties collected \$9,225.00.

Land Use Officer Vito Marinaccio submitted his report including receipt of 20 applications of which 17 have been approved, 1 denied and 1 rescission letter issued.

Councilman Strohm, Dune & Beach Replenishment Committee reported that the dunes are in good shape. A meeting with Manto has been requested by other local townships who have commended our initiatives and results and want to discuss what more they can be doing.

Councilman Brown, Municipal Services Committee - no report

Councilmen Ness, Mantoloking Committee, no report

Mayor and Council Comment Session - no comment

During the **Public Comments Session**, resident Peter Flihan expressed concern over the possibility that the Manto Post Office may be eventually closed. According to Mr Flihan, a letter has apparently been received by post office staff informing them of a change in mail

delivery procedures beginning sometime in December. It allegedly states that mail for Manto will be sorted and delivered out of Lavallette. The counter hours in Manto will be shortened and staffed by one person for only a couple of hours daily. Mayor Nebel recalled reading an article in the press claiming that no NJ post offices would be closed.....Mr Flihan wanted the info out as an FYI

Meeting was adjourned to Closed Session

The Town Wide Garage Sale will be held Saturday September 29/rain date Sunday. Mantoloking Centennial items are still available. If you have not picked up ordered items, please come to 106 Mathis Place on September 29 for the sale. This will be last call for Centennial stuff - what is left/unclaimed will be sold 40% discounted.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, October 15, 2012 at 4:30 PM

If you know of someone who is not receiving the Reporter, please encourage them to send their email address to the reporter@mantoloking.org

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