

# BONNET SHORES FIRE DISTRICT

## Monthly Council Meeting

### Agenda<sup>2</sup>

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

Date/Time	<b>Wednesday, April 15, 2026 - 6:30pm – 9:00pm</b>
Place:	Bonnet Shores Fire District Community Center - 130 Bonnet Shores Road, Narragansett, RI
Zoom <sup>1</sup> :	<b>Virtual access is being provided only as a convenience and is not an official “location” where access to the meeting is guaranteed. If any technical, host, or operator issues arise with Zoom, the meeting will still proceed. Therefore, being physically present at the meeting is the only way to guarantee complete and uninterrupted access to the meeting.</b>  <b>Zoom Link:</b> <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87424760778">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87424760778</a>  <b>Cut &amp; Paste URL Method:</b> If you are having trouble with the above link, please cut and paste the below into your browser or visit the BSFD Website Calendar.  <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZMpde2vqDstHdxnsRozM4PjYX0cfL8orp-/ics?icsToken=DFhsZs8sP6wJlqrjXQAALAAAAGeDqFjrFPT85-IfzNzW1iZi5RYThaHA714fdgkeu6RMPw0azVIfE-y2nm5xfsjdDE0w0Mt3mOEeE3_jgAwMDAwMQ&amp;meetingMasterEventId=OxIoTSj2TQuIUuOBTwlqDA">https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZMpde2vqDstHdxnsRozM4PjYX0cfL8orp-/ics?icsToken=DFhsZs8sP6wJlqrjXQAALAAAAGeDqFjrFPT85-IfzNzW1iZi5RYThaHA714fdgkeu6RMPw0azVIfE-y2nm5xfsjdDE0w0Mt3mOEeE3_jgAwMDAwMQ&amp;meetingMasterEventId=OxIoTSj2TQuIUuOBTwlqDA</a>
Designated area for recording/photography	To preserve order and decorum, and to avoid interfering with the ability of spectators to see and hear, any members of the public video recording or photographing the meeting should do so from the designated area.

#### Call To Order

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Moment of Silence

#### Announcements:

#### Approval of the DRAFT Minutes from the:

- 03/18/2026 Monthly Council Meeting
- 03/30/2026 Special Council Meeting – Open Session
- 04/02/2026 Special Council Meeting

#### Urgent Business:

**Public Comment:** Public comment is for in-person attendees only or at written request. Please approach the microphone, identify yourself including BSFD address. Limit 3 minutes.

#### Reports / Updates:

1. Treasurer Update
2. Tax Collector Update/Report
3. Land Trust Update
4. BSFD Manager and Harbor Update/Report
5. Social Activities Group Update
6. Updates on new/pending legal matters if available – including a review of vendors and agreements

