

**Masons Island Fire District Special Meeting  
December 14, 2021 – 6:15 PM  
Masons Island Yacht Club**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**1. Call to Order**

Ethan Tower, President, called the meeting to order at 6:17 pm. Board members in attendance included Treasurer Bill Taylor, Secretary Tom Cooke, Dave Krupp, Scott Parry, Bart Chamberlain, John Parry, and Kristin Foster. Tick Committee representative Jean Anderson was also present. Roads Manager Rufus Allyn and Tax Collector Liaison Alex Ellison were not present.

**2. Agenda Additions/Deletions/Changes**

There were no changes to the Agenda.

**3. Approval/Correction of Previous Minutes**

- a. **Motion to approve the minutes from November 9, 2021.** The Minutes for the November 9, 2021 meeting were approved with one correction: The word “join” was deleted from item 6.b., Shoreline Protection Committee in the fifth sentence.

**4. President’s Report – Ethan Tower**

- a. **Emergency Calls – 4 for November; 27 for the fiscal year.**  
Ethan confirmed 4 emergency calls in November bringing the total fiscal year to date to 27. Ethan noted that 2 of these calls were EMS calls.

**5. Treasurer’s Report – Bill Taylor**

Bill reported that Drainage costs (line 51170 in the Profit & Loss Statement), now total over \$8,500, and are \$3,500 over budget. He reported additional costs of \$2,250 for Pacheco Landscaping, and \$6,258 for pipe installation on Great Marsh Road by Advanced Group. He added that the final bill for Pond maintenance has been paid.

**6. Committee Reports**

- a. **Tick Committee – Jean Anderson / John Parry**  
Jean Anderson reported that the first email to residents which contained a form asking them to identify which tick service provider, if any, they wished to use during the 2022 season, was sent on November 4. It also asked for information about any tick-related illnesses in 2021. A reminder was sent on December 7. Jean noted that not all the emails reached their intended recipients and steps are being taken to follow up and make sure all residents receive the form. She reported that to date, 36 responses chose SeaScape and 58 responses chose BioTech Controls. While the deadline for responding is December 31, Jean noted that responses will be accepted into January 2022. Bio-Tech will start earlier if

the list is completed by March. There have been 1 or 2 turn-downs. Dave Ludwig is following up with residents who did not receive emails.

Jean also reported that the Deer Feeder has been removed from the Herd/DeAngelis's property and that Rufus Allyn has agreed to placement of the feeder on Old South Road. This will be installed in the spring.

**b. Shoreline Protection Committee – Kristin Foster**

Kristin reported on educational initiatives, the status of erosion on Chippechaug Trail, and information from the Fenwick Living Shoreline Project concerning the removal of Phragmites. She reported that the report from GZA was a bit delayed. Kristin also described a grant opportunity through the Emergency Coastal Resilience Fund which is open to smaller projects. She emphasized the importance of community partners and letters of support to a successful grant application. The Board suggested a variety of organizations (the Fire Chief, Stonington's First Selectman, etc.) who would be helpful in this regard. A discussion ensued concerning First Selectman Chesebrough's tour of the Chippechaug erosion site and a variety of Town studies underway, including an inventory identifying the top 3 bridges needing attention which includes the causeway to the Island. Kristin also discussed the use of "reef balls" which provide habitat for fish and plants, and which are being built by Conn College. Sizes range from 100 to 9,000 lbs. 33 have been created and permitting for their use is being sought.

**c. Traffic Control – Scott Parry**

Scott had nothing to report.

**d. Roads Committee – Ethan Tower**

Ethan reported that the work on Yacht Club Road would start on December 15. There was nothing further to report.

**e. Nominating Committee – Scott Parry / Kristin Foster**

The Nominating Committee had nothing to report.

**7. Unfinished Business**

**a. Board Vacancy – Motion to appoint Catherine Deichmann to fill the remainder of Tom Flaherty's term on the MIFD board.**

A motion was made to appoint Catherine Deichmann to fill the remainder of Tom Flaherty's term on the Board. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously. To accommodate the new Board member, meetings for the balance of the fiscal year will be moved to the third Tuesday of the month.

**8. New Business**

There was no new business.

**9. Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 18 at 6:15PM**

**10. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas F. Cooke II - Secretary