

Assessors' Meeting

January 12th 2021 at 5:30pm via Zoom

Present via Zoom: Carley Feibusch, Jim Buccheri, Andrew Dalrymple, Mott Feibusch, Bob and Penny Smith, Lydia Crafts, Ben Lussier, Richard Farrell, Danik Farrell, Tara Hire, Joan Brady, Lisa Brackett, Steve Carvahlo

The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm.

Lydia Crafts introduced herself as the newly elected representative for Monhegan. She stated that a concept bill has been submitted to the legislature as a placeholder in the event Monhegan pursued an ordinance. She also shared her contact information for furthers questions and conversations.

Minutes: Approved as read.

Warrant: Approved as submitted for \$16,412.38

Treasurer's Report: Submitted. Further discussion is needed for clarity.

Old Business:

Department Reports:

Fire Department- The South Barn propane heater has been installed and the K-1 tank has been removed. Kole identified needed repairs to the barn, discussion ensued regarding the new fire barn construction. FOMVFD sent out their annual appeal and received a large response. The Keep Maine Healthy Grant is completed. Communications equipment is in the freight shed. An application for FEMA funding was submitted.

Tax Collector/ Town Clerk- Major items have been completed, a few small things still need to be taken care of. Everything is complete with registrar of voters.

Wharf- No update.

CBAC Update:

A draft application for LUPC went out in December. The committee received back comments and is working on submitting the final application by the end of the month. Tara mentioned there are some documents that need to be signed by the Assessors. The first report for the USDA Grant is due at the end of the month. They are waiting on a budget and timeline from the engineer.

MOTION: Approve Tara as representative and Jaye as administrator for the Plantation's USDA Grant for broadband. Passed.

METF Update:

A community zoom meeting will be scheduled in the near future. METF is having weekly meetings as the project progresses. The website needs to be updated to reflect current information, Carley will work on gaining access.

Long Term Wharf Maintenance Projects:

Michael is still waiting on a second estimate for the project. Chris replaced a ladder that came loose with one that was already on island. All ladders should be replaced as part of the project. Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of a freight crane on the wharf.

Sunken Boat in Harbor:

The boat has officially been declared abandoned by the State, giving the Plantation authority to remove. Discussion ensued regarding the cost of removal. Jim stated the State would reimburse the town but the process of which is unclear. It was suggested the items salvaged from the vessel might help recoup some of the expense if sold. It was suggested the Emily Topkins Farrelly fund could be used as a loan to cover the cost of removal. Concerns regarding pollution of the harbor were expressed, immediate action is suggested.

Mooring Chain Bridge Update:

A bridge inspector called the town office. The project has been postponed until November 2021, supports will be installed until then.

Municipal Administrator:

A written report was sent to the Assessors.

Ferry Advisory Committee:

A survey to the community is in the works.

Sea Level Rise Project Update:

A draft report was delivered. Andrew asked for a geologist to review the report to interpret the findings.

Monhegan COVID-19 Task Force Update:

The taskforce has met twice since the last meeting. The KMH spending was reviewed and discussion continues for budgeting in 2021. There is a change in requirements for rapid testing, a PCR test is no longer required to confirm. The fire department is in planning stages for vaccine and is looking at possibilities for on island vaccination. The next taskforce meeting is tomorrow, the 13th, at 5:30pm.

New Business:

Investment Committee:

The assessors will meet prior to next meeting to further discuss the current investments. The forming of an Investment Committee would help keep the Assessors up to speed. Potential members of this committee were discussed.

Account Signers:

MOTION: Approve Carley Feibusch as an account signer for Monhegan Plantation Accounts. Passed.

Deputizing:

Carley needs to be appointed by the Tax Collector, Treasurer, and Clerk to officially perform those duties on their behalf. She is coordinating with Lisa and Jennifer to complete the needed documents and be sworn in.

St. George Letter:

The town of St. George is seeking federal funding to rebuild the dock where the SS Reliance sits. Andrew will write a draft and share it with Jim.

Third Assessor:

The importance of a third assessor and clarity on the current vacancy was discussed.

Freight Shed:

Jes reported that there are shingles missing. No major damage was seen but will be investigated further.

School Board:

The school board is looking for a new Treasurer. Interested parties are encouraged to participate in budget sessions for continuity.

Internment Requests:

Mott asked if an internment request had been received for Mary Bell. Jim has been in touch with the family and will review his correspondence.

Planning Board:

It was suggested that Lydia Crafts could help in establishing an island-based planning board rather than relying on LUPC. Discussion ensued; Carley will reach out to MMA for guidance.

The next Assessors' Meeting will be February 9th, 5:30pm via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carley Feibusch, Municipal Administrator