#### New and Ongoing Business:

7. Motion, discussion, and possible vote to approve an easement requested by the Town of Narragansett for drainage from Bayberry Road to Lot N-S-372 (adjacent to 214 Bonnet Point Road), as part of a project with BETA Group, Inc. Approval is required to secure CRMC permitting for discharge onto the property. *(T. Girardi – Attachment #5)*
8. Motion, discussion, revision and vote to approve a revised engagement letter with Lewis & Brisbois, including revised rates, expanded scope of representation and authorization for designated officials to request legal services if the convening of the Council is not possible due to deadlines. *(L. McKnight)*
9. Motion, discussion and possible vote on what surplus or rainy-day fund is recommended beyond the \$161,000 currently in reserve and time period for accumulating the surplus if necessary. *(Faith LaSalle – Attachment #1)*
10. Motion, discussion, and possible vote to determine the percentage increase for the draft fiscal responsibility bylaw (“CAP TAX”) limiting tax increases and to place the bylaw on the 2026 Annual Meeting ballot *(Faith LaSalle – Attachment #2)*
11. Motion, discussion, revision and possible vote to approve the draft fiscal responsibility bylaw allowing costs associated with a declared emergency (e.g., extreme weather or catastrophic events) or extraordinary capital purchases approved by the Council to be excluded from the tax increase cap and include on the 2026 Annual Meeting ballot. *(Faith LaSalle – Attachment #3)*
12. Motion, discussion, revision and possible vote to approve a draft Recall Provision bylaw and include on the 2026 Annual Meeting ballot, subject to legal review confirming no substantive concerns. *(Jane Duran – Attachment #4)*
13. Motion, discussion, and possible vote to reconsider the time and format of the June 25 Annual Meeting to be held at the BSFD Community Center, including potential elimination of tent rental costs by adjusting voting hours (e.g., 3:00–7:00 PM), followed by a 30-minute transition period (7:00–7:30 PM), with the Annual Meeting from 7:30-8:30pm. Discussion may include, but is not limited to, site preparation logistics, ballot content deadlines (e.g., candidate names, bylaws), and updates to voting procedures, including the electronic write-in process. *(Clerk, Robert Patterson)*
14. Motion, discussion and possible vote on next steps for the “All inclusive” voting rights scenario that was presented at the April 2, 2026 Voting Rights workshop that establishes eligibility criteria as 1) All residents retain full voting rights and remain the majority of the electorate 2) Each residential home owned by a non-resident receives 1 vote per home 3) Each beach club unit receives one quarter (¼) vote per unit. *(Council)*
15. Motion, discussion, review, revision and possible vote to adopt Land Trust Rules & Regulations as drafted by Attorney Faith LaSalle. *(Land Trust – Attachment #7)*
16. Motion, discussion, review and possible vote to approve the required materials and expenses to upgrade the Camden Landing Dock not to exceed \$2,500. *(Land Trust)*
17. Motion, discussion and possible vote to submit the corrections for Form 1023 and to fax the revised 501(c)3 application to the Correspondence Unit of the IRS. *(Land Trust)*
18. Motion, discussion and possible vote on proposed intergovernmental liaison role for M. Jenkins to monitor and report on municipal and state governmental actions that may affect the district. *(Melissa Jenkins – Attachment #6)*
19. Motion, discussion and possible vote to review and approve the auto renewal service agreement for MEGA Trash Management including rate increase and approve to proceed with an RFP for a longer-term contract with a Trash Management Company. *(Faith LaSalle)*
20. Motion, discussion and possible vote to schedule the next policy workshop to review the drafts of the 3 policies as prioritized in the March 18, 2026 Policy Workshop: 1) Policy on Policies, 2) Code of Conduct, 3) BSFD Agenda & Creation. *(Council)*
21. Motion, discussion and possible vote to approve opening Kelly Beach in alignment with when the Beach Club opens their beach and/or before Memorial Day (Monday May 25th). Includes typical opening items such as delivering portable bathroom, turning on water, putting trash cans in place, etc. *(Kevin O'Brien)*

**Executive Session** - Motion to enter Executive Session pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) to discuss and approve the sealed minutes of the Executive Session held on March 30, 2026.

**Return to Open Session and Report of Any Votes Taken in Executive Session** - Motion to conclude Executive Session and return to Open Session.

**Motion to Adjourn**

**Attachments #1, 2 and 3: Fiscal Responsibility Analysis and DRAFT CAP ON TAXES and EXTRAORDINARY COSTS By-Laws Submitted by Faith LaSalle**

**Slide 1**

**FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**Do We Need a Cap on Tax Increases**

- ASSESSED VALUE OF PROPERTIES IN BONNET

• Buildings:	\$439,318.00*
• Land:	\$562,679.00*
• Total:	\$1,137,332,800.00*

2025-2026 Budget:	\$534,000
2025 mill rate:	0.00046952
Max mill rate under the 1932 Charter:	0.00700000 = \$7,961,329.60

\*From BSFD Tax Roll July 2025 plus 5 additional properties added that were omitted from the tax roll

**Slide 2**

**Current vs Maximum Mill Rate Comparison**

<b>2025 mill rate = .00046952</b>	<b>Max. mill rate = .00700000</b>
• Assessed value 2025	• Assessed value 2025
• \$4,212,500 = \$1,977.85 FD Tax	• \$4,212,500 = \$29,487 FD Tax
• \$2,543,700 = \$1,195.00 FD Tax	• \$2,543,700 = \$17,805 FD Tax
• \$1,618,500 = \$759 FD Tax	• \$1,618,500 = \$11,329 FD Tax*
• \$1,000,012 = \$469.53 FD tax	• \$1,000,012 = \$7,000 FD Tax
• \$594,300 = \$279.036 FD Tax	• \$594,300 = \$4,160 FD Tax

\*FD Tax would be higher than the Narr. Tax. For example, Narr. Tax rate at 6.79% per thousand: \$1,618,500 = \$10,989.

