

Voicemail

July 13, 2022

Hi, my name is Sandy Gilberts, Vorhees Avenue in Manhattan Beach and I want to tell you that I support my firefighters. I ask the Council to come back to the table and to do the work to keep our city safe and to keep our Fire Department in Manhattan Beach local. I just want you to make sure when you are talking about this issue that you consider coming back to the table and give them some of the benefits that they need and pay raise and so forth. And I think that they should get a Chief that is consistent within the department. You've had five of them within four years or four of them in five years. So I just want you to know that I support the firefighters. Thank you.

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Matthew Domyancic <bushidotnt@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 4:44 PM
To: List - City Council; City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Meeting Tonight and Fire Department

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I've recently had Covid so cannot attend tonight's meeting. I would like this to be read and entered for the record concerning the matter of negotiations with the fire department.

As a Manhattan Beach Community Member, I am concerned about the mismanagement that is impacting our Fire Department. Especially as a retired first responder myself that has a background in mental health, peer support, wellness, resiliency, stress management and crisis intervention. I continue to do peer support, wellness and resiliency work with first responders in Los Angeles and from all over the country. This is my area of expertise.

Peer support surveys nationwide show the biggest issues contributing to low morale are poor leadership (Chief and BC's) as well as poor management (city council and city manager).

Mental health and stress related physical issues among first responders are through the roof during the pandemic and were already horrible prior to it. This includes but is not limited to more anxiety, depression, insomnia, heart issues, etc. Our firefighters and their families are being taxed beyond what's acceptable for their own safety, well being, and the community's safety having them operate with such little sleep, family time, and low morale. I would like to see them all do extensive blood work to include looking at their testosterone, thyroid, A1C, cortisol and homocysteine levels for starters.

Do we want to push these men to get divorced? Have substance abuse issues? PTSD? Suicidal ideation? Or at the least poor physical and emotional health? Or force them to leave for greener pastures and have to recruit, hire and train new rookies and lose their vast experience and knowledge of the community they love? What is the cost of hiring and training a rookie firefighter and how long does it take to get them up to speed and efficiency?

Please allow them to have a strong influence on the next chief and promote battalion chiefs from within by giving them an appropriate salary raise over their current positions.

This truly seems like a lot of "playing politics" and a personal vendetta by the city manager over past drama with the chief who allegedly was his drinking buddy or at least some sort of friendship that could have influenced bringing him back when he was already trouble.

Respectfully,
Matt Domyancic

Sent from my iPhone

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Fred Taylor <fred@gtgmarketing.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 3:26 PM
To: List - City Council
Cc: Fred Taylor of GTG Marketing
Subject: [EXTERNAL] let's get 'er done!

Importance: High

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

The solution to our fire fighter problem is a lot like those bewildering “Where’s Waldo” cartoons. Waldo’s always obvious eventually while “hiding in plain sight.”

For me, the elephant in the room is the existing contract with the ‘constant staffing’ mandate. That seems to be the stumbling block to hire more FF’s.

The current crisis of exhausted FF’s and obscene overtime paid by the city must stop. They simply can’t perform at optimum levels and the OT costs are unsustainable.

The answer: The Council can issue a one time invitation at a neutral location to the Association to all discuss a new contract after the current one is deemed dissolved.

As I understand things now, the Association determines vacations and who’s filling in. The union is there to represent the FF’s, not run our Fire Department.

Looks like aggressive power over-reach to me.

It’s high time the ‘union’ ‘man up’ and come to the table. I applaud this Council for staying the course to get to the real problem....this current working agreement.

The last thing we want is County Fire Protection.

I love the FF’s like brothers and sisters, but remember, they’re here for the city... the city isn’t here for them.

Fred Taylor, 46 year Manhattan Beach resident

Be well & stay safe,

Fred Taylor
Digital/Radio Marketing Specialist

Check me out at: www.gtgmarketing.com

CALL: 310.991.7098 Direct Line



Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Phillip Cook <phil.cook@lpl.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 8:41 AM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MB Historical archive

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers,

In an effort to save everyone time, I completely concur with comments in Kristin Long Drew's letter/email to the council about preserving the Manhattan Beach Historical archives. Please make this a priority.

Thank you for your time and effort devoted to making MB better.

