

**Bonnet Shores Fire District
Monthly Meeting**

**Wednesday, September 17, 2014, 7:30 pm
Bonnet Shores Fire District Community Building**

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Council Members L. Mercier, J. McClanaghan, J. Pariseault, T. Fracassa. B. DelGizzo, and M. Mannix; Tax Collector Helen Patience

Absent: Council Member P. Farley; Clerk C. Duffy; Treasurer M. McGinn

Council Chair L. Mercier called the meeting to order. In the absence of the Clerk, M. Mannix agreed to take the minutes.

Approval of Minutes

J. McClanaghan moved to approve the minutes from the August Monthly Meeting; M. Mannix seconded. B. DelGizzo asked that the statement that P. Farley act as interim district manager and the statement that council had no jurisdiction over the Clerk's duties be removed because they were not discussed during the meeting. He then criticized the minutes review process and stated that individual council members were editing the draft minutes sent by the Clerk from their computers. L. Mercier stated that we are all volunteers and doing the best we can. J. McClanaghan and M. Mannix both indicated that council members do not edit draft minutes, but instead contact the Clerk if there is a potential error in the draft minutes. In those situations, the Clerk then reviews the tape to make sure the minutes reflect what occurred and what was said. T. Fracassa discussed the need for the Fire District to comply with the OMA. M. Mannix stated that we imposed portions of the OMA on ourselves in an Annual Meeting vote and that that is where our OMA compliance comes from, not from the OMA itself. The discussion then morphed into a discussion about agenda creation and the timing of getting the agenda out and posted. B. DelGizzo indicated that the minutes be sent out in the future as a PDF, not as a word document.

Motion to approve the minutes was withdrawn by J. McClanaghan so the Clerk could check B. DelGizzo's concerns against the tape.

Committee Reports

Pond -- T. Fracassa/B. DelGizzo

B. DelGizzo stated that the Watershed Watch had been called, but the call had not been returned. He stated that Mr. Pariseault is no longer testing the pond.

M. Mannix

M. Mannix encouraged people to attend the Zoning Board meeting on Thursday to voice their opinions about the Cumberland Farms being proposed for the property on Boston Neck Road. T. Fracassa asked whether the Fire District Council should take a position. L. Mercier indicated that the council sometimes takes positions, but usually on issues that occur within Fire District borders. J. McClanaghan agreed. M. Mannix explained that the Fire District Council took a position regarding the cement wall on Bayberry because it was within the Fire District's borders. T. Fracassa indicated that Cumberland Farms can be hard to deal with and thought the council should weigh in on the project.

J. McClanaghan

See attached report.

J. McClanaghan indicated that the Security Committee was going to contact people via email who had provided emails as part of the Emergency Contact People to see if they wanted to be contacted regarding non-emergency matters. M. Mannix indicated that the list should still only be used for emergency purposes. P. Haas stated that people could opt out of the email list if they wanted to.

Beautification/Social/Harbor -- L. Mercier

For Beautification, L. Mercier discussed possible Adopt-A-Spots in 4 locations. He stated that the committee may request a small budget. J. McClanaghan indicated that she would like to see flowers at the Bayberry/Camden triangle.

For Social, L. Mercier indicated that 95 people attended the Dunes Club event.

For Harbor, M. Tortolani stated that some volunteers, led by Joe B. and Bob Vacca, had stepped forward to handle the removal of the dock after the late October fishing season. M. Tortolani planned to remove the dock in mid-October, but these volunteers will take over the responsibility of dock removal and will remove it by Veterans Day.

