

Bonnet Shores Fire District

Bonnet Shores Fire District Council Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, August 21, 2019
7:30 pm

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

Council Chair Michael Vendetti called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm. In attendance were council members Anita Langer, Christopher Mannix, Janice McClanaghan, Carol O'Donnell and Marlene Bellini. Also in attendance were Treasurer Natalie McDonald, Tax Collector Kevin Koehler, Harbormaster Mike Tortolani and District Manager Lisa DiBello. Council member Daniel Johnson was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

M. Vendetti led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and held a Moment of Silence for American soldiers serving our country.

Urgent Business

Building Plans for 26 Camden Road

J. McClanaghan **moved**, seconded by M. Bellini, to approve the building plans for 26 Camden Road. Bill DelGizzo inquired whether a committee reviews these plans. The motion was approved, 5-0, with C. Mannix abstaining.

Approval of Minutes

C. Mannix **moved**, seconded by J. McClanaghan, to approve the April 17, 2019 meeting minutes. A. Langer indicated that she wanted to make changes. M. Vendetti indicated that the council members can amend the minutes, but that the council must vote to ratify them. M. Vendetti stated that the 3rd bullet in the "*Creation of Walkway Committee webpage*" subsection under "New Business" should include a reference to a statement he made that there was no need for a motion on that particular item. C. Mannix **moved**, seconded by M. Vendetti, to approve the minutes with the amendment that the 3rd bullet in the aforementioned portion of the minutes include M. Vendetti's statement. The motion was approved, 4-1, with A. Langer dissenting and J. McClanaghan abstaining.

C. Mannix **moved**, seconded by J. McClanaghan, to approve the May 21, 2019 Special Council Meeting minutes. The motion was approved, 5-1, with A. Langer dissenting.

Amendment of Agenda

C. Mannix **moved**, seconded by J. McClanaghan to move the New Business item of the Regan Dunne Car Wash Fundraiser to the next item on the agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

New Business: *Regan Dunne Car Wash Fundraiser*

Regan Dunne, a resident of the Fire District, explained that the proposed fundraiser would raise funds for her participation in Miss Teen Rhode Island. The event would require a waiver of the community center rental fee and the use of the parking lot and the community center water hose. C. O'Donnell **moved**, seconded by C. Mannix to allow Regan Dunne to use the BSFD Community Center for the proposed car wash fundraiser on the August 31, 2019. The motion was approved unanimously.

Committee Reports

Beach/Security (J. McClanaghan): The Fire District reapplied for the CRMC Assent for seaweed removal from Little Beach. Phil's machine had broken down, which caused more of a pileup. At this time, there is no plan to truck out the seaweed. Beach security will conclude on Labor Day weekend. The Fire District also may not have full lifeguard coverage through Labor Day.

Social (A. Langer): Cocktails on the Beach will be held on August 28, 2019. It is very casual. Attendees are encouraged to bring an appetizer. BYOB. M. Bellini indicated that she could obtain plants for the Beautification Committee at a good price at Ocean State Job Lot.

Pond (C. Mannix): The total project cost for the pond dredge project was \$211,809. Reimbursement from DEM came or will come in the amount of \$200,000. The total cost to the Fire District for this project will therefore be \$11,809. Last fiscal year, the council had allocated \$8,146 to the dredge project. The remaining cost of the project for this fiscal year will be \$3,663.

Roads/Public Works (J. McClanaghan): The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 27 at 7:00 pm.

Treasurer (N. McDonald): Revenue continues to come in. We did not have to borrow from the line of credit since the last meeting.

Tax Collector (K. Koehler): Approximately 82% (\$308,983 out of \$378,555) of taxes have been received.

Land Trust (L. Mercier): The Land Trust unanimously recommended that the council appoint Arthur Hardy to the Land Trust. Mr. Hardy greeted the council.

District Manager (L. DiBello): Camp is over. Thank you to Courtney K. DuBois for her work in making the Camp a success. Phil Smith volunteered to weld and fix the broken basketball bracket. The inside duct work on the BSFD Community Center should be done this fall.

Old Business

Appointment of Land Trust (1-year position)

- J. McClanaghan **moved**, seconded by M. Bellini, to appoint Arthur Hardy to the Land Trust for one year. The motion was approved, 5-0, with A. Langer abstaining.

Update on E-Blast System

- J. McClanaghan indicated that, of the systems being reviewed, none is a “perfect” match for the Fire District. Steve Ryder is running tests on different systems and determining which of them present the most challenges. J. McClanaghan indicated that the Fire District needs a new webmaster to maintain the website, regardless of what happens with the E-Blast system. Discussion ensued regarding the differences between the E-Blast system and the maintenance of the Fire District website. J. McClanaghan recommended that the Treasurer of the Fire District have a Fire District credit card. C. Mannix **moved**, seconded by J. McClanaghan, to allocate no more than \$500 to the purchase of an E-Blast notification system. The motion was approved unanimously.

New Business

Financial review of Wesquage Pond Dredge Project as to total cost to district w/ reimbursements to date

- N. McDonald stated that the total project cost was \$211,809. Reimbursement from DEM came or will come in the amount of \$200,000. So far, the Fire District is awaiting receipt of \$98,700 of that total reimbursement. The total cost to the Fire District for this project will therefore be \$11,809. Last fiscal year, the council had allocated \$8,146 to the project. The remaining cost of the project for this fiscal year will be \$3,663. That amount should come out of our capital funds. A. Langer indicated that the public does not understand the true cost of the dredge project. She reiterated that the Fire District is awaiting a reimbursement of \$98,700. She also stated that \$50,000 of that \$98,700 is not reimbursed until the sewer line goes in. N. McDonald stated that the \$50,000 will come in earlier than anticipated because it was estimated that the \$50,000 would be reimbursed when the causeway was fixed, not when the sewer line was installed. A. Langer asked about the line of credit and why it was not reflected on the balance sheet. N. McDonald responded that the information regarding the line of credit is reflected on the balance sheet.

Public Comment

- Carol DiLeo stated that the meeting minutes, whether ratified or not, should be posted on the BSFD website and must be posted on the Secretary of State website within 35 days. She stated that the cancellations of this year’s January and February monthly meetings should have been posted.
- Robert Patterson asked that the chair of the council raise the level of discourse.
- Tony Lupino spoke about the need for the council members to speak into the microphones, the need for the meeting minutes to be posted to the Secretary of State’s website and the need for common sense in addressing the E-Blast situation.
- Nancy Cordy stated that she was pleased with the increased police presence in Bonnet Shores and that it was very effective. She shared her observation that cars are traveling the wrong way on Dunes Road and it is becoming more dangerous. She stated that the Clerk should be instructed not to share his opinions and not put his opinions in the minutes. She stated that the meetings should be recorded. She stated that the Clerk is irresponsible and should resign.

- Carol Fortin spoke about the need to have a copy of Robert's Rules at the monthly meetings for reference purposes. She indicated that the meetings should be taped, like the Narragansett Town Council meetings.
- Melissa Jenkins Mangili stated that she was taping the meeting and would post it on facebook.
- Robert Patterson asked about the Bonnet Shores Beach Club's use of the Community Center parking lot over the Fourth of July weekend. He inquired about how the Beach Club received permission to use the lot.

Adjournment

C. Mannix **moved**, seconded by C. O'Donnell, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Matthew M. Mannix
Bonnet Shores Fire District Clerk