

Mason's Island Fire District BOD Meeting – November 2, 2017

Attending: Jim McAuley, Bill Taylor, Ethan Tower, Greta Jones, Kristin Foster, John Parry, and Bob Banas. Rufus Allyn and Tax Collector, Lydia Herd, also attended. Not in attendance: David Krupp and Lee Hisle. President Jim McAuley called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

Clerk's Report: M/S/P approving the minutes from previous meeting, October 5, 2017.

President's Report: (1) Emergency Calls – No calls were reported by the Fire Department, but Jim McAuley knows of one call. (2) Jim handed out a map of the Fire District showing the location and installation phase of all the hydrants installed or to be installed. He also distributed a list of all the existing hydrants with their latitude and longitude data. He also provided copies of the water pressure test results for two hydrants. (3) Jim also distributed copies of an e-mail from the Insurance Service Office explaining the requirements for improving the FD's current rating of 9 to 8B. Jim will follow up with the Fire Chief to get the Fire Department to provide the information to the ISO.

Treasurer's Report: Ethan Tower distributed an updated Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual, and Balance Sheet Reports. Ethan noted that there was no change in taxes collected and there have been some recent mowing and clearing costs incurred prior to the wind storm of October 30th. Road paving bills came in under budget as there was a 5% contingency and no contingencies occurred. The paving costs were paid from the Roads Reserve. Insurance bills are paid up and Traffic Control costs were paid through September. The remaining Traffic Control budget costs will be incurred next May. Information has been provided to our accountant for him to complete his review of FY 2016-2017. There is a little over \$150,000 in the Road Reserve which should be sufficient to pay for paving the rest of Money Point and Schoolhouse Roads next FY. Jim noted that he has requested Conn. Water Co. to add upgrading the water pipes for the rest of Skiff Lane next year (the end has already been done) so that can be repaved next FY as well. Conn. Water has not responded. M/S/P to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Roads Report: (1) Rufus Allyn noted that cleanup of the roads after the 10/30 wind storm would be completed with one more day of work next week. He noted our policy of removing trees from the roadway, but that trees or portions of trees off the road were the responsibility of the property owner. He estimated the total cleanup cost to be \$6,000-8,000. Rufus met with Rob Simmons to get Eversource to deal with fallen trees in the FD's roadways that had electrical wires involved. Ethan noted that the cleanup expenses would be paid from the Named Storm Clean Up budget. (2) Jim noted that this year's road paving had been completed including installation of a diverter to guide water away from one property where there was a drainage problem. Rufus added that in some areas where needed curbing had been added.

French used a new machine that installed smaller curbing that still is effective. He also noted that a portion of Money Point Road still needs curbing which will be installed in a few weeks. (3) Lydia Herd, at Rufus' request, had updated her analysis of the conditions of the FD's roads and distributed three exhibits: (a) A summary of Road Categories, Road Condition Ratings and the Types of Treatment used by the Town of Stonington in managing their road maintenance; (b) An exhibit categorizing all the FD's roads that included the length and width of each road, and when and what maintenance had been performed; and (3) An exhibit listing all the FD's roads with the number of years since each was repaved and the current condition of each. Rufus noted that the last exhibit confirmed that our prioritization of repaving scheduling is correct, and that the upcoming schedule of road repaving would address the issues shown in the report.

New Business: Jim noted that there has been significant erosion of the shoreline near Allyn's Alley and raised the issue of what our response should be. Rufus noted that sea walls are no longer approved by DEEP and that a possible response would be installation of a number of concrete structures in the water. The structures are 5-6' high, domed and have holes in them, looking like a honeycomb. They break up the waves and protect the shoreline. Rufus will pursue what would be acceptable to the state.

Traffic Control Committee: Bob Banas distributed proposed Masons Island Traffic Post Orders and a Daily Traffic Report form. There was discussion regarding applying the travel restrictions to bikers and walkers, as well as not enforcing the current sticker requirement until after next year's annual meeting where the policy would be announced and current stickers available. There was also a suggestion that guards encourage residents with an old sticker to get a new one. Ethan raised the possibility of new signs saying "Residents Only/No Public Access". A copy of the Orders will be given to Bob Martin for input from the MIPOA security committee.

MIFD Meeting Calendar:

The next meeting is scheduled for January 4, 2018, at 5:30 pm at 18 Money Point Road. There will be no meeting of the MIFD Board in December, however, there is a social evening for Board Members and their guests on December 7th at 6:00 pm hosted by Jim and Mary McAuley. Please bring an appetizer, salad or dessert.

Meeting Adjourned – 6:44 pm

Respectfully submitted
Bill Taylor