**Slide 3**

**BSFD CHARTER SECTION 7**

- The district may raise money by taxation or real estate, and buildings or improvements upon leased real estate within the district, provided, that the tax assessed and payable in any one (1) year under the provisions of this act shall not exceed seven (7) mills on each dollar of valuation as hereinafter defined.
- (1932)

**Slide 4**

**RHODE ISLAND STATE LAW ON CAPS ON TAX INCREASES**  
**R.I.G.L. § 44-5-2. Maximum levy.**

In its fiscal year 2013 and in each fiscal year thereafter, a city or town may levy a tax in an amount not more than four percent (4%) in excess of the total amount levied and certified by that city or town for its previous fiscal year.

**DRAFT: CAP ON TAXES** --The district shall restrict any increase in its property tax levy (Levy Cap) to a maximum of seven percent (7%) (percent to be discussed) over the previous year’s amount that is budgeted to be raised by taxation, or by the amount of annual inflation per the CPI index.

The district may increase the amount by taxation by a percentage greater than 7 percent (7%) or the annual inflation rate if the increase is approved through a referendum during the district’s Annual Meeting.

The mill rate shall then be calculated using assessed values to determine the budgeted tax collection.

*Purpose: This change provides for a cap on tax increases consistent with the cap on taxes for cities and towns in the State of Rhode Island. The mill rate in the original Charter is outdated, based upon the current value of the properties in the district, potentially allowing for taxes of about \$7,900,000 (million). This proposal is to ensure greater fiscal responsibility to the community. Cities and Towns have a 4% cap by state law. This bylaw does not change the Charter*

*but reflects the district realization that the archaic mill rate is not relevant today and is a fiscal responsibility measure to align taxes with current municipal tax trends.*

**DRAFT: EXTROADINARY COSTS** - Those costs associated with a declared emergency may be excluded from the cap on taxes. “Extraordinary costs” are expenses and capital purchases incurred for immediate response, preparation, recovery, and restoration of district services following extreme weather events or catastrophic occurrences. This exception applies only to those costs that exceed what would typically be incurred under normal, non-emergency conditions.

Approval of these extraordinary charges require support by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the District Council. Funds allocated for these costs shall be treated as a one-time request subject to adjustment based on any federal or state reimbursements.

*Purpose: This addition is to allow for unforeseen emergency expenses that may occur above the Levy Cap.*

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**Attachment #4: Draft Recall Bylaw submitted by Jane Duran**

**ARTICLE 3 | Section 11 – RECALL OF ELECTED OFFICIALS**

**DRAFT**

Any officer elected by the voters of the Bonnet Shores Fire District may be removed from office by recall. A recall may be initiated by a petition signed by not less than twenty-five percent (25%) of the total number of voters who cast a ballot in the last district election and petitioners shall have sixty (60) days to collect the required signatures. The petition shall identify the officer whose removal is sought and include a brief statement of the grounds for recall, and shall be submitted to the District Moderator. Petitions may be submitted electronically through a platform approved by the District Council, provided that each signature is accompanied by information sufficient to verify that the signer is a qualified voter. Within ten (10) business days of submission, the Tax Assessors shall verify that all signatures, whether electronic or written, are from qualified voters using the most recent certified voter list. If the petition is insufficient, the Moderator shall notify the petitioners in writing, specifying the deficiencies; if sufficient, the petition shall be certified and forwarded to the District Council. Upon certification of a sufficient petition, the District Council shall, within sixty (60) days, either (a) call a special district meeting to act upon the recall, or (b) if an annual meeting is scheduled to occur within such sixty (60) day period, place the recall on the ballot for that meeting. If no annual meeting is scheduled within such period, a special district meeting shall be called. The elected official(s) subject to recall shall be notified in writing at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting and shall have the opportunity to address the voters before any vote is taken. Removal shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified voters present and voting at the meeting. If the recall vote succeeds, the office(s) shall be deemed vacant immediately upon certification of the vote, and shall be filled in accordance with the vacancy provision in Article IV, Section 1 of the district bylaws. No recall petition shall be filed against any elected official within the first six (6) months of their term, within six (6) months preceding the expiration of their term, or within twelve (12) months following a failed recall attempt.