Roads -- J. Pariseault

J. Pariseault had followed up with Mike DiCicco (interim DPW director) about speed issues and he had agreed to put the word "SLOW" on the road paintings because the shark teeth are allowable only at crosswalks. He also indicated that he will follow up with Jeff C. regarding the mini-speed trailers. B. DelGizzo inquired about the speed tables and stated that we were supposed to have them installed. J. Pariseault indicated that he began the process several years ago and was told by the DPW Director at the time that the project would need Fire District approval. He stated that, after the Fire District Council approved the project, Hurricane Sandy occurred and there was apparently a change in the approval process for DPW project over \$5,000.00. Earlier this year, the Department Heads met with J. Pariseault, L. Mercier and M. Mannix regarding the project and the Department Heads had serious reservations about speed tables. He indicated that the Fire Chief had expressed his opposition to the speed tables for safety reasons. J. Pariseault then indicated that the speed calming effort would involve incremental changes. L. Mercier also indicated that the Police presence has been stronger

in Bonnet. He also indicated that the change in DPW Director at the town level affected the project as well. P. Haas then indicated that the council voted for the speed table project, that M. Mannix was the only opponent of the project and that M. Mannix has been telling people that the Fire District does not want speed tables. He said it was incumbent on M. Mannix to not get in the way of the speed table project. M. Mannix responded that he had been opposed to the speed table project from the start and had not been shy about it. He stated that he voted against the project at the August 2012 monthly meeting, but was the only vote against it. He stated that he believed the issue should go to the Annual Meeting for voter approval. He stated that he took that position prior to the primary election for town council in September and was not elected to the town council until November. He indicated that the speed tables were supposed to have been installed by late September of 2012, but never were installed. He then stated that once the tables had not been installed, he asked for the issue to be put on the 2013 Bonnet Shores Fire District Annual Meeting agenda, but the council refused. He then stated that the town budget, which he first saw in April of 2013, had no line item for speed tables, so the town had apparently not planned to cover the cost of the tables. In early 2014, he indicated that Fire District representatives met with the Town Department Heads, who were unanimously opposed to the speed table project because of concerns about shifting the traffic from the loop to Camden and Treasure as well as increased response times for fire trucks and emergency vehicles. He stated that his position on speed tables was clear well before the town council elections and has been the same since. B. DelGizzo stated that M. Mannix wants to bring every little thing to the Annual Meeting.

Treasurer's Report

A copy was provided in the Treasurer's absence.

Tax Collector's Report

H. Patience indicated that approximately \$232,000 had been collected and approximately \$23,000 was outstanding.

H. Patience also discussed a redemption certificate situation that had dragged on through the summer that E. Rooney, M. Mannix and H. Patience all had examined. She indicated that she would contact an outside attorney for advice before agreeing to sign the redemption certificate.

Land Trust – Paul Haas

P. Haas indicated that the daunting task of inventorying all Land Trust properties was underway. He stated that the Trust was revising the mission statement and will work with other Land Trusts on ideas and suggestions. He indicated that the Trust may request an increase in its operating budget. He indicated that Mary Flynn may be used as a grant writer.

Old & New Business

Beach Club Sewers

P. Farley will provide a more detailed update at our next meeting.

Historical Materials

It was indicated that Lee Listro is storing them and B. DelGizzo said he was glad that she was. Lee was concerned about leaving the historical items in the Community Center. J. Pariseault indicated that the materials could be put in a digital format.

Storage of Past Minutes

M. Mannix indicated that he and C. Duffy will work on this project in the coming months. P. Haas indicated that the pre-1980 minutes are at Town Hall.

