

MANOR BOROUGH
PUBLIC HEARING – September 20, 2023

The Manor Borough Council held a Public Hearing on Wednesday, September 20, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. in the Manor Borough Building for Enacting A Volunteer Service Credit Program.

Council President, Mr. Tony Gockel, called the Public Hearing to order and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call of Attendance:

(Present)	Tony Gockel, President	Dawn Lynn, Vice President
	Chuck Charrie	Dave Gongaware
	Terry Nemitz	Jim Vacha
	Chelsea Dice, Solicitor	Mike Radakovich, Tax Collector
(Absent)	Christine Marchand	Ed Malinoski, Mayor
	Ed Antonacci, Engineer	Randy Carlson, Chief of Police
	Jason Krainbucher, Zoning Officer	

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Mr. Gockel turned the Public Hearing over to Solicitor Ms. Chelsea Dice.

SOLICITOR REMARKS

Ms. Dice explained the hearing is for Enacting A Volunteer Service Credit Program. Ms. Lynn is physically unable to speak and will write comments and questions which will be read by the Solicitor, or Council President, or Borough Manager. The Volunteer Service Credit Program is for Volunteer Fire Fighters. An Ordinance was drafted which was available for viewing at the Manor Borough office.

EXHIBITS

Ms. Dice then entered the following exhibits into the record:

Exhibit 1 is the draft Ordinance 596-23-02.

Exhibit 2 is the Proof of Publication for the Ordinance 596-23-02 published in the Penn-Franklin News August 14, 2023 and a Proof of Publication for the Public Hearing Notice for September 20, 2023 at 6:30 P.M. at the Manor Borough Municipal Building.

TESTIMONY

There was no Testimony.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

Ms. Bonnie Dawson of Rowe Road, Manor, asked if the members can take one credit or both credits for earned income tax and real estate tax, how the Borough will recoup the money, and if there was a study of the amount of money involved. Ms. Dice responded the volunteers would be eligible for both credits if they qualify by the rules set forth in the accompanying Resolution; It is unknown how many volunteers will partake in the credits therefore it is unknown how much revenue will be lost. The Tax credits will take effect January 1, 2024. Mr. Lapia reported he did a casual study of the number of firefighters that live in Manor Borough, determined there were 15-20 firefighters, but not all of them may own property in the Borough, and not all of them may qualify for the credits. Additionally, their income is unknown. Mr. Lapia retrieved notes from 2019 and noted of the 15 active firefighters living in the Borough then, 10 owned real estate in the Borough. Mr. Charrie theorized the Borough would probably lose no more than \$6,000, which Mr. Gockel felt was on the high side of the estimate.

Councilwoman Lynn asked if the tax credit is being taken out of the Manor VFD annual Borough budget. Ms. Dice suggested that would be a Council decision but the VFD has requested Council do not take the annual tax credits into consideration as not all fire fighters live in Manor Borough.

CONCLUSION OF HEARING

Ms. Dice announced testimony is done and the hearing is concluded at 6:42 P.M.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Ms. Lynn motioned to adjourn the Public Hearing. Seconded by Mr. Nemitz, the motion carried unanimously. The meeting concluded at 6:43 P.M.

Joseph N. Lapia
Borough Manager