**Recall Language Comparison Chart**

Element Summary	BSFD Proposed Recall Language	Proposed Bonnet Shores Fire District	Town of Narragansett	Town of Tiverton
1.Petition Signature threshold & timeline	A recall may be initiated by a petition signed by not less than twenty-five percent (25%) of the total number of voters who cast a ballot in the last district election and	25% of last election voters 60 days to collect	25% of last election voters 60 days to collect	25% of voters from election that the official was elected;

<b>Element Summary</b>	<b>BSFD Proposed Recall Language</b>	<b>Proposed Bonnet Shores Fire District</b>	<b>Town of Narragansett</b>	<b>Town of Tiverton</b>
	petitioners shall have sixty (60) days to collect the required signatures.			20 days to collect signatures
2. Grounds required	The petition shall identify the officer whose removal is sought and include a brief statement of the grounds for recall, and shall be submitted to the District Moderator.	Petition must state grounds	Petition must state grounds	Petition must state grounds
3. Electronic petitions	Petitions may be submitted electronically through a platform approved by the District Council, provided that each signature is accompanied by information sufficient to verify that the signer is a qualified voter.	Explicitly allowed	Not addressed	Not addressed
4. Verification process	Within ten (10) business days of submission, the Tax Assessors shall verify that all signatures, whether electronic or written, are from qualified voters using the most recent certified voter list.	Tax Assessors verify in 10 business days	Certified by the Board of Canvassers – no committed timeline	Board of Canvassers certifies within ~7 days
5. Notice of Certification Outcomes	If the petition is insufficient, the Moderator shall notify the petitioners in writing, specifying the deficiencies; if sufficient, the petition shall be certified and forwarded to the District Council.	Moderator notifies outcomes in writing to petitioners	Canvassing authority notifies outcomes in writing to petitioners	Canvassing authority notifies outcomes in writing to petitioners
6. Timing of recall vote/meeting	Within sixty (60) days of certification of a valid petition, a special district meeting shall be called to consider the recall or placed on the ballot of an annual meeting if one is scheduled to occur within such sixty (60) day period.	Special District Mtg/Recall Election within 60 days after certification	Recall election 75 days after certification	Recall Election 60 days after certification
7. Notice & right to be heard	The elected official(s) subject to recall shall be notified in writing at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting and shall have the opportunity to address the voters before any vote is taken.	Official notified; may address voters	Official notified; may address voters	Official notified by certified mail; may address voters
8. Vote threshold	Removal shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified voters present and voting at the meeting. If the recall vote succeeds, the office(s) shall be deemed vacant immediately upon certification of the vote, and shall be filled in accordance with the vacancy provision in Article IV, Section 1 of the district bylaws.	Majority of voters present at meeting	Majority of voters present at meeting	55% YES vote + ≥40% turnout of the election that the official was elected
9. Timing restrictions	No recall petition shall be filed against any elected official within the first six (6) months of their term, within six (6) months preceding the expiration of their term, or	Restricts early/late-term recalls + cooldown after failure	Must have served for a minimum of 6 months in Office	Does not specify

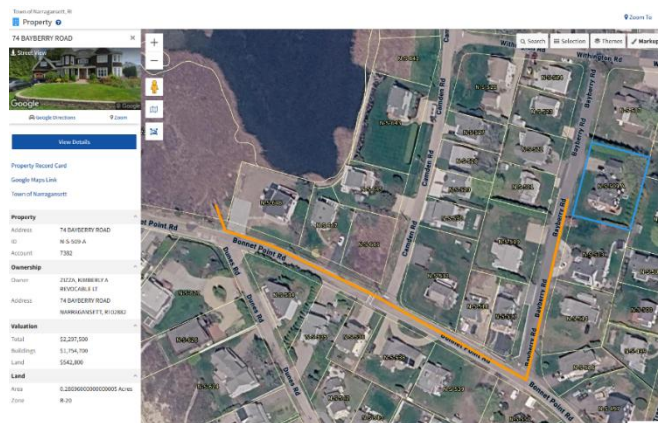
within twelve (12) months following a failed recall attempt.

