

Assessor's Meeting May 13<sup>th</sup> 2014

In attendance: Assessors Tara Hire and Lucas Chioffi, Fire Chief Kole Lord, Assessor to be James ...

Meeting called to order at 5:45pm EST

Old Business

University of Maine Wind project- Maine Aqua Ventus (MAV) did not receive the expected funds from the Federal Department of Energy and so no wind turbines will be erected below the Island. The Monhegan Energy Task Force (METF) will continue being as though MAV may have failed but the site remains.

Revaluation- Nancy Weeks, State Tax Assessor, has investigated changing Monhegan's Land Valuation schedule from a blind acreage value system to a valuation that includes the added value of waterfront or water influenced property. Her research revealed too few sales in the last ten years of waterfront property to accurately or fairly increase land value based on location.

Truck- Discussed just how we go about getting a new truck in the price range (\$25k) voted for at Town Meeting. Tara had price quote on a used full size pick up with plow from Shepard in Rockland. Lucas suggested that we find a couple possible trucks, have 2 or 3 of us look them over and choose one. Kole stressed that we should have whatever we purchase pressure washed, undercoated, and generally prepared for its new salt environment.

Wharf-Chris Smith sent a message stating that Somatex (designer and manufacturer) would be out May 28<sup>th</sup> to repair the hoist control. Once again it was noted that the diamond plate was loose. The Assessor's agreed that it might be necessary to push Chris Smith, Wharf Manager, a bit to deal with the plate and cheese grater.

Fire Barn- Tara has been in contact with Karen Bolstridge (LUPC) regarding the Fire Barn reconstruction permit. At this point she (Karen) will accept deeds or surveys that indicate whether individual plots are mapped to include the road or are defined by the edge of the roads. Tara has contacted Mike Falla, Land Surveyor, about providing some surveys as evidence to the LUPC. Tara confirmed that the Plantation had been awarded a \$2,000 grant by Lincoln County.

Flood Maps- Another set has been issued by FEMA. Lucas again promised to compile a list of affected land owners.

Muskrats- As it turns out the trappers took only 67 muskrats at a final cost of nearly \$20 per muskrat. Local alternatives (traps, poison, training someone, etc.) were discussed. No conclusion.

Cemetery- Tara said some further clearing of the Cemetery had happened and that the monument conservator, Kai, was due in June.

New Business-

Road clearance- Fire Chief Kole Lord expressed his frustration at the road being overhung by trees and shrubs. The Assessors agreed that keeping the roads vertically as well as horizontally clear is important. Kole will make list of the worst areas.

Brush Burning- Given Travis Dow's recent brush burning without permit it has been reiterated that there is to be no open burning without the Monhegan Fire Chief's consent.

May Warrant total- \$4,855.02

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 EST

Respectfully submitted

Lucas Chioffi

Second Assessor