

## **Mason's Island Fire District BOD Meeting – September 10, 2019**

**Attending:** Jim McAuley, David Krupp, Bill Taylor, Kristin Foster, John Parry, Tom Cooke, Bob Banas and Lee Hisle. Not in attendance: Ethan Tower. President Jim McAuley called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm. A quorum was present.

**Clerk's Report:** M/S/P approving the minutes from previous meeting, June 13, 2019.

**President's Report:** (1) Emergency Calls – Last year's total was 25 calls. This year, there were 2 in July – wires down and standby for the Fireworks. No report has come yet for August, but should include a call for a fire at Enders Island. (2) Guard House Insurance Claim – The final payment from Progressive Insurance was \$19,541.67, which is about \$2,500 less than total costs. Given that there were some upgrades vs. the old guard house, the consensus was this was a good result.

**Treasurer's Report:** (1) Ethan Tower distributed updated Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual and Balance Sheet reports for both FY 2018-2019 (final) and FY 2019-2020 ytd, prior to the meeting. Jim McAuley reported in Ethan's absence. MIFD ended the last FY in good financial shape. The Roads Reserve contains \$254,580 and the cost of this fall's paving will be less than that. There was some discussion of establishing a sinking fund for the next time the roads need to be repaved and how much should be set aside each year. M/S/P to accept the Treasurer's four reports.

**Tax Report:** The new tax coordinator has been identified. There will be meetings with him, Jim, Ethan and possibly Lydia. Jim will contact Ethan about getting this going. The Town Tax Collector has done a good job collecting taxes with \$220,698 collected of a budgeted \$221,000.

**Unfinished Business:** The fall road paving project will start October 14<sup>th</sup>.

**New Business:** (1) Discussion regarding concerns raised by Lydia Herd – Prior to the meeting, Lydia sent an email raising concerns about the conduct of the traffic control officers and their inadequate diligence, and lack of control over non-resident drivers in the district. Various points were discussed including additional signage for Enders Island and putting "Private Road" signs at intersections on the island. Bob Banas said he had been away but since his return he has spoken with the guard company owner. She will speak with the new guard, Wayne, who started in Sept. and Bob will also speak with him and will follow up with Lydia. At the end of the discussion, M/S/P to put up a sign at the gate house that cars are under video surveillance. (2) Ethan had raised concerns and whether the FD should take a position regarding the litigation with Enders Island. After some discussion noting that it is difficult to pick a side given

the MIFD's residents various leanings, this matter was tabled until the next meeting when Ethan could state his case. (3) Bill Taylor reported on some meetings of the MIPOA affiliated group considering the various options for dealing with the sale of the Mason Island Company (MICo) and its assets. There are several different types of assets which appeal to differing buyers, rather than a single buyer. The assets include: (a) About 52 acres of green space subject to conservation restrictions benefitting The Nature Conservancy. At issue, is the ownership of this parcel which controls who can access the area. (b) The Ice Pond and the 5-foot right of way surrounding the pond. At issue here is the need to pay for a solution to the build-up of muck on the pond's bottom. (c) Riparian rights (access to water) retained by MICo when the roads were sold to MIPOA at twelve locations where the roads reach the water. (d) Several docks and accompanying land, including the Allyn's Alley dock, which are commercial businesses. (e) Building lots and land – 11 single family lots and a 17-acre parcel that can be subdivided for single family lots. In addition to these assets, the MICo has rights of first refusal on the sale of many Mason Island homes, restrictions on the number of associate members of MIYC, enforcement rights on use of properties, approval rights over construction, and the terminable role of roads manager and general contractor for MIFD. (4) MIFD General Contractor – Following up on Bill's remarks, there was discussion about finding a successor to MICo as the MIFD's general contractor and roads manager. The group identified the need for a job description, and the possibility of generating one from the last few years of MICo's activities as gc/roads manager. (5) New Board Member – A potential future MIFD board recruit was identified.

**MIFD Meeting Calendar:**

The next meeting is scheduled for Oct. 8, 2019, 5:30 pm at 18 Money Point Road.

Meeting Adjourned – 6:45 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Taylor