**Attachment #5: Narragansett DPW Requested Easement submitted by Tony Girardi**

**Summary - Background information from** Stephen Daignault, Town of Narragansett DPW Engineer, provided in an email dated April 7, 2026:

There is an existing drywell road drain located in front of 75 Bayberry Road. Since the development of 75 Bayberry Road and 17 Withington Road, the roadway drainage system has been unable to adequately manage stormwater in this high-water table area. This issue began several years ago when the owner of 75 Bayberry Road experienced flooding due to excessive roadway runoff. Summary of events and other properties involved:

- 73 Bayberry Road initially offered an easement to allow drainage to be conveyed through that property toward Camden Road, where it could connect to existing infrastructure.
- 162 Camden Road, was initially receptive to the concept.
- The Town proceeded with a survey to support a proposed easement
- 164 Camden Road then expressed potential interest in participating.
- 162 and 164 Camden Road have since withdrawn interest.
- 75 Bayberry Road has continued to experience flooding.
- As a temporary measure, Narragansett Wastewater Department has assisted by pumping the system when the drain overtops.



With these options no longer viable, Narragansett engaged Beta Group, Inc. to provide a proposal for the design and permitting of a comprehensive drainage solution. The currently proposed route is shown in the image. However, to obtain the necessary CRMC permit, the Town must secure permission from the owner of Lot N-S-372, identified as the Bonnet Shores Land Trust. Without this authorization, the project cannot proceed. CRMC will likely require implementation of a stormwater BMP as part of the permitting process. The estimated cost for design and permitting is just under \$100,000, which has already been budgeted. The construction cost is estimated at approximately \$1.1 million and is included in my current bonding plan. This project would be fully funded by the Town, with no cost to the BSFD. The owner of 75 Bayberry Rd has been extremely patient while delaying reconstruction of his home, and resolution of this issue is critical to allowing him to proceed and reside there full-time. At this time, a preliminary design is not available due to the uncertainty surrounding the required easement for the final outfall.

**Attachment #6: Proposed Role for M. Jenkins submitted by Melissa Jenkins**

**Intergovernmental Liaison Role Purpose**

The Council shall designate a **Council Intergovernmental Liaison** to monitor and report on municipal and state governmental actions that may affect the District.

The liaison serves strictly as an **information-gathering and reporting resource** for the Council and the public.

The liaison **does not establish policy, advocate on behalf of the District without authorization, or exercise decision-making authority.**

2. **Responsibilities** The liaison may:

**A. Monitor Municipal Government**

Track actions of the **Narragansett Town Council**, boards, and commissions that could affect the District, including:

- ordinances
- budgets
- zoning or land-use matters
- municipal services affecting District operations

**B. Monitor State Government**

Track legislation and policy activity in the **Rhode Island General Assembly** affecting fire districts or special districts, including:

- governance laws
- taxation or municipal authority
- public records and open meetings laws

**C. Information Collection**

The liaison may:

- review public agendas and documents
- attend public meetings or hearings
- monitor publicly available legislative materials
- gather publicly available information relevant to the District

**3. Reporting to the Council**

The liaison shall provide **informational updates during regular Council meetings.**

Reports may include:

- upcoming town agenda items affecting the District
- proposed state legislation affecting fire districts
- regulatory or policy developments
- scheduled hearings or public meetings

Reports are **informational only** unless the Council places a specific item on the agenda for discussion or action.

**4. Public Input**

Each monthly Council agenda may include an item such as:

**“Intergovernmental Update and Public Comment.”**

During this agenda item:

1. The liaison provides a brief update.
2. Members of the public may comment on the issues raised.
3. The Council may discuss whether an issue should be placed on a **future agenda for possible action.**

No policy decisions or advocacy positions are adopted unless **separately noticed on the agenda and voted on by the Council.**

**5. Limitations of Authority**

The liaison **shall not:**

- speak on behalf of the District
- advocate for legislation
- negotiate with government officials

- commit District resources
- represent that they are authorized to take District positions

Any official communication or advocacy must be **authorized by Council vote at a public meeting.**

## 6. Compliance with Open Meetings Law

All discussions regarding intergovernmental matters shall occur during properly noticed meetings of the Council in compliance with the **Rhode Island Open Meetings Act**.

Because the liaison acts individually and **does not convene meetings of multiple Council members**, the liaison function itself does not constitute a separate public body.

