

## **Mason's Island Fire District BOD Meeting – October 5, 2017**

**Attending:** Jim McAuley, David Krupp, Bill Taylor, Greta Jones, Kristin Foster, John Parry, Bob Banas and Lee Hisle. Rufus Allyn and Tax Collector, Lydia Herd, also attended. Not in attendance: Ethan Tower. President Jim McAuley called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm.

**Clerk's Report:** M/S/P approving the minutes from previous meeting, Sept. 14, 2017.

**President's Report:** The Fire Department has not reported on emergency calls for Sept. There was one call in July and three in August.

**Treasurer's Report:** (Submitted by e-mail in advance of the meeting.) "Lydia has done an excellent job collecting our taxes. Currently we are slightly ahead of budget. An extensive amount of tree and brush clearing was done this fall. Consequently, we have almost depleted the line item for Clearing Trees & Brush. The jump in Miscellaneous Expense under Road Maintenance was due to a \$1500 bill for repainting the traffic separation lines on the roads. The \$600 under Road Paving Projects was for sealcoating the end of Nauyaug Point Road. The major portion of the repaving project is scheduled for October. The final bill for 2017 from Ace Security has been paid. The remaining balance under Traffic Control and Safety will be used in May and June 2018. Our checking/savings balance is currently \$502,229 of which \$260,712 is reserved - \$223,212 for roads, \$25,000 for catastrophe, and \$12,500 for emergency services. Sufficient funds are available for all budgeted items." Rufus Allyn commented that the trimming was near the gatehouse and on Osprey Road. M/S/P approving the Treasurer's Report.

### **New Business:**

- a. Paving will commence Oct. 16.
- b. Jim McAuley has requested that Conn. Water Co. accelerate their waterpipe upgrade schedule to include Money Point Road from Skiff Lane to the hill, the rest of Skiff Lane (Money Point to Anchor), and Schoolhouse Road (Heron to Ram) next spring. If East Forest and Yacht Club Road were done the following year, we would be done with repaving. Jim sent this request a month ago but Chris Wojack has not responded. It was noted that the side roads will only get upgraded pipes in conjunction with a leak repair.
- c. Traffic Control Officers, Check in Procedures & Extending Season – There was some discussion of Ethan Tower's e-mail that questioned the need to write down license plate numbers of non-resident drivers and whether walkers, bikers and joggers should be treated the same as drivers. There was also discussion of extending the weekends that the Traffic Control Officers are on duty into the fall or earlier in the spring. Ace's TCO's may not have kept information on turn-arounds. After starting the season using forms we provided, they used

forms from Ace to record their actions and these do not appear to include turn-arounds. After some discussion, these issues were tabled until the next meeting. Bob Banas and David Krupp will review the data provided by Ace.

d. Repaving Huckleberry and Bay Berry – Rather than repave to address drainage issues at these locations, a swale has been installed. French Brothers will have a diverter installed that will lead water to a swale. Lydia Herd distributed copies of an extensive report compiled in 2011 that investigated drainage problems throughout Masons Island. She urged us to treat people with similar problems the same way.

e. Succession Planning – Jim asked the nominating committee (Kristin Foster and Lee Hisle) to get started early on the process of identifying new potential board members. He would like to see someone join the board next year who might become vice president the following year, and then president the year after that.

f. Insurance Service Office - Jim called the Ct. Water Co. and asked who was responsible for reporting the presence of functioning water hydrants on Masons Island to the ISO. He will follow up with the fire chief. Martin Lyons, Jeff Walker and Kevin North are working on a map with GPS coordinates for each fire hydrant that will be presented to the Fire Company.

g. Water Pressure Testing of Hydrants – Only two hydrants were pressure tested. Of these, Nauyaug North had adequate but low pressure. Jim will ask Chris Wojack to test the hydrants on Skiff Lane and Schoolhouse Road.

**Tax Collectors Report:** Uncollected taxes total \$410 for 2017 and \$80 for 2016 and 2015. If delinquent town taxes are paid off in certain ways both the town and Masons Island registration holds can be released. One real estate bill for \$352 represents most of the 2017 delinquency and involves an owner who has been delinquent before. This owner is also delinquent on town taxes and the town is preparing a sale notice.

**MIFD Meeting Calendar:**

The next meeting is scheduled for November 2, 2017, 5:30 pm at 18 Money Point Road.

Meeting Adjourned – 6:32 pm

Respectfully submitted

Bill Taylor