



## Bonnet Shores Fire District 2026 Annual Meeting Newsletter

The Bonnet Shores Fire District (BSFD) Annual Meeting will be held on **Thursday, June 25, 2026**, at the BSFD Community Center located at 130 Bonnet Shores Road. **Voting will take place from 3:00pm to 7:00pm and the meeting portion will start at 7:30pm.** The purpose of this meeting is to address the items contained in the agenda provided within. Information regarding the Annual Meeting will be posted on the BSFD Community bulletin boards and will also be available on the BSFD website at [BSFD 2026 Annual Meeting](#) (or go to [www.bonnetshores.org](http://www.bonnetshores.org), click on Document Library and select the 2026 Annual Meeting folder)

### Know Before You Go

1. **Identification:** All persons requesting a ballot to vote must present valid identification at check in, and the voter’s name must appear on the verified voter list. You must be 18 years or older to vote.
2. **Voter Registration Information:** Identify your primary voter type below, then follow the instructions in the corresponding chart. **Individuals qualifying under multiple criteria may cast only one personal vote.**
  - A. **Narragansett Registered Voter**
  - B. **Property Owner/Taxpayer – Voting for yourself as an individual**
  - C. **Property Owner/Taxpayer – You designate a co-owner to vote for you** (Proxy Process)
  - D. **LLC/Corporation/Firm/Partnership/Trust** (Voter Designation Affidavit)

#### A. Narragansett Registered Voter

What You Need to Do	Documents Needed	Deadline / Notes
Confirm your name appears on the registered voter list if you have a BSFD permanent address.	Valid ID	Check the “Narragansett Registered Voter List” To be sure you are listed. <a href="#">2026 BSFD Narragansett Reg Voter List</a>

#### B. Property Owner/Taxpayer - Voting for yourself as an individual

What You Need to Do	Documents Needed	Deadline / Notes
If multiple owners are on the deed, or you purchased within the last 12 months, provide proof of ownership.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Valid ID</li> <li>2. Copy of deed, tax bill, or proof showing ownership for at least 90 days before June 25, 2026.</li> </ol>	<p>The Town taxpayer list is from June 2025 and may contain abbreviations or omitted names. Please check to ensure you are on the list</p> <p>Link to Taxpayer List: <a href="#">BSFD Narragansett Property Tax Roll - June 2025</a></p>

**C. Property Owner/Taxpayer – You designate a co-owner to vote for you (Proxy Process)** - The proxy process includes 1) Notarization and 2) Certification that the proxy is valid and completed correctly. It is highly recommended that you certify the proxy form in advance to ensure acceptance at the election. Please see below for options. **Note: Proxies are for individual taxpayers only and do not apply to Residents, Firms, Corporations, LLCs, Partnerships or Trusts.**

Proxy Item	What You Need to Do	Documents Needed	Deadline / Notes
<b>You designate a proxy to vote on your behalf</b>	Complete a proxy form if you are authorizing a co-owner to vote on your behalf.	1) Valid ID 2) Completed proxy form including: owner name, property address, proxy name, and full notary information	Both your name and the co-owners name must appear on Town property records. <b>No exceptions.</b> Form must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Name of the individual granting the proxy</li> <li>○ Property address of the co-owned property</li> <li>○ Name of the authorized proxy</li> <li>○ Notary information, including the notary’s name, commission expiration date, and official stamp/seal</li> </ul>
<b>Getting a Proxy Form</b>	Obtain blank form online or at Community Center.	N/A	Blank forms may be printed from our website: <a href="#">Link to Form</a> or they are available at the BSFD Community Center located in boxes outside the BSFD Community Center.
<b><u>Option 1:</u> Proxy Notarization/ Certification all-in-one</b>	Use Community Center notary services.	1) Valid ID 2) Deed or tax bill showing ownership for at least 90 days prior to the election	Volunteer Notaries will notarize the form and the Clerk will certify the proxy form in the same visit. See Notary Office Hours in item 3 below.
<b><u>Option 2:</u> Proxy Notarization/ Certification using your own notary</b>	Use your own notary and submit 5 days before the election for certification.	1) Completed proxy form including: owner name, property address, proxy name, and full notary information 2) Deed or tax bill showing ownership for at least 90 days prior to the election 3) Contact information in case there are issues with the form.	Must be submitted by <b>June 19, 2026</b> for certification before election.  The clerk will look at all the documentation, certify the proxy and have it available for pickup at the proxy table the day of the election.  <b>How to submit:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Drop off at the Community Center in the drop box labelled “COMPLETED PROXY”, or</li> <li>● Mail to Bonnet Shores Fire District, 130 Bonnet Shores Road, Narragansett RI 02882, ATTN: Clerk</li> </ul>
<b><u>Option 3:</u> Election Day Proxy Validation</b>	Bring notarized proxy directly to election.	1) Valid ID 2) Completed Proxy Form including owner name, property address, proxy name and full notary information. 3) Deed or tax bill ownership for at least 90 days prior to the election	Clerk will certify the form on election day.  This option is not recommended because it will create long lines at the proxy registration table AND there will be no time to correct any errors resulting in an invalid proxy form.

