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BONNET SHORES FIRE DISTRICT

Bonnet Shores Fire District Monthly Council Meeting

Tuesday, May 25, 2021

7:30 PM

Meeting Minutes

Call To Order

Council Chair Janice McClanaghan called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

In attendance were BSFD Council members Janice McClanaghan, Marlene Bellini, Carol O'Donnell and Anita Langer. Council members Michael Vendetti and Christopher Mannix were absent.

Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence

J. McClanaghan led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and observed a Moment of Silence for our service members in the Armed Forces and members of the community who had died.

Urgent Business

None.

Approval of Minutes

Anita Langer **moved**, seconded by J. McClanaghan, to remove the second sentence under "Urgent Business" from the March 24, 2021 meeting minutes. The motion was approved, 4-0. A. Langer **moved**, seconded by M. Bellini, to approve the newly amended March 24, 2021 meeting minutes. The motion was approved, 4-0.

C. O'Donnell **moved**, seconded by A. Langer, to approve the April 27, 2021 special council meeting minutes. The motion was approved, 4-0.

A. Langer **moved**, seconded by C. O'Donnell, to approve the May 12, 2021 budget workshop minutes. The motion was approved, 4-0.

M. Bellini **moved**, seconded by C. O'Donnell, to approve the May 15, 2021 budget hearing minutes. The motion was approved, 4-0.

Committee Reports

Treasurer (L. McCarthy): L. McCarthy informed the council that the Fire District had sufficient funds to operate through August. She reported that there would be a small increase in taxes, due to the decisions made during the council's budget hearing.

Tax Collector (S. Danuszar): S. Danuszar reported that approximately another $5,000.00 had been collected since the last report, bringing the collection rate to close to 99.5%.

Land Trust (L. Mercier): L. Mercier thanked Neal Coleman, Arthur Hardy and John Carvalho for the work they had put in to designing the walking path. He stated that the path is being marked.

District Manager (L. DiBello): L. DiBello reported that there was a delay until mid-June to fix the broken Harbor gate, that the Bulky Cleanup and Yard Sale will be scheduled and that she is continuing to look for lifeguards.

Old Business

- *Annual Meeting Update and Approval of Agenda for Annual Meeting*
  J. McClanaghan **moved** to amend the Annual Meeting Agenda to include the phrase "Taxpayer Comments & Questions" on Item XII of the agenda. The motion did not receive a second. M. Bellini **moved**, seconded by C. O'Donnell to approve the agenda in its current form. The motion was approved, 3-1, with A. Langer dissenting. A. Langer stated that the Annual Meeting could not be closed or adjourned until the election results were announced.
- *Appoint Harbormaster position*
  A. Langer **moved**, seconded by J. McClanaghan, to appoint Joe Bleczinski as the Harbormaster. The motion was approved, 4-0.

New Business

- *Nominating Committee update*
  Nominating Committee Chair Richard Mercier reported that the Committee was seeking letters of interest from candidates.

- *Yard Sale*
  J. McClanaghan reported that the Yard Sale would be held, with a date to be determined.

- *Reopening of the Community Center (limited)*
  J. McClanaghan reported that limited reopening of the Community Center was being discussed, with fees to be added for increased cleaning.

- *Cocktails on the Beach*
  The council discussed reviving the Cocktails on the Beach after the pandemic-related hiatus last year.

- *Joy Lane update*
  Anita Langer stated that BSFD had not been notified regarding the Joy Lane abandonment. L. DiBello stated that she had received notice from the town on the issue twice and forwarded those notices to the two council chairs, Paul Farley and Jan McClanaghan, who were serving at those times. J. McClanaghan reported that she had forwarded the notice she had received from L. DiBello to the entire BSFD council. She

noted that Paul Farley had testified on the Joy Lane issue before the Narragansett Planning Board. The issue also had been discussed at monthly meetings of the BSFD. She stated that the BSFD had clearly been notified of this issue, despite A. Langer's claim to the contrary.

Public Comment

Paula Childs stated that there should be no notarization requirement for proxy votes.

Robert Patterson stated that Clerk Matt Mannix should not be allowed to participate in the vote-counting. Janice McClanaghan corrected him and stated that the Clerk does not participate in the vote-counting.

NOTE: Both Paula Childs and Robert Patterson are currently suing the Fire District in C.A. No. WC-2020-0130.

Anita Langer stated that there should be not notarization requirement for proxy votes this year.

Janice McClanaghan thanked Lenny Mercier for helping with ZOOM. She thanked Phil Smith for his clean-up efforts.

Adjournment

Anita Langer moved, seconded by M. Bellini, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved, 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew M. Mannix
/s/ Matthew M. Mannix
BSFD Clerk

Ratified _____