Phillip Cook

MB resident

MB business owner

MB residential and commercial property owner

Treasurer of the Manhattan Beach Historical Society

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Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Janet Volpe <janetvolpe@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 7:42 AM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Our MB Firefighters

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Council Members-

Please immediately go into mediation with our firefighters. They have been through enough with long hours and many chiefs. This can be an easy fix.

Respectfully yours,
Janet & Domas Vailokaitis
30 year residents
Leadership MB

Sent from my iPhone

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Michelle and Neil Erickson <MandNErickson@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 9:40 PM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MB Fire Department

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear members of the City Council,

I do not know all the details about the discussion you will be having tomorrow night, but I do know that having a well qualified and high functioning local fire department is extremely important.

Please do your best to support and maintain the MB Fire Department for our City.

Thank you for your hard work on behalf of our citizens.

Michelle Erickson

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: MATTHEW SIMKINS <MCJSIMKINS@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 8:50 PM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fire Department Future
Attachments: Letter to City MB City Council.docx

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

City Council Members,

Please find attached a letter expressing my thoughts, observations, and concerns over the status of The Manhattan Beach Fire Department. I am a resident, homeowner and native of Manhattan Beach who retired from MBFD in 2020 after a career of 31 years. This letter contains what I believe is information worthy of consideration, presenting points of view as a resident and as a tenured employee.

With Respect,

Matt Simkins

July 18, 2022

City Council Members,

I'm writing you to address the ongoing contract negotiations with the Manhattan Beach Firefighters Association. Please note that although I am a former member of Manhattan Beach FD (retired 10/8/20), my interest here is as a Manhattan Beach homeowner and native who also happens to have both current and historical insight on the issues at hand.

It is important to note that a significant number of the benefits and positions you are proposing to eliminate strongly contribute to the recruiting appeal for entry level Firefighter/Paramedics. The wage level, flexibility of schedule, compensation for additional responsibilities and training all function as offsets to the lack of promotional opportunities and career diversity within MBFD. Important recruiting challenges facing a small department (like Manhattan) are twofold, soliciting high quality candidates and subsequent retention of employees. Today's labor pool is now made up of two generations who are not focused on what they bring the employer, but what the employer has to offer them. As recent as 2006 the applicant pool for entry level FF/PM with MBFD offered only 38 (as memory serves me) candidates of which a third were interviewed and only one found acceptable. The increase in work related compensation eventually enhanced the MBFD's ability to attract a greater number of highly qualified candidates including entry level and lateral applicants. In the last third of my career the majority of new-hires were lateral Firefighter/Paramedics, many from larger departments, all of whom brought a wealth of experience to share. When I retired, MBFD was staffed with the most educated and motivated group I'd been a part of. The quality of employee correlates to the quality of service rendered.

I was hired in 1989, year 3 of a 5 year "catch up" contract that was intended to elevate MBFD from its status as one of the lower paid departments in LACo (and possibly the state). Several recent hires before me had chosen to "test out" to other departments that offered greater career potential. Vacation usage was limited to one member per day, done by seniority...excessive use of sick leave resulted. The opportunity to work overtime was extremely limited due to vacation use constraints and staffing requirements. Having a second job was common simply to make ends meet. The work environment was less than enthusiastic, a direct reflection on the relationship fostered by city management at that time. In the past 30+ previous city management has helped to and succeeded in transitioning MBFD into a model for customer service and employee dedication. As a resident I would expect nothing less.....

As to the positions of Fire Marshal and Fire Inspector, I served twice as Fire Inspector, each for 2 years. Both positions are first administrative but are always operationally Firefighter/Paramedic as needed. The rotational aspect of these positions (2-year tenure) serves to increase firefighter's knowledge base and perspective on the innerworkings of the city. These are the only 2 positions within MBFD that allow for extended public interaction in non-emergent situations (for the rank and file), a benefit to both the department and the city. Any concern council might have on projects requiring long term follow through should know that information exchange between incoming and outgoing FM's and FI's is ongoing after returning to shift work.

Overtime. Campaign overtime is reimbursable by the agency where the event takes place. MBFD participates in The State's mutual aid system. Injury overtime is presumptive as the job is both physically and emotionally impactful (mental health). Both Campaign and Injury overtime are no fault items. Vacation is earned and for the benefit/well being of the employee. Training benefits the employee, department, contributes to safety and ultimately extends to the citizens.