**D. LLC/Corporation/Firm/Partnership/Trust (Voter Designation Affidavit)**

What You Need to Do	Documents Needed	Deadline/Notes
Designate one person to vote on behalf of the entity.	Voter Designation Affidavit completed by authorized representative of entity.	<p>Must be received by <b>June 19, 2026</b>. Only one designated voter permitted per entity.</p> <p><b>Obtain a Form:</b> Blank forms may be printed from our website: <a href="#">Link to Form</a> or they are available at the BSFD Community Center located in boxes outside the BSFD Community Center.</p> <p><b>Complete and Submit:</b> Please see Notary Office Hours in item #3 below which have been established for your convenience. If you choose to have this form notarized outside of the Community offered hours, please submit by one of the following methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drop off at the Community Center in the drop box labelled “COMPLETED AFFIDAVIT”: or</li> <li>• Mail to Bonnet Shores Fire District, 130 Bonnet Shores Road, Narragansett RI 02882, ATTN: Clerk</li> </ul>

3. **Notary Office Hours:** If you need a Proxy or a Voter Designation Affidavit notarized and certified to ensure it is completed correctly, notary services will be available at the Community Center during the following times *(Please bring a valid ID and deed or tax bill):*
  - Sunday, June 14: 9:00–11:00 a.m.
  - Wednesday, June 17: 5:00–7:00 p.m.
  - Friday, June 19: 1:00–3:00 p.m.
  - Sunday, June 21: 9:00–11:00 a.m.
  
4. **Voting:** This year, voting will be between the hours of 3:00pm and 7:00pm ONLY.
  
5. **Format and Seating:** Both the voting and the annual meeting will occur inside the community center. Voting will start at 3:00pm and end at 7:00pm. The room will be transitioned to meeting-style seating between 7:00pm-7:30pm. The Annual Meeting is scheduled to start at 7:30pm.
  
6. **Parking:** Handicapped parking will be available in the front lot of the Community Center; general parking will be in the back field.
  
7. **2025 Meeting Minutes:** Ratification of the 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes is an item on the agenda. You will find a Draft on the BSFD website using this link: [2025 Annual Meeting Minutes](#). Please review prior to the meeting. A hard copy can be obtained by contacting the District Manager.
  
8. **Volunteers Needed:** Volunteers are needed to help with set up, directing traffic, parking and assisting elderly and handicapped community members. Please contact the District Manager via email at [district.manager@bonnetshores.org](mailto:district.manager@bonnetshores.org) if you are able to help out.
  
9. **Interpreter Services:** Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must contact the Fire District Manager at least three (3) business days before the Annual Meeting date.

# BONNET SHORES FIRE DISTRICT 2026 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

Thursday June 25, 2026

Bonnet Shores Community Center | 130 Bonnet Shores Road | Narragansett RI 02882

**Voting 3:00pm – 7:00pm followed by the Meeting Presentation at 7:30pm**

1. Call to Order by Moderator
  - a. Pledge of Allegiance
  - b. Remembrance of deceased BSFD community members
2. Attestation of proper notice and quorum
3. Approval of minutes of 2025 Annual Meeting
4. State of the Fire District – Council Chair
5. Vote to approve Land Trust Operating Budget
6. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Public Comment
9. Election Results
  - a. Recount requests
10. Adjourn

(Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must contact the District Manager by June 22, 2026)

## BONNET SHORES FIRE DISTRICT MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE | JULY 2026 – JUNE 2027

BSFD monthly council meetings are held at 6:30pm at the Bonnet Shores Community Center located at 130 Bonnet Shores Road, Narragansett, RI 02882 unless otherwise communicated.

