

SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

BYLAW NO. 59

A bylaw to provide for the establishment
and operation of a fire department

This supersedes Bylaw No. 15

The Trustees of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District
ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1. In this bylaw, words and phrases shall be construed as specified hereunder;

"Apparatus" - means any vehicle provided with machinery, devices, equipment or materials for firefighting and assistance response as well as vehicles used to transport firefighters of supplies.

"Board" - means the Board of Trustees for the District.

"Equipment" - means any tools, contrivances, devices or materials used by the Fire Department to combat an incident or other emergency.

"Fire Chief" - means the member appointed as head of the Fire Department.

"Fire Protection" - means all aspects of fire safety including but not limited to fire prevention, firefighting or suppression, pre-fire planning, fire investigation, public education and information, training or other staff development.

"Incident" - means a fire or situation where a fire or explosion is imminent and includes assistance response circumstances described in Section 7 or any other situation presenting a danger or possible danger to life or property and to which the Fire Department has responded.

"Member" - means any person that is a duly appointed member of the Fire Department.

2. There is hereby established a fire department to be known as the Fire Department.

3. The Fire Chief shall be appointed by the Board.
4. Other offices and members as the Fire Chief deems necessary, may be appointed to the Fire Department with the approval of the Board.
5. The Fire Chief may appoint other officers of the Fire Department to act as Fire Chief on his behalf.
6. The limits of the jurisdiction of the Fire Chief, and the officer and members of the Fire Department will extend to the area and boundary of the Salt Spring Fire Protection District, and no part of the fire apparatus shall be used beyond the limits of the District without the express authorization of a written contract or agreement providing for the supply for firefighting services or assistance response outside the district boundary.
7. The Fire Chief has complete responsibility and authority over the Fire Department subject to the direction and control of the Board to which he shall be responsible and in particular, he shall be required to carry out all fire protection activities, assistance response and such other activities as the Board directs including, but not limited to:
 - a) first response to medical emergencies
 - b) rescue operations
 - c) mutual aid to other fire services
 - d) response to hazardous material incidents
 - e) public service
8. The Fire Chief, subject to the ratification by the Board, shall establish rules, regulations policies and committees necessary for the proper organization and administration of the Fire Department, including, but not limited to:
 - a) use, care and protection of Fire Department property
 - b) the conduct and discipline of officers and members of the Fire Department, and
 - c) efficient operations of the Fire Department
9. The Fire Chief, or in his absence, the senior ranking member present, shall have control, direction and management of all Fire Department apparatus, equipment or manpower assigned to an incident and where a member is in charge, he/she shall continue to act until relieved by an officer authorized to do so.

10. The Fire Chief shall take responsibility for all fire protection matters including the enforcement of the Fire Services Act and regulations thereunder and shall assume the responsibilities of the Local Assistant to the Fire Commissioner.
11. Officers and members of the Fire Department shall carry out duties and responsibilities assigned to the Fire Department by the Board, and the Fire Chief shall report to the Board on the operations of the Fire Department or on any other matter in the manner designated by the Board.
12. The Board shall determine the remuneration of all members of the Fire Department.
13. Any member of the Fire Department may be suspended or discharged by the Fire Chief at any time he may deem such action necessary for the good of the Fire Department, provided however, that the member so discharged or suspended by the Fire Chief, may within seven days, appeal in writing to the Board who shall within two weeks hold a hearing and either order that the member so suspended or discharged be reinstated, or that the action of the Fire Chief be confirmed.
14. The Fire Chief or any other member in charge at a fire is empowered to cause a building, structure or thing to be pulled down, demolished or otherwise removed if he deems it necessary to prevent the spread of fire to other buildings, structures, or things.
15. The Fire Chief, or any other member in charge at an incident, is empowered to enter premises or property where the incident occurred and to cause any member, apparatus or equipment of the Fire Department to enter, as he deems necessary, in order to combat, control or deal with the incident.
16. The Fire Chief, or any other member in charge at an incident, is empowered to enter, pass through or over buildings or property adjacent to an incident and to cause members of the Fire Department and the apparatus and equipment of the Fire Department to enter or pass through or over building or property, where he deems it necessary to gain access to the incident or to protect any person or property.
17. The Fire Chief, or the member in charge at an incident, may at his discretion, establish boundaries or limits and keep persons from entering the area within the prescribed boundaries or limits unless authorized by him.

18. No person shall enter the boundaries or limits of an area prescribed in accordance with section 17 unless he has been authorized to enter by the Fire Chief of the member in charge.
19. The Fire Chief, or member in charge, at any incident may request peace officers to enforce restrictions on persons entering within the boundaries or limits outlined in section 17.
20. The Fire Chief may obtain assistance from other officials of the District as he deems necessary in order to discharge his duties and responsibilities under this bylaw.
21. No person at an incident shall impede, obstruct, or hinder a member of the Fire Department or other person assisting or acting under the direction of the Fire Chief or the member in charge.
22. No person shall damage or destroy Fire Department apparatus or equipment.
23. No person at an incident shall drive a vehicle over any equipment without permission of the Fire Chief or member in charge.
24. No person shall falsely represent themselves as a Fire Department member.
25. No person shall obstruct or otherwise interfere with access roads or streets or other approaches to any fire incident, fire hydrant, cistern or body of water designated for firefighting purposes.
26. The Fire Chief of the member in charge of an incident may request persons who are not members to assist in extinguishing a fire, removing furniture, goods and merchandise from any building on fire or in danger thereof and in guarding or securing same and in demolishing a building or structure at or near the fire or other incident.
27. The Fire Chief or member in charge of an incident is empowered to commandeer privately-owned equipment which he considers necessary to deal with an incident. Remuneration rates shall be set out annually by the Board.

28. Every person who violates any of the provisions of this bylaw, or who suffers or permits any act or thing to be done in contravention or in violation of any of the provisions of this bylaw, or who neglects to do or refrains from doing anything required to be done by any of the provisions of this bylaw, or who does any act or thing or omits an act or things thus violating any or the provisions in this bylaw shall be deemed to have committed an offence, and upon a summary conviction is liable to imprisonment, for a term of not more than six months or to a fine to not more than \$2,500 or to both fine and imprisonment.
29. This bylaw may be cited as the Fire Department Establishment and Operations Bylaw."

INTRODUCED and given first reading by the Trustees on the day of August 17, 1992.

RECONSIDERED and finally passed by the Trustees on the day of August 17, 1992.



Chairman of the Trustees


Secretary of the Trustees

I hereby certify under the seal of Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District that this is a true copy of Bylaw No. 59 passed by the Trustees on the 17 day of August, 1992.


Secretary of the Trustees

*A true copy of By-Law No. 59
registered in the office of the Inspector
of Municipalities this 4 day of
December 1992.*


Deputy Inspector of Municipalities