On a personal note, I never chose to be away from home for an extended period on a strike team response but understood it was part of my job. I did not choose to create injury overtime (back, knee, foot and heart) and worked hard to return to duty.....injuries are unfortunate and of lasting consequence.

Chief Officers. With 2 exceptions, every Battalion Chief appointed during my career came from an outside agency. Those hired had minimal knowledge of the city proper, surrounding mutual/auto aid areas, target hazards, the department capabilities, and the work force. At the time of my retirement there was no probationary period for this position nor job description measurement standards (i.e., map test of the city, areas of response). In house candidates have always been available and desirable, providing a seamless transition from Captain to Battalion Chief. Unfortunately, that transition requires acceptance of a salary inversion position to position, opposite of the industry standard. My first Fire Chief, Keith Hackmack, came from within the department. Aside from Keith, the seven Chiefs I worked for included exactly 2 who had Fire Chief experience...the others had been Division or Battalion Chiefs elsewhere save for a period of time when the Police Chief was also functioning as the Fire Chief. Hiring a Fire Chief from within would also provide a seamless transition versus a new Chief's learning curve that results in uncertainty throughout the body of MBFD.

I find it ironic that from the rank of Captain down tenure is 30 years, while in key management positions what exists is the same revolving employment door I witnessed 31 years ago in the Firefighter ranks.

The quality of Firefighter/Paramedic MBFD currently staffing our city is high. I am also aware that any of these people would be a tremendous asset elsewhere and no doubt flourish. As a citizen I believe the community is entitled to the best possible service and care from Public Safety in Manhattan Beach, a view I would assume is shared by council. Reverse course, be supportive and not punitive. Continue to provide the means to recruit, hire, and retain the best possible Firefighter/Paramedics and be proud of your legacy in doing so.

Matt Simkins

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Kristin Long <klongs@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 8:34 PM
To: City Clerk; List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Resolution 22-0107

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council:

Thank you for making the time to discuss the future of the Manhattan Beach Historical archive and for taking an active approach in protecting it. It needs your help, and so I ask you to please approve resolution 22-0107.

Over the years, the historical society has done its best to collect and preserve Manhattan Beach's history. Volunteers have spent countless hours organizing and documenting photos, artifacts, newspapers, and other assorted ephemera that have proven increasingly important over time. But we're merely volunteers. Although the city hired a couple part-time archivists to provide some direction, they have moved on to other opportunities, leaving us in a bit of limbo, with the collection spread out in multiple locations.

We're at a point where we need dedicated professional assistance to prevent further damage and the History Associates have the experience and skills necessary to make that happen.

When I met with representatives of the HAI, I told them I thought the priority should be digitizing the newspaper collection that's housed in our county library. I want to ask you to consider moving the newspaper digitization to Phase 1 instead of one of the later phases.

While the HAI are professionals with extensive experience in maintaining archival collections, as someone who's spent a great deal of time reviewing our newspapers in our library, I can report that these newspapers are in the most imminent danger of being permanently damaged and require the most immediate attention. These papers are not in good shape, and they're only getting worse.

In recent years, more and more individuals have become interested in researching Manhattan Beach history especially through the Manhattan Beach News. Some issues are more than 110 years old and for a long time, they were not stored in the climate-controlled, bug-free confines of the library. Although county librarians keep a watchful eye and are always helpful in assisting patrons, much damage has already been done.

With more researchers comes the greater the possibility of accidental rips or, worse, the greater the chance that someone chooses to cut out articles, removing them permanently. Moving digitization to the forefront would ensure that no further destruction can occur and will also make the papers accessible to everyone who wants to learn about Manhattan Beach, which is, after all, the goal in this entire endeavor.

Thank you.
Kristin Long Drew

Manhattan Beach Historical Society Board Member
Member of the former History Advisory Board
Manhattan Beach Resident

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Marina del Rey Sportfishing <rick@mdrsf.net>
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 4:08 PM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MBFD

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Please quit playing around and do what it takes to keep Our MBFD.
Rick Oefinger

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: anitamitchell90266 <anitamitchell90266@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 2:44 PM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

MBFD

Dear City Council Members

As a long time resident of Manhattan Beach, I have a great deal of respect and appreciation for our first responders. As we've gotten older, we and our neighbors have relied on our paramedics to arrive quickly, and manage the situation, and we have always been pleased with and very impressed by the results.