Third Wednesday Date - 2026	Third Wednesday Date - 2027
July 15, 2026	January 20, 2027
August 19, 2026	February 17, 2027
September 16, 2026	March 17, 2027
October 21, 2026	April 21, 2027
November 18, 2026	May 19, 2027
December 16, 2026	June 16, 2027

## DRAFT 2025 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Item 3 on the Annual Meeting agenda is the ratification of the 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes. You will find a Draft on the BSFD website using this link: [2025 Annual Meeting Minutes](#). Please review prior to the meeting. A hard copy can be obtained by contacting the District Manager.

## COMMUNICATIONS

BSFD makes every effort to connect with the community through e-mail. If you wish to be added to the e-mail list, please complete this form: [BSFD Communications Signup](#) (or go to [www.bonnetshores.org](http://www.bonnetshores.org) > scroll to the bottom of the main page and click the Communications Sign-up button).

Be sure to add [District.Manager@bonnetshores.org](mailto:District.Manager@bonnetshores.org) to your contacts. If you think you have registered previously but are not receiving e-mails, contact the District Manager at [district.manager@bonnetshores.org](mailto:district.manager@bonnetshores.org) and your information will be verified.

This newsletter and all of the reports therein can be found on the Bonnet Shores website: [www.bonnetshores.org/](http://www.bonnetshores.org/). If you require hard copies of any of the information, please contact the District Manager.

## **Bonnet Shores Fire District Reports**

### **State of the District by BSFD Chair, Leslie McKnight ([Link](#))**

Our Council, Land Trust members, and fellow elected officials have remained actively engaged in advancing the business of the District and supporting our community. Some of the highlights from the past year include:

#### **Continued Improvements to Community Assets**

- Completed repairs to the Little Beach seawall through FEMA grant funding
- Made improvements to the Community Center, including interior painting, a new refrigerator, and updated community bulletin boards
- Established a new Memorial Bench Protocol

#### **Technology Improvements**

- Launched a new District website and upgraded the District e-mail system
- Upgraded audio-visual equipment at the Community Center
- Implemented a cashless payment system utilizing Square technology to accept credit card payments
- Installed a key fob access system at the Community Center

#### **Policy & Process Improvements**

- Engaged the community through a series of Strategic Planning Workshops, resulting in the adoption of District Mission, Vision, and Core Values statements
- Strengthened the District's APRA process to ensure clear and documented procedures for public records requests
- Established a Community Center Access Policy
- Drafted Land Trust Rules & Regulations, currently pending approval as part of the District's 501(c)(3) application requirements
- Developed a Recall Provision bylaw for future community consideration and potential enactment
- Worked with community members to improve the Annual Meeting format and related processes
- Facilitated community discussions regarding alternative voting rights scenarios, resulting in continued dialogue on potential paths forward

#### **Community and Quality of Life**

- Supported residents in need through the District Food Drive
- Continued the 90+ year tradition of the Bonnet Shores Fire District Summer Camp
- Worked with community members to prepare a letter expressing concerns regarding the potential impact of a proposed automobile dealership, should submission to the Town of Narragansett become necessary
- Accepted a \$75,000 grant to study flooding at Wesquage Pond caused by phragmites growth and to develop a mitigation plan; the associated RFP is now under review by RIDEM and CRMC
- Conducted a search for a new Harbormaster, resulting in the identification of a proposed candidate for hire

I would like to thank all members of the community who contributed their time, ideas, and support throughout the year. These accomplishments reflect the continued commitment of our volunteers, elected officials, and engaged community to preserving and improving the quality of life in Bonnet Shores.

