

Bonnet Shores Fire District

Bonnet Shores Fire District Council Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

7:30 pm

Meeting Minutes

Finance Committee Meeting

Prior to the council meeting, Tax Collector John Chereskin and Treasurer Laurie McCarthy led the Finance Committee meeting. They reviewed the items in the budget. In attendance were council members Leslie McKnight, Jane Duran, Faith LaSalle, John Chereskin, and Anthony Girardi. Also in attendance was the District Manager Mark Gillooly. The meeting closed at 7:29 pm.

Call to Order of Regular Council Meeting

Council Vice Chair Leslie McKnight called the meeting to order at 7:36 pm and stated that there was no urgent business. In attendance were council members Jane Duran, Faith LaSalle, John Chereskin and Anthony Girardi. Also in attendance were Treasurer Laurie McCarthy and District Manager Mark Gillooly. Council members Carol O'Donnell and Steve Danuszar were absent.

Urgent Business None.

Approval of Minutes

Postponed.

Committee Reports

Treasurer (L. McCarthy): L. McCarthy stated that the check for the Colonel John Gardner Road repairs had been sent to the town.

Tax Collector (J. Chereskin): J. Chereskin stated that he had no official report. He discussed the potential Tax Sale and making it coincide with the Narragansett Tax Sale.

Land Trust (J. Fandetti): Joan Fandetti stated that there had been many recent inquiries regarding the memorial benches and that the Land Trust would prepare a policy regarding bench maintenance.

District Manager and Harbor (Absent): M. Gillooly reported that the dock had been installed, 26 mooring fees had been collected and that the water at the beaches would be turned on May 29, 2025. He reported that the Community Center sign had been fixed.

Social: No report.

Website (J. Duran): J. Duran reported that the website team is addressing the navigation and homepage features.

New and Ongoing Business

Proposed Legislation & Resolution Regarding Charter Amendment

- J. Duran **moved**, seconded by A. Girardi, to approve and send a resolution supporting the proposed legislation to the General Assembly. The motion was **approved**, 5-0.

Nominating Committee Appointments

- F. LaSalle **moved**, seconded by A. Girardi, to appoint Jane Duran and John Chereskin to the Nominating Committee. The motion was **approved**, 5-0.

Annual Meeting Discussion

- F. LaSalle stated that the General Assembly may stay in session until mid-July and that, if we wait to hear from them, then the Annual Meeting should be delayed. A. Girardi **moved**, seconded by J. Duran to move the Annual Meeting to a date during the last two weeks of July, based on the availability of St. Veronica Chapel. The motion was **approved**, 5-0.

Charter and By-Law Changes Other Than the Voting Franchise

- F. LaSalle indicated that she would chair a workshop regarding other By-Law changes in the near future.

Public Comment

- Robert Patterson stated that both the Charter Commission and the new Charter Committee opposed the one unit, one vote proposal.
- Nancy Cordy addressed the memorial bench possible maintenance fee.
- Nancy Riccitelli indicated that she would like the Annual Meeting to be held at Narragansett High School.
- Paula Childs expressed her opposition to a police detail at council meetings.
- Reagan Dunne encouraged residents to use the Free Tackle Box she had put together as a volunteer.
- Michelle Dunne stated she did not want to pay a maintenance fee for memorial benches and stated that she will hold a small road race later in the year as part of her Never Dunne efforts.

- Pamela Childs expressed her opposition to holding the Annual Meeting at St. Veronica Chapel.

Adjournment:

Anthony Girardi **moved**, seconded by J. Chereskin, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was **approved** unanimously. The meeting adjourned 8:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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

*Ratified: July 16, 2025 *