I'm concerned by what I'm hearing about our City Manager and his refusal to negotiate with MBFD.. it makes me wonder if perhaps he's trying once again to disband our Fire Department and turn us over to Los Angeles County. You will recall that the last time this was proposed, it was overwhelmingly rejected by the citizens of MB.

I hope you will review this matter and get Mr Moe to do what is best for the citizens of our city.

Thank you.

Anita Mitchell
716 30th Street

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Gwen Myers <gwen.g.myers@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 2:33 PM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Tuesday City Council item 22-0107

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

As a part-time resident but with long roots in Manhattan Beach (my mother and her sisters played at the beach in the 1920's and she and my father moved here in 1935 and lived here until they passed away) I urge you to support this Council item. For as relatively small a city as Manhattan Beach is, it has a wealth of history that must be preserved for present residents and future generations so they can appreciate the uniqueness of this city.

Please support 22-0107

Sincerely,

Gwen Strong Myers
412-16th St

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Kinninger, April <april.kinninger@lundquist.org>
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 11:02 AM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Firefighters issue

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

I support the city councils position on the issues surrounding MB fire fighters. How many people apply for the job of firefighter ? According to my family members who have served and currently serve, there is extremely high competition for each vacant position in greater LA. Firefighters respond mostly to medical calls, and very few actual fires. Their primary job is being a paramedic. I want the city to be fiscally responsible when it comes to this issue, which is difficult because it is un-popular to be seen as not supporting our firefighters.

Thanks, april kinninger

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Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Judi Alves <judi.alves@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 10:14 AM
To: List - City Council; City Clerk; List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MB Fire Department

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Council Members,

I've been reading very disturbing things about how our fire department is not being treated fairly by the City and how our fire department is very understaffed, overtime is sky high, etc.

This issue is an extremely important one and I would hope you would be doing everything possible to negotiate fairly, make sure we have adequate staff to protect our city and to assure that we don't eventually fall under the auspices of LA County.

I would hope you have read the many letters published by MB Strong sent to them by, it seems to me, people who are extremely well-informed with how things have been handled when it comes to our fire department.

Thank you.

Regards,

Judi Alves

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Sharon <Sharon@sharontowle.com>
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 9:34 AM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Paramedics/firefighters

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

We are 45+ years as Manhattan Beach residents and we support our own paramedics/firefighters. We absolutely DO NOT want LA County to run any part of our town.

Concerned citizens

Sent from my iPad

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: doreen yusifzai <doreenyusifzai@me.com>
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 9:24 AM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MB Fire fighters

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

I am a Manhattan Beach resident and homeowner for over 30 years. What is happening to our Fire Department is unacceptable. As a tax- payer and avid voter I would like you to:

- Instruct Human Resources to fill all open positions without delay and fill future positions in a timely manner.**
- Do not hire the 2 Battalion Chief candidates from other Fire Departments the City Manager is considering, and allow our equally qualified personnel from within the department to advance into those positions.**
- Give the Firefighters/Paramedics a basic Cost Of Living Adjustment (COLA) equal to all other City departments.**
- Do not cut firefighters/paramedics from our Fire Department, the stats below show MB is already understaffed.**
- Stop publicly villainizing our firefighters/paramedics for overtime costs actually caused by the City and start giving them the respect they deserve.**

- **The use of the word “misinformation” is a word used by the woke crowd. Please refrain from wokism speech and lets concentrate on the facts.**

Praying you as our City Council to step up and do the right thing, for healing of the rift between you and the fire department and residents, and for safety to return to Manhattan Beach for all.

Sincerely: Doreen Yusifzai

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Lynne Gross <lynnesgross@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 8:59 AM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] firemen negotiations

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Having read the entire article in the Easy Reader, I feel there is a great deal that can be negotiated between the city and its firefighters. Please get back to the negotiating table, preferably with a mediator, and get these problems resolved.

--

Lynne S. Gross
Cell Phone: 310-245-7809
Web site: <http://lynnegross.com/>

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Stephanie Streader <stephaniestreader@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 8:22 AM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MBFD

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I have been a resident since 2008. Prior to that I spent a lot of time here in MB visiting my aunt, so I was already very familiar with the charm of this beautiful city.

As a resident, I am HIGHLY OPPOSED to a contract with LA County for our fire and paramedics. There is absolutely no reason for a city of our size and financial means to contract out these services.