**Report of the Nominating Committee (Link):** On May 21, 2026, the 2026 Nominating Committee approved the following list of candidates:

**Endorsed Candidates:**

- **Joseph Iannucci** - Council
- **Mary Weber** – Council
- **Joseph Thomas** - Moderator
- **Donna Monaghan** – Nominating Committee
- **Paulette Brousseau** – Tax Assessor
- **Neal Prescott** – Treasurer

**Candidates not interviewed to be placed on the ballot:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
Nilza Sylvestre	Clerk	Anthony Lupino	Moderator
Carolyn DiLeo	Council	Anita Langer	Nominating Committee
Anthony Girardi	Council	Stephen McCooley	Nominating Committee
James Hill	Council	Kevin McKnight	Nominating Committee
Matthew Mannix	Council	James Riccitelli	Nominating Committee
Bill Giannini	Fire Warden	Donna Stephens	Nominating Committee
Lee Cannon	Land Trust	Joan Fandetti	Nominating Committee
Jack Fair	Land Trust	Anthony Lupino	Nominating Committee
Gordon Wrin	Land trust	Sharon Ford	Tax Assessor
James Riccitelli	Land Trust	Richard Mercier	Tax Assessor

**Report of the Tax Collector (Link)**

<b>Bonnet Shores Fire District</b>			
<b>Tax Collector Report</b>			
<b>Annual Meeting June 2026</b>			
<u>Taxes Collected</u>			
Mail In Payments	\$420,117.71	79%	
Credit Card	\$54,466.79	10%	
eCheck	<u>\$43,419.50</u>	8%	
<b>Total Collected</b>	<b>\$518,004.00</b>		
Total 2025-26 collected	\$518,004.00		
Total 2025-26 Taxes Budget	\$534,000.00		
% Collected	97%		
Total PY Taxes	\$17,113.05		
PY Tax Budget	\$5,000.00		
% Collected	342%		
<b>Fees Collected</b>			
-Interest	\$3,437.97		
-Legal	\$4,168.25		
<b>Taxes Owed</b>			
-2025-26	\$15,677.26		
-2010-25	\$2,625.12		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$18,302.38</b>		

**Report of the Treasurer (Link)**

May 29, 2026

**Fiscal Year 2026 Treasurer's Report**

Dear Community Members,

As we wrap up Fiscal Year 2026, I'm happy to share the financial results and some exciting updates:

- Total Income: \$586,485
- Total Operating Expenses: \$505,410
- Total Capital Expenses: \$26,012
- Surplus: \$55,064
- Bank Balance as of April 30, 2026: \$375,488

Here's how we're using the surplus:

- \$4,116 will fund the Harbor account.
- \$20,000 will go to pay legal bills incurred in March and April 2026.
- \$30,948 will go into the reserve account.

Here are a few important changes we made over the last year:

- Earned over \$7,000 more than budgeted in interest by optimizing cash management.
- Moved the District to cashless operations.
- Instituted e-checks and leveraged QuickBooks workflow for all District bill payments.
- Recruited and onboarded a new bookkeeper.

Also, the Fiscal Year 2027 budget has been approved.

- We have appropriated \$35,500 for capital projects, helping us keep up with the necessary improvements and future needs. The new council will decide on the projects we will undertake.
- While legal is budgeted for \$60,000, \$20,000 of last year's surplus will be used to lower the tax burden to \$40,000.

Thank you all for your continued support. I'd also like to thank the prior treasurer, Laurie McCarthy, for all her help over the last year. If you have any questions or want to know more, feel free to reach out.

Best,

Neal S. Prescott  
Bonnet Shores Fire District  
Treasurer

2026- 2027 FY Budget [\(Link\)](#)