District Manager Replacement

L. Mercier indicated that the position is posted. B. DelGizzo indicated that we "need" a committee to interview candidates and that we need to specify what we want from the process. J. McClanaghan indicated that we need someone who understands Fire District responsibilities. She indicated that she is checking mail and messages and the P. Farley is doing other interim work. She indicated that the Fire District is quiet in the winter and that the need for a manager is not very great in the winter. T. Fracassa indicated that we should contact Erin Rooney to get her feedback. J. McClanaghan indicated that the role does not need to be full-time. B. DelGizzo told L. Mercier that it was nice that the job was posted, but that L. Mercier did not inform him. He stated that the council should have made the decision to post. He stated that the position was the most important in the Fire District. He stated that the feedback he gets from the town is very negative. He stated that we do not need to rush the process. W. Kelley asked about what was wrong with the current Position Description. T. Fracassa stated that there were duties that could make it a full-time position. L. Mercier stated that the needs of the Fire District do not require a full-time manager. M. Mannix indicated that a subcommittee should form to hash out the Position Description because we could go in circles here. J. Pariseault, B. DelGizzo and T. Fracassa agreed to serve on a subcommittee. P. Haas indicated that we need roles and responsibilities. He indicated that Janice takes on so many duties, but there is only one Janice. B. DelGizzo stated that people run out of steam and that is why there should be a strong manager. There was discussion about keeping Erin Rooney on as Camp Director. M. Mannix stated that he was very sad and disappointed to see Erin resign and will truly miss her. He said that she was a hands-on manager who got very little credit for keeping things running smoothly, including the cleanings of the Community Center, being assertive with rental properties and having a great relationship with town officials. He stated that he received positive feedback from Department Heads regarding Erin Rooney and that she will be difficult to replace.

Public Comment

T. Fracassa asked about the payment not received by E. Fiore. J. McClanaghan said she would look into it, but that some of the young teenagers were not paid because they volunteered.

Anne Marie Silveira indicated that Patriot Disposal has left broken glass in the streets and that issue should be fixed. She also stated that recycled papers were blowing everywhere. She also said that some beach club members were littering upon leaving the club and she

had brought the issue up with Z. Stedman, the beach club manager. Finally, she asked about dealing with dog poop along the Colonel John Gardner Road area near Little Beach. She stated that she and her grandchildren have to walk in the street many times to avoid it.

P. Haas indicated that he took exception to M. Mannix's remarks earlier and asked that M. Mannix not reply to him.

D. Falls indicated that he has been asking for a stop sign on his road for 30 years and will continue to do so. He indicated that M. Mannix and he would discuss the location.

Patricia Mannix talked about the speed table issue and that M. Mannix does not want to put every item on the Annual Meeting agenda, just those items that affect all of Bonnet. She stated that the speed table project was one such issue. She reminded the council that B. DelGizzo had pushed for a Master Plan for Bonnet Shores in the early 2000s and when that plan was brought to the Planning Board, the people of Bonnet Shores came out to oppose the Master Plan because they disagreed with many of its elements. She also reminded the council that she served on the council and was the only member at the time opposed to the \$1.03 million community center project in 2007. She said that the community center project appeared to have a lot of support in 2006-2007, with dozens of people coming to winter meetings to discuss their support for the project. However, she stated that when the project was on the ballot at the Annual Meeting in 2007, it was "slaughtered" in a 436-153 vote, reflecting the will of the people. She stated that the council's job is not to initiate their own projects, but respond to what the people have asked for. She stated that J. McClanaghan's and Kathy Fracassa's effort to provide increased beach security represented one such issue and that they both deserve great credit for that effort. B. DelGizzo interrupted her and stated that the Master Plan process in the early 2000s involved many charrettes and workshops and that it had not been rejected at the Annual Meeting. Instead, he indicated that the Master Plan was sent back to the Fire District by the Town Planning Board because of the overwhelming opposition to the plan.

Adjournment

J. McClanaghan moved to adjourn; J. Pariseault seconded. All voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm.

**BONNET SHORES FIRE DISTRICT
MONTHLY MEETING
September 20, 2014**

FY 2015:

Land Assessment:	\$ 271,086,500.00
Building Assessment:	\$ 215,669,700.00
Total Assessment:	\$ 486,756,200.00
Mil Rate:	0.5263
Collectable Taxes:	\$ 256,175.00
Taxes Collected:	\$ 232,014.19
Percentage of Taxes Collected:	90.57%

FY2014:

Collectable Taxes:	\$ 256,215.17
Taxes Collected:	\$ 253,280.90
Percentage of Taxes Collected:	98.85%
2014 Unpaid Taxes:	\$ 2,686.26
Interest Collected Prior Years Taxes	\$ 29.76
Prior Years Taxes Uncollected:	\$ 2,345.96