

**TOWN OF MANILA SPECIAL MEETING
DAGGETT COUNTY COURTHOUSE
95 N 100 W MANILA, UT
NOVEMBER 10, 2021 AT 4:30 P.M.**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Mayor Coombs and a quorum of council members gathered at the Flaming Gorge Fire & EMS Special Service District's study session meeting at 4:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor David Coombs, Council Members, William Rylander, Greg Scott, Randall Browning, and Marlena Connor, Town Clerk.

FGFED: Don Allphin Chair of Flaming Gorge Fire & EMS Special Service District, Woody Bair, Bret Reynolds Vice-Chair of Flaming Gorge Fire & EMS Special Service District

GUESTS: Rob Patterson, Town of Manila's Attorney (via Zoom).

EXCUSED: Council Member Northcott

DISCUSSION OF FLAMING GORGE FIRE & EMS LOCAL SERVICE DISTRICT: Don Allphin explained that the purpose of this meeting was to discuss the contract between the Flaming Gorge Fire & EMS Special Service District and the Town of Manila. The contract needs to be concluded by December 31st, 2021. The discussion of the Town of Manila possibly joining the special service district within a couple of years will be the same as the term of the contract.

Mr. Allphin stated that there are sections of the fire protection agreement that needs to be amended or another article added to the agreement stating what would happen if or when Manila would join the special service district. The earliest that Manila could join the district is next November, a year from now. The annexation process will require the residents of Manila to vote on the annexation into the special service district during the next election.

Mr. Allphin said they needed to discuss the dollar amount to renew the contract for, and what in the agreement either precludes or allows the town to contemplate following the resolution that has already been passed to move forward with the annexation process into the district and what it entails. To have Manila join the district there are a lot of internal steps for both organizations. Some assets and liabilities need to be transferred or assumed by the district if annexation is to happen. The district does not have funds to assume anything or have either of the two towns join the district. There is a proposed tax increase for the district that will be done by December.

Mayor Coombs stated that several things need to be considered besides the fire protection agreement that has been assigned to the Fire and EMS District. Mayor Coombs believes that continuing with the same amount of \$7,500.00 per year is the best thing to do for the next two years that the agreement would be in effect. Council Member Browning agreed that the town has budgeted for the \$7,500.00 and is okay with staying at the same amount as well.

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The district has plenty of money to cover the contracts they have entered into with Dutch John and the Town of Manila.

Mr. Allphin stated that they have to know everything with the fire department before they take anything over. They have to build the district's revenue before either of the towns can annex into the district. There may need to be interlocal agreements between the district and towns.

Mr. Allphin asked Rob Patterson if he saw anything in the existing agreement that would preclude the district and towns from entering any other interlocal agreements. Rob Patterson stated that there isn't anything in that agreement that would preclude them from writing a separate agreement as long as it is not conflicting. A separate document would read as to what the town and the district would have to do to reach a potential annexation. If something else is agreed upon they can terminate the earlier contract and replace it with something new.

Mayor Coombs said he agreed with Mr. Patterson to go ahead and sign the current contract for the \$7,500.00 for the next two years, and if all the other negotiations are worked out and the town and the district come to an agreement before the two years is up, they can nullify the contract that is in place at the time, and write another.

Mr. Allphin explained that the district is looking at how long before they can hire a Fire & EMS Manager and EMS Director. The taxation they are working on now will bring in around \$200,000.00 add the \$37,000.00 they have for PILT funds, this will be their budget until 2023. During that time, they will be deciding what they can or can't assume such as the ambulance service, payroll, etc.

Mr. Allphin said the district will sign the agreement that will be set in place for the next 2-years.

Randall Browning stated that as fire chief he needs to be involved, and at what point should he be involved more with the district. Woody Bair said they are still building the foundation, and it would be tedious to go to all the meetings but as they go along, the district should be having study sessions with the fire chief and entities involvement. The district is also looking into putting an advisory committee together to help review some of the items that have been discussed.

December 8th, 2021 will be the next FGFED meeting and everyone would like to have the contract ready to sign at that meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The study session was adjourned at 5:32 P.M.

David G. Coombs, Mayor

Marlena Connor, Town Clerk