<b>Income</b>	
4100 Tax Revenue	
4110 Tax Revenue - Current FY	548,797
4111 Tax Revenue - Current FY Interest	1,000
4112 Tax Revenue - Prepay next FY	1,000
4113 Tax Revenue - Previous FY	5,000
Total 4100 Tax Revenue	555,797
4200 Day Camp Fees	
4201 Fees - Day Camp	20,000
Total 4200 Day Camp Fees	20,000
4300 Harbor Fees	
4310 Mooring Fees	13,400
4320 Mooring Wait List Fees	80
4330 Ramp Fees	240
4340 Water Craft Registrations	300
Total 4300 Harbor Fees	14,020
4400 Grants	0
4500 Interest Earned - Bank Accts	7,000
4900 Other Income	
4910 Beach Tag Replacements	0
4930 Hall Rental Fees	3,500
4990 Other Misc. Income	0
Total 4900 Other Income	3,500
Total Income	600,317
<b>Expenses</b>	
6000 Admin Wages and Taxes	
6010 Manager Wages	74,500
6020 Clerk Wages	6,000
6030 Tax Collector Wages	6,000
6040 Treasurer Wages	6,000
6060 Admin Employer Payroll Taxes	6,800
Total 6000 Admin Wages and Taxes	99,300
6100 Administrative Expense	
6105 Accounting/Bookkeeping	7,200
6106 CPA	3,500
6110 Advertising Expense	0
6115 Annual Meeting Expense	17,510
6120 Bank Charges	0
6130 Council Discretionary Expense	0
6135 Insurance	10,500
6140 IT and Web Services	15,000
6145 Land Trust Operating Alloc'n	2,500
6155 Legal Fees, Ordinary	60,000
6160 Legal Fees, Tax Sale	0
6165 Meeting Expense	2,500
6175 Office Supplies & Equipment	2,800
6180 Payroll and Financial Services	2,500
6190 Tax Collection Costs	8,000
Total 6100 Administrative Expense	132,010
6300 Beach Expense	
6310 Beach Wages	23,000
6320 Beach Employer Payroll Taxes	1,800
6330 Beach Bus	13,200
6340 Beach Raking & Maintenance	17,500
6350 Beach Security	9,863
6360 Beach Supplies	4,301
Total 6300 Beach Expense	69,664
6400 Day Camp Expense	
6410 Camp Wages	17,000
6420 Camp Employer Payroll Tax	1,500
6430 Camp Supplies/Expenses	5,000
Total 6400 Day Camp Expense	23,500
6500 Harbor Expense	
6510 Harbormaster Wages	6,500
6520 Harbormaster Employer Taxes	550
6540 Harbor Maintenance	1,000
6550 Harbor Supplies	1,000
6590 Harbor Fund Tfr Designated Acct	
Total 6500 Harbor Expense	9,050

6600 Property Expense	
6610 Beautification & Social	1,000
6620 Community Center Cleaning	4,100
6625 Electricity	2,147
6630 Fire Inspection	500
6635 Maintenance	2,575
6640 Natural Gas	4,273
6645 Office Cell Phone	1,236
6650 Pond	1,475
6655 Telephone & Internet	3,000
6670 Water	893
6680 Repairs paid by Insurance	
Total 6600 Property Expense	21,199
6700 Public Works	
6710 Breachway and Culverts Maintenance	12,000
6720 Clear Breachway	
6730 General Maintenance	500
6740 Landscaping	15,000
6760 Sanitation	199,594
6770 Snow Removal	3,000
Total 6700 Public Works	230,094
Total Expenses	584,817
Net Operating Income	15,500
<b>Other Income</b>	
7000 Capital Income	
7100 Capital Allocation Income	20,000
7150 Capital Grants Income	0
Total 7000 Capital Income	20,000
<b>Other Expenses</b>	
8000 Capital Expenses	
8100 Capital Improvements	35,500
8150 Capital Grants Expenses	0
8160 Capital Allocation Expenses	0
Total 8000 Capital Expenses	35,500
Net Income	0

**Explanation of the Proposed Recall Provision Bylaw that is on the Ballot (Link)**

*Purpose: The BSFD Council is proposing the following bylaw amendment which is on the ballot. This amendment would give community members the ability to petition for the recall of an elected official and allow the community to vote on both the recall and a potential replacement to serve the remainder of the official's term.*

**PROPOSED RECALL PROVISION BYLAW**

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

Any officer elected by the voters of the Bonnet Shores Fire District on or after the effective date of this section 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. All petition signatures must be submitted in written form and signed by hand by qualified voters. Within ten (10) business days of submission, the Tax Assessors shall verify that all written signatures 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. At the same meeting and on the same ballot as the recall vote, the qualified voters shall also vote to elect a successor to serve the remainder of the term of any officer subject to recall. Candidates for successor shall be identified and qualified in advance of the meeting in accordance with procedures established by the District Council. The successor candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected contingent upon approval of the recall. Approval of the recalled official shall require (i) the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified voters present and voting at the meeting, and (ii) attendance at the meeting by a number of qualified voters equal to at least forty percent (40%) of the total number of voters who cast ballots in the election at which the officer being recalled was elected. If the recall vote succeeds, the recalled officer shall be removed from office immediately upon certification of the vote, and the successor elected at the same meeting shall immediately assume office for the remainder of the unexpired term. If the recall vote fails, the successor vote shall have no effect. 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.

*This bylaw shall take effect immediately upon adoption at the Annual Meeting.*