

**Village of Manteno
Board Meeting
December 1 , 2025**

Roll Call:

Mayor Annette LaMore
Trustee Mike Barry
Trustee CJ Boudreau
Trustee Peggy Vaughn
Trustee Todd Crockett
Trustee Joel Gesky
Trustee Annette Zimbelman

Village Officials:

Village Administrator Chris LaRocque "absent"
Chief of Police Al Swinford
Village Attorney Joseph Cainkar
Superintendent of Public Works Jim Hanley
Marketing and Communications Director Jacob Knox

Reports of Village Officials:

- Mayor LaMore announced the resignation of Keri Roniak as Village Clerk effective November 30, 2025.. The Mayor Thanked her for her service and expressed that she would be missed.

- Keri Thanked everyone on the Board and the public for their support and that she was going to miss being Clerk.

New Business:

- Mayor LaMore stated to the Trustees that she would like to have the Trustees consider Allen Pickrel become the new Village Clerk.

Motion made by Trustee Gesky and a 2nd by Trustee Barry. Motion passed 6 - 0.

- Mayor Lamore swore in Allen Pickrel as Village Clerk.

- Mayor LaMore read a letter dated November 21, 2025 sent to Village Administrator LaRocque and carbon copied to her which she had just received the morning of meeting after returning from vacation. It was in her mailbox upon return..

The - Subject is the formal notice of outstanding fire protection and safety compliance issues at the Gotion Illinois Manteno Facility.

- The Manteno Community Fire Protection District respectfully submits this letter of concern regarding several unresolved safety and compliance matters associated with the Gotion, Illinois lithium, ion, battery manufacturing facility, located at 333 South Spruce. The district's priority remains the protection of residents, workers, and first responders within the

village of Manteno and the surrounding community Throughout project development, Gotion provided assurances that its operation would create no operational burden on the fire district, and that it would establish a fully trained and equipped industrial fire brigade compliant with NFPA 600 and IFC 403.11 standards. As of this date, these commitments remain unfulfilled. Outstanding concerns, number one. Industrial Fire Brigade not established. No Brigade, structure, training program, equipment, inventory, or verification documentation, has been provided despite the facilities high hazard classification, and applicable regulatory requirements. This is in spite of Goshen's acknowledgment of and agreement to this requirement. Number two, emergency A Plan, EAP, Outstanding. T facilities emergency Action Plan has not been finalized, submitted, or approved as required for preoccupancy readiness. Number three, sprinkler holding tank, inspection reports not received. The district has not received successful completion reports from the required holding tank inspections. Number four, birectional amplifier, which is called a BDA, system NAS verified. Documentation confirming completion and successful testing of the required public safety BDA system, critical for emergency responder radio communications, has not been provided. Number five, certificate of occupancy contingencies unresolved. The district cannot support issuance of a certificate of occupancy or the extension of the current temporary certificate of occupancy until either a fire protection and safety compliance agreement is fully executed and all compliance elements are verifiable, or the station three partnership framework has been accepted and implemented as an approved alternative compliance method. Number six, Station 3 partnership proposal, not addressed. The district has submitted a comprehensive standards-based proposal that offers full NP NFPA IFC equivalency, immediate operational readiness, and significant community benefit. Goshen has not indicated acceptance or proposed any viable alternative. The district respectfully requests that the village, number one, condition any futureuance of the certificate of occupancy or any extension of the current temporary accidentupancy permit upon execution and verification of the FPSCA. Number two require that all outstanding compliance items be fully addressed before this facility is authorized for occupancy or operation. Number three, Support a joint compliance meeting between the village, the fire district, and Gotion leadership within 60 days. Number four, a firm the village's alignment with NPAFC safety standards, and with the district's statutory requirements for industrial hazard mitigation. If these issues remain unresolved, the district's next course of action may include requesting a tax abatement compliance review, and all other available legal options. Since Gotion's commitments were integral to the pyre protections abatement decisions, the district may be required to request formal review under 35 ILCS/18/s 165D, if deficiencies continue. The fire district remains committed to working collaboratively with the village and Gotion to resolve

these issues promptly. Our goal is not confrontation, but the establishment of a clear, enforceable, and sustainable safety framework that protects the facility, its workforce, and the broader community, and to require Gotion to adhere to the commitments it made when seeking district, village, and community approval. We appreciate your attention to these urgent matters and stand ready to support the village in any compliance or review processes necessary to ensure responsible development. Sincerely, the Manteno Community Fire Protection District, Richard Peterson, fire Chief of the Manteno community unity National District.

- Trustee Gesky suggested that there needs to be a special meeting to address the letter concerning Gotion. Trustee Boudreau stated his Planning and Zoning meeting could be moved and the meeting with Gotion could be held Monday December 8 at 6:pm. Mayor LaMore then agreed and announced that Monday December 8th at 6:pm would work and the trustees all agreed.

Finance Committee Reports: Trustee Barry

- Payment of bills : \$175,232.28 (includes TIF #3 - \$0)
- Bill authorized and oaid between Board cycle
- Next meeting Monday 12/15 5:pm Village Board room

Planning & Zoning: Trustee Boudreau

- Nothing old or new for the agenda
- Next meeting Wednesday December 10 at 7:am
- Planning Commission meeting on Tuesday the 9th at 6:pm should be 2 new items on agenda

Public Safety and Health : Trustee Vaughn

- No old business
- New business there is nothing to report.
- Sergeant Dan Lengal did report that in November the Police Department had 79 case reports, 732 incident reports, 83 tickets issued, 10 accidents and 13 arrests.
- Next committee meeting Monday 12/15 at 5:pm

Public Works & Utilities: Trustee Crockett

- Nothing on the agenda
- Next meeting Tuesday 12/23 at 7:am

Properties and Recreation: Trustee Gesky

- Nothing on the agenda

- Next meeting Wednesday 12/10 at 7:am

General Government: Trustee Zimbelman

- Nothing on the agenda
- Next meeting Tuesday 12/23 7:am

Consideration RE:

Purchase of a 2026 John Deere 72" 1575 Terrain cut front mower and side discharge deck for \$48,066.01 Motion by Trustee Boudreau 2Nd By Trustee Crockett, passed 6 – 0

Ordinance 25-26:

- Levy and Assessment of Taxes on Real Property for fiscal Year Commencing on May 1 2025 and ending on April 30 2026

Motion made by Trustee Crockett 2nd by Trustee Gesky passed 6 – 0

Consideration RE:

Motion to approve Payment of Bills in the amount of \$175,232.28 (including TIF #3 - \$0) Motion by Trustee Barry 2nd by Trustee Boudreau - passed 6-0

Adjourn 6:34

**Respectfully
Submitted**

Allen Pickrel

Village Clerk