The Intergovernmental Liaison may meet with residents, stakeholders, or community groups to gather information regarding matters affecting the District. Such meetings are informational only and do not constitute meetings of the Council. The liaison shall report relevant concerns to the Council at a properly noticed public meeting.

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### **Attachment #7 Land Trust Rules and Regulations as drafted by Faith LaSalle**

#### **DRAFT**

#### **BONNET SHORES LAND TRUST RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**I. ESTABLISHMENT** - In June of 1991, the Rhode Island General Assembly authorized the Bonnet Shores Fire District Council to establish the Bonnet Shores Land Trust (hereinafter called the “Trust”), defined as “a body politic and corporate and a public instrumentality” for the purposes outlined in *R.I.G.L. Chapter 91-419*.

The Act authorizes the Trustees to adopt reasonable Rules and Regulations governing the conduct of Trust affairs, including the acquisition and management of its holdings, provided they are not inconsistent with the provisions of the Act. Pursuant to *R.I.G.L. Chapter 92-491*, these Rules and Regulations are subject to the approval of the Bonnet Shores Fire District Council. The two Acts establishing the Trust are hereinafter collectively called the “Trust Charter.” Where a discrepancy exists between the Trust Charter and these Rules and Regulations, the Trust Charter shall take precedence.

**II. TRUSTEES** - The Trust is administered by five (5) Trustees who are elected by qualified voters of the Bonnet Shores Fire District at its Annual Meeting. A Trustee is elected to serve a three-year term and shall be ineligible for re-election for one year following the expiration of said term.

A vacancy occurring during a term shall be filled by the Bonnet Shores Fire District Council. The appointed Trustee shall serve until the next Bonnet Shores Fire District Annual Meeting, at which time a Trustee will be elected to serve the remainder of the unexpired term. The Trustees may recommend candidate(s) to the Bonnet Shores Fire District Council for the appointed position.

**III. OFFICERS** - The officers of the Trust shall be the Chair, the Vice Chair, and the Secretary. Pursuant to the Trust Charter, these offices shall be held by Trustees, with the exception that the Secretary may or may not be a Trustee.

- The Chair: Has general charge and supervision of the business of the Trust and shall preside at all meetings. The Chair shall perform other duties regarding Trust properties and maintenance as requested by the Bonnet Shores Fire District Council and shall ensure all meeting notices comply with the Rhode Island Open Meetings Act (*R.I.G.L. Section 42-46-1 et. seq.*).
- The Vice Chair: Shall perform duties as prescribed by the Chair. When acting as Chair, the Vice Chair shall have the same powers, duties, and restrictions of that office.
- **The Secretary:** Shall maintain the minutes of all meetings. Once approved by the Trust, the Secretary shall submit the minutes to the Bonnet Shores Fire District Clerk.

**IV. ELECTION OF OFFICERS** - At the first meeting following the Annual Meeting and the election of new Trustees, the Trustees shall elect a Chair and Vice Chair and elect or appoint a Secretary for one-year terms. If a vacancy occurs in the office of Chair, the Vice Chair shall serve as Chair for the remainder of the term. If a vacancy occurs in the office of Vice Chair, the Trustees shall elect another Trustee to serve the remainder of the term. If a vacancy occurs in the office of Secretary, the Trustees shall either elect a member or appoint a non-member to fill the vacancy.

**V. MEETINGS** - Meetings shall be held and records maintained in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. The Trust shall meet quarterly, with at least four (4) meetings per year. Additional meetings may be called by the Chair as needed.

Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*. However, the Trust Charter and these Rules and Regulations shall prevail over any conflict with *Robert's Rules*.

A quorum for decisions is a majority of Trustees present and voting, except for land acquisitions or other specific actions for land use outlined in the Trust Charter that require a majority or supermajority vote of the full Board of Trustees.

**VI. OPERATING BUDGET AND FINANCIAL MATTERS** - An operating budget for the Trust shall be prepared annually and submitted to the Bonnet Shores Fire District Council for review and approval. The budget must also be presented at the Annual Meeting for final approval by the qualified voters of the Bonnet Shores Fire District.

