

**Onset Fire District**  
***By-Law Review Committee***

*15 Sand Pond Road, PO Box 44*  
*Onset, Massachusetts 02558-0044*  
*508-295-6090*

***MEETING NOTICE***

***Meeting Date: September 5, 2019 7:00PM***

***Location: 15 Sand Pond Road, Onset, MA***

1. Open Meeting

Robert Brousseau opens the meeting at 7:02PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present are Chief Goodwin, Jovina Dean, Ken Fontes, Pamela Pike, Karl Baptiste Members. Melissa Goodell Recording Secretary, Charles Klueber citizen. Absent Len Gay Member.

2. Elect Chairperson and Clerk for the By-Law Committee

Chief Goodwin nominates Robert Brousseau to remain as Chairperson of the By-Law Committee. Jovina Dean seconds the motion, vote 6-0-0.

There is discussion about how to fill the Clerk position and who will be keeping the minutes for future meetings. A decision on nominating a Clerk for the By-Law Committee is put on hold to be discussed at the next meeting. Pamela Pike suggests taping the meeting and having them transcribed in the District office.

3. Discuss and solicit ideas for changes to the By-Laws

Chief Goodwin states he would like to have the wording in the By-Laws changed to reflect a strong chief and not Board of Engineers, only a Chief and one Deputy Engineer. Chief Goodwin states it is difficult to operate day to day at the fire department when a Board of Engineers vote is needed. Chief Goodwin states most Districts have done away with the Board of Engineers and have gone with a “strong chief”.

Karl Baptiste states that would be fine with the current Chief but could be detrimental with a future Chief.

Charles Klueber reads M.G.L. C48, S42 which deals with the definition and responsibilities of a strong chief.

There is discussion among members if it would be beneficial to the District to change the wording in the By-Laws to present at District Meeting instead of adopting the M.G.L. at District Meeting.

Pamela Pike requests an email be sent to Attorney Sumners asking if:

Can a strong chief be written into the By-Laws without adopting M.G.L.

Do By-Law changes for the District need to go through legislature.

4. Discuss dates for future meetings.

It is decided to meet again on October 2, 2019 at 5:00PM. Robert Brousseau asks that the members review the By-Laws and be prepared to offer suggestions for changes.

5. Items not reasonably anticipated by the chair 48 hours in advance of this meeting

There are none.

Motion to adjourn by Chief Goodwin at 8:02PM. Pamela Pike seconds the motion, vote 6-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted

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Melissa Goodell Recording Secretary

By-Law Committee

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Robert Brousseau Chairman

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Chief Goodwin

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Pamela Pike

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Len Gay

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Jovina Dean

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Ken Fontes

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Karl Baptiste

Documents Used: Agenda, By-Laws