

Mason's Island Fire District BOD Meeting – October 8, 2019

Attending: Jim McAuley, David Krupp, Bill Taylor, Ethan Tower, John Parry, Bob Banas, Tom Cooke and Lee Hisle. Not in attendance: Kristin Foster, Rufus Allyn. President Jim McAuley called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. A quorum was present.

Clerk's Report: M/S/P approving the minutes from previous meeting, Sept. 17, 2019, with one change regarding a potential new board member.

President's Report: Emergency Calls – There were three emergency calls in Sept – 2 false alarms and one fire at Enders Island. Jim received a call from Charles Millard, a member of the New Fenwick Property Owners Association, Inc. and discussed MIFD's operation as contrasted with the NFPOA, which does not have taxing powers.

Treasurer's Report: Ethan Tower distributed updated Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual and Balance Sheet reports dated 10/7/2019. The Stonington Tax Collector has done a good job with just a few bills outstanding. There was some discussion about how to collect the Tick Tax next year. The new Tax Coordinator could help with the process. This year the e-mails soliciting participation included a form to be filled in and requested that payment to MIFD be sent in with the form, removing the need for billing. In some cases participants requested bills. Ethan noted that everything is on budget this year. There is more than enough money in the Roads Reserve to cover this fall's paving costs. M/S/P to accept the Treasurer's reports. Jim and Ethan will meet with the new Tax Coordinator recruit.

There were two side issues discussed during Treasurer's presentation. Bob Banas raised the issue of culling the deer herd which has been expanding and causing property damage. This has been done privately in the past, not under the auspices or sponsorship of MIFD or MIPOA, and should continue to be handled privately. Bow hunting season has opened and ends in January. Hunting could occur on the parcel subject to the Nature Conservancy's easement, provided the owner, the Mason Island Company, grants permission. Jim will speak with Rufus Allyn. The second issue was repair/restoration of the road signs which has not occurred due to the ill health of the person who was going to do the work. Bob Banas said he would work on it with some volunteers.

Old Business: (1) Bill Taylor reported that there was nothing new to report regarding the sale of MICO. There have been no meetings since the last MIFD meeting and several of the parties have been traveling. (2) Ethan Tower initiated a discussion of Enders Island and whether the MIFD should take a position. The general consensus was that MIFD cannot take an official position as its constituents are divided on the subject. (3) Bob Banas spoke briefly in follow up

to the discussion of problems with the traffic control officers which was raised last month. Most of the problems arose with new guards filling in, not the two officers who manned the booth most of the summer. Bob requested that the Board members think about ways to improve traffic control.

New Business: Replacement of MICO as general contractor/roads manager. Jim reported that he spoke with Rufus who stated that he wants to stay on in his role for at least two more years. Rufus also stated that he would give a full year's notice before ending his contract.

MIFD Meeting Calendar:

The next meeting has been rescheduled from Tuesday, Nov. 12th to Thursday, Nov. 14th at 5:30 pm at 18 Money Point Road.

Meeting Adjourned – 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Taylor