- **Funds and Expenses:** Funds collected for Trust activities shall be deposited in a designated fund maintained by the Bonnet Shores Fire District. Lawfully incurred operating expenses must be evidenced by proper vouchers (including invoices and receipts) and shall be paid by the Bonnet Shores Fire District Treasurer upon approval by the Bonnet Shores Fire District Council.
- **Land Acquisitions:** Funds released for land acquisitions or other purposes set forth in Section One of the Trust Charter require approval of the majority of Trustees and a majority vote of the Bonnet Shores Fire District Council.
- **Debt:** The Trust may only incur debt if the Bonnet Shores Fire District Council has authorized the debt and the qualified voters have approved it at a Bonnet Shores Fire District Annual Meeting or Special Meeting.

#### **VII. ACQUISITIONS AND DISPOSITIONS OF LAND -**

1. **Acquisition of Property:** All acquisitions require dual approval by the Trustees and the Bonnet Shores Fire District Council and must be consistent with *R.I.G.L. Chapter 91-419*. An acquisition proposal and report shall be prepared for each parcel.
2. **Acquisition Criteria:** Criteria include but are not limited to:
  1. Open space significance;
  2. Environmental significance; protection of drinking water;
  3. Recreational significance;
  4. Historical preservation;
  5. Wildlife/habitat protection;
  6. Agricultural significance; and
  7. Intrinsic value to the community.
3. **Acquisition Reports:** Reports must include a property description, identification of special requirements, the rationale for acquisition, maintenance burden on the community, and associated costs/funding sources.
4. **Disposition of Property:** Disposition requires the following:
  1. A determination by Trustees that the property is unsuitable for Trust purposes;
  2. An affirmative vote of four (4) out of five (5) Trustees;
  3. An affirmative vote of five (5) out of seven (7) Bonnet Shores Fire District Council members;
  4. An affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of qualified voters at an Annual Meeting.

5. **Disposition Reports:** Reports must include the reasons for disposition, a cost-benefit analysis, and the projected impact on the community.

**VIII. TAX EXEMPTION** - The Trustees are aware of and shall notify government bodies, when needed, that Trust revenues, income, and property used in furtherance of its public purpose are tax-exempt pursuant to *R.I.G.L. 91-419, Section 7*. The Trust is not required to pay any tax, excise, or assessment to the State of Rhode Island, the Town of Narragansett, or any political subdivision, per the Trust Charter.

**IX. ADOPTION, REVIEW, AND AMENDMENT** - These Rules and Regulations and any subsequent amendments shall take effect upon dual approval by the Trust and the Bonnet Shores Fire District Council. Upon such approval, they supersede any prior rules and regulations that have not received dual approval and take effect upon passage. The Trust shall review these Rules and Regulations at least every five (5) years.

**X. SEVERABILITY** - If any provision of these Rules or Regulations is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions.

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Adopted by the Bonnet Shores Land Trust on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

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Secretary, Bonnet Shores Land Trust

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**<sup>1</sup>Zoom Details**

Topic: BSFD Council Meeting Invitation

Time: Mar 18, 2026 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

View meeting insights with Zoom AI Companion: <https://us02web.zoom.us/launch/edl?muid=e75b7993-9ff0-41d5-a3ba-5f8d72a5f650>

Meeting ID: 874 2476 0778

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,87424760778# US (Washington DC)

+13052241968,,87424760778# US

Join instructions: [https://us02web.zoom.us/join/87424760778?signature=cXmAO\\_gm6UQNM05I7mAdzIH8VFNMurhl6mzuvuImH-M](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/87424760778?signature=cXmAO_gm6UQNM05I7mAdzIH8VFNMurhl6mzuvuImH-M)

<sup>2</sup> **R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-6(b):** Nothing contained herein shall prevent a public body, other than a school committee, from adding items to the agenda for discussion purposes only, if the added item was not known or could not have been reasonably known 48 hours in advance of the meeting; provided, however, that the public body may not vote on the added item.

<sup>2</sup> **ADA Accommodations:** The BSFD is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities. Anyone requiring an accommodation is encouraged to contact the District Manager at least 48 hours before the meeting to allow adequate preparation. Requests received after that time will be addressed to the extent reasonably practicable.

<sup>2</sup> **Disclaimer:** Written materials that may be referenced or distributed by individual Council members in connection with agenda items are the submissions of those individual members and are not official communications or findings of the Bonnet Shores Fire District Council unless formally adopted by vote of the Council. The publicly posted agenda is intended to satisfy the notice requirements of **Rhode Island General Laws § 42-46-6**.