It appears our MBFD department is being mismanaged. We need to evaluate the people within city hall that are managing the staffing and budget of this department. Our firefighters play one of the most important roles in our lives, and it's time we evaluate why they've been under paid and why the department has been undermined.

I support our MBFD, and support proper funding!

Thanks for your time,

Stephanie Streader

Sent from my iPhone

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Ktschweter <ktschweter@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 6:30 AM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MBFD

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi! Please make sure our Fire Dept stays under the City of MB. Do not let it be under LA County. LA County is a mess.
Thank you, Karen Schweter

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Steven Nicholson <alfa009@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 16, 2022 3:34 PM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MB Historical Society

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Please support the proposal to provide historical archiving services.

Thanks,
Steve Nicholson

Sent from my iPhone

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Don Spencer <donspencer.art@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 16, 2022 11:33 AM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Funding for the MB Historic Society

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Council Members

I see that funding is available for improving an ability to understand our past. What a marvelous gift to our future!

Please make it happen.

I have been part of that past since 1936. I know how valuable, and uniquely excellent that past has been. With a quality Historic Society, let's share it.

Don Spencer
3901 Crest Drive
Manhattan Beach

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Janet Murphy <murphy.janet19@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 8:43 PM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fire Department Issues

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Honorable Mayor and City Council,

Steve Napolitano has been kind enough to communicate with me about the fire department issue. As always, there are two sides to every story. I am glad to be informed about the Council's work toward a solution. I guess my feelings for the firefighters and time away from their families caused me to be angry about the situation. That's an emotional response, which needed more investigation on my part. I hope that your plans to do fact finding does indeed resolve this to everyone's satisfaction and benefit.

Janet Murphy

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Mary Davids <mgdavids@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 4:16 PM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Council resolution # 22-0107

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

To all City Council Members of Manhattan Beach:

I urge you to pass Council Resolution # 22-0107 in support of the preservation and collection of items of the history of the City of Manhattan Beach. This is such a fabulous opportunity to fund the ongoing work of the preservation of the history of our City and a true gift to all of the citizens.

Sincerely,

Mary Davids
Past President of the Manhattan Beach Historical Society

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Sharen E <questandrewash@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 2:26 PM
To: List - City Council
Cc: Gary McAulay
Subject: [EXTERNAL] City Support for HS & MB History.

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Mr McAulay / City Council

So excited to see the support by the County, via the City, to use surplus funds for Historical preservation.

My Mother, Betty Mallery, (1920-2011) Founding Member, I'm sure is thrilled to see this from above.

As I grew up in Manhattan Beach and our family history is part of MB roots, I will be excited to see how this unfolds.

So appreciate your newsletters where I live, in Phoenix, and other communications such as this about MBHS doings.

Sharen (Mallery) Effertz
Member, MBHS

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Elizabeth Porter <eliporter@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 9:24 AM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Historical Society

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning,

Just a note to say that I 100% support the Council Resolution 22-0107.

I was born and raised in MB and believe the Historical Society is an important part of this city. Progress is drowning out some of the best memories of what made this place so cool to live in years ago -- the best little candy shop around (Jo's Candy Cottage), a great house on the corner of 10th St. and Harkness with a little grocery store in the front part of it (Dion's), tons of vacant lots to play in, and the fact that some houses had horses in their backyards.

Please help reserve the changes MB has gone through over the years.

Thank you.

Elizabeth Porter

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Loli Ramezani <loliram@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 7:23 AM
To: List - City Council
Cc: Gary McAulay
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Manhattan Beach Historical Society

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning Council members,

I am writing this note to express my full support of this project, as a 29 year resident of MB and a former Director on MBHS Board.

I remember the topic of preserving our historical collections and improving public access to them, was an on going point of discussion. I am glad that now a path forward seems to be in sight.

//////////:

From the staff report:

"The City of Manhattan Beach has a branch of the Los Angeles County Library system. The property taxes paid into the system by Manhattan Beach residents exceeds the cost of operating the branch, including the debt service on the library building. Those surplus funds are accumulated for the benefit of the Manhattan Beach library branch. Currently, there is an accumulated surplus balance of \$7.98 million. Los Angeles County Library recently determined surplus library funds may be used to improve access to the City's historical collection by implementing Phases I and II of the Action Plan outlined by HAI. Staff will return upon completion of Phases I and II for allocation of funds for Phases III through V."

//////////

Regards,
Loli Ramezani
310.606.0299

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: CityOfManhattanBeach@manhattanbeach.gov on behalf of City of Manhattan Beach <CityOfManhattanBeach@manhattanbeach.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2022 4:54 PM
To: List - City Council
Subject: Email contact from City of Manhattan Beach

Message submitted from the <City of Manhattan Beach> website.

Site Visitor Name: Janet Murphy
Site Visitor Email: janetmirish@yahoo.com

It is despicable that council is misled by the city manager with his obvious personal vendetta against the fire department. Mr. Moe should be fired. It is interesting that he puts fire department items at the end of the agenda when few are at the meeting to see and hear.

MB firefighter paramedics are forced to work overtime, causing them more unnecessary personal stress. I admire them for choosing a profession of service to our community. I have been recipient of that service a few times.

You are approving a pay raise for all other city departments but are wrong to withhold a pay raise from them. Hire more of those good men and women. You could give them time with their families so they don't have to work so much overtime. Use the overtime cost to hire new firefighters – don't lower staffing!

Mr. Moe is feeding you horse pucky. Don't swallow it. Please inform yourselves from a better source to learn the truth. It important to all of Manhattan Beach and the right thing for our fire department.



CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH

CITY ENOTIFICATION

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Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: breton lobner <bklobner42@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2022 3:48 PM
To: Suzanne Hadley; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; List - City Council; Joe Franklin; Hildy Stern
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MB Fire Department Issues

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council -

A good many residents in Manhattan Beach appear concerned about issues relating to our City's Fire Department, including salaries, retirement benefits, hiring practices, overtime, alleged poor management by the City Manager, and the continuation of local control.

The City Council needs to address these issues publicly and do so with all deliberate speed. Some of the issues that should be addressed are:

(1) Why does it appear there is an avoidance of promoting MB fire department employees within the department? [I presume this because most of the department's employees qualify as classic employees under CalPERS' retirement system which may mean that the City has been filling vacant senior positions from outside rather than by promoting from within.)

(2) It is alleged there has been a high turnover of fire chiefs over the past few years? Is this true? If true, why? Was one chief a personal friend of the City Manager? Did the City Manager participate in this hiring process. (How about for other hirings?)

(3) Why is the City's Fire Department so "top heavy" with employees who are classic employees exempt from PEPRRA? What studies have been conducted to assess the contingent liability in having so many classic employees retiring in the future? What are the projected costs over the next 30 years?

(4) Why is the City paying so much overtime to its Fire Department employees? Is the overtime justified or is it a result of poor management? Is it true that if the overtime expense were reduced or eliminated that the City could employ additional employees? What are the relative benefits and burdens of overtime pay? Is overtime calculated into the retirement benefit formula for Fire Department employees in the same manner for PEPRRA versus classic employees?

(5) Apparently local fire departments have ratings. If so, what rating applies to our City's Fire Department? How does that rating stack up when compared to other local fire departments in the South Bay?

(6) What assurances are there that the City will retain its own Fire Department? (I assume most residents wish to see the City retain its own police and fire and, likewise, would like to have a local City prosecutor to prosecute misdemeanors committed within the city.)

To address the concerns being raised by many of the City's residents, it would seem prudent for the City Council to (a) investigate the above issues (and others that have been

raised), and (b) to conduct a public hearing to determine whether the City Manager, the Fire Chief, and all who are involved in managing our Fire Department are doing so properly, economically, fairly, and judiciously.

Bret Lobner

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Stephanie Demirtshian <sjdem83@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2022 5:28 PM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Manhattan Beach Issue

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I am a homeowner in Manhattan Beach who is very concerned over how our fire department is being treated by city management. Firefighters saved my husbands life in 2019 when he went into cardiac arrest and my brothers life in 2018 when his car fell down a 50 foot cliff coming down from Big Bear. First responders will always have a special place in my heart considering these 2 horrific situations, which happened 9 months apart. I have my family because of them. They don't just put out fires.

I voted for Steve, Joe and Richard expecting you all to bring people together to handle situations like this, and get things done. I haven't heard your side of the story and I'm open to listening to it but at the end of the day compromise needs to happen. Someone getting promoted and earning less money is just wrong in any business setting.

Stephanie Demirtshian

Sent from my iPhone