

9/07/2022 Sorrento Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes

Attending via Zoom were Select Board Chairman Rob Wilpan, Selectman Jon Mickel, Selectmen Craig Clement, Town Clerk Kathi Moore, Fire Chief Joey Clark, Ann Blood, Susan Clancy-Dougherty, Dan Dougherty, Pat Dougherty, Malachy Flynn, Diana Gazis, Becky Leise, Amanda Mickel, Ted Preuss, Peggy Scott, John Singer, Lensa Woodward-Neleski and Bob Worrell.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Rob Wilpan. Rob announced that it is a very busy meeting and the prime purpose is for the Warrant. The first order of business will be opening of the Snowplow bids, and the meeting will be dedicated to the Warrant, there will not be time for anything else.

John Singer asked the Selectmen about scheduling an open meeting to talk about paper streets/roads. Rob said it's a complicated issue, many of the conflicts over the use of paper roads for access to the shore result in lawsuits and court time, the Town's attorney has advised the town that we cannot give permits for someone to modify someone else's land. In order to answer the questions around paper roads and rights of way we would have to have a whole panel of experts but ultimately it's up to a judge, so people are left to their own resources (or lawyers) to answer their questions. Jon said there are great resources on the internet with a simple Google search.

SEALED BIDS: Only one bid was received for Snow Plowing/Sanding for the 2022-2023 season and it is from TR Construction in the amount of \$91,000 in 6 equal installments plus reimbursement for fuel over \$5/gallon. Seeing that there were no other bids, Rob made a motion to accept the bid from TR Construction, Jon seconded, unanimous vote, motion passed.

MINUTES: Jon read the 8/17/2022 minutes and Rob made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Jon, unanimous vote, motion passed. Rob read the 8/24/2022 SPECIAL MEETING minutes. Rob made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Jon, unanimous vote, motion passed.

UPDATE ON DOANE'S POINT SIGN: Joey reported that the post and sign are up.

UPDATE ON RADAR SIGN RETURN: Kathi reported the sign has been picked up and we are waiting for credit from the Vendor.

UPDATE ON PROPOSED HARBOR ORDINANCE AMENDMENT: The approved amendment was added to the Warrant.

UPDATE ON CAPACITY TAG AT COMMUNITY BUILDING: Joey reported he has a meeting scheduled with a rep from the Fire Marshall's office on Sept. 19.

UPDATE ON WATER ISSUE AT NEW SCHOOL: Rob reported he received a quote on the water tanks and forwarded it to the school district and architect.

UPDATE ON QUOTES FOR REPAIRING ISSUES AT COMMUNITY BUILDING: Rob said he and Scott went over the various projects in the Community Building. There was a discussion about how to fix the water pooling at the front of the building. Joey is to take a look at the area in question and give his suggestions at the next meeting.

UPDATE ON POND STREET/OCEAN AVE SPEEDERS: Jon is waiting on a call back from the HCSO. He will follow up with them.

UPDATE ON SHARE THE ROAD SIGNS: The signs are up, plus both stop signs on Pond St are up.

UPDATE ON CENTER LINES ON WEST SHORE ROAD: The State does not do town, just state roads. Joey has 2 quotes for \$6800 each. It was agreed to pursue getting another quote.

UPDATE ON COMBINED ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER: Kathi reported the towns met on Aug 25. The County Commissioners liked the idea of the ACO being a County employee, but they need to know costs. Millard is gathering this info which he will provide to the Commissioners on Sept 20. It appears right now that the contract cost per town will be \$2500 plus each town responsible for their own mileage and hourly response time. The next ACO Zoom meeting will be on Sept 22.

UPDATE ON TOWN ELECTRIC ISSUES: Rob reported that the key to the Village Green electric box could not be found. The existing lock will be cut and he is getting a padlock with a combination, and then the electrician can get in there. Regarding the service to the pier, the panel needs to be replaced but the pole looks ok. Vance will get back to us about digging for the conduit to the proposed LED sign.

UPDATE ON DOCK RAILINGS: MMA hasn't gotten back to Rob.

UPDATE ON MSB CREDIT CARDS: The cards for Rob and Kathi are in. Kathi will order a card for Joey.

UPDATE ON UPGRADE TO TRIO SOFTWARE: Roy is working on providing Rob with a quote for a designated "server" computer. The upgrade has been added to the Warrant for the Town vote on.

UPDATE ON TOWN OFFICE AUTOMATIC DOOR: Kathi reported that Door Control Inc. showed up the next day, they installed a new master control, new switch and new decals for \$1700.

UPDATE ON WAUKEAG WATER LEAK: Diana said that the leak is in the dedicated line for West Cove Boat Yard. They have agreed to have it fixed.

NEW BUSINESS:

THE WARRANT: Rob shared the "working" Warrant on his screen.

Donations: Bob Worrell from Open Door Recovery Center, who was in attendance, said they will not be requesting a donation this year and will wait until they are actually open; he appreciates the Town's continued support. Because we received no request, the following organizations were removed from the donation list: DE Family YMCA, Ellsworth Public Library, Emmaus Homeless Shelter, Health Equity Alliance and Yesterday's Children. Kathi sent out reminder emails to each org a couple of weeks ago, which they did not respond to. There is a balance of \$460 in the Senior Wellness Committee account. After a discussion it was agreed to donate the funds to Friends in Action Senior Center.

New Committee: Joey would like to see a monument/memorial built at the old fire house property to honor Sorrento fire fighters who have passed. He wants to form a committee and form an account for donations. It won't be a rush job, he wants to get drawings, quotes, etc. This will be added to the Warrant.

There was a question that came up on chat which Kathi read aloud: *"Should there be a vote to see if we can set up a committee to look into paper roads in Sorrento"*. Rob said no, it's just a can of worms the Town has to stay away from. Jon said the whole issue directly affects the Town so some awareness among voters would be appropriate. Diana said people don't know anything about paper roads. Rob said he will have the Town Attorney issue a statement on this issue and it can be put in the newsletter. Jon said he is aware that the Town's Code Enforcement Officer has issued building permits in the unextinguished rights of way and as a town do we want to continue the Code Enforcement Officer to do so? We want to encourage land owners to properly extinguish easements to rights of way before Code Enforcement issues permits. Right now this is being ignored entirely by Code Enforcement. We need to instruct our CEO to be very careful when granting building permits on these unextinguished rights of way. Rob said he will forward this concern to the Town Attorney also to create a statement advising people of that as well.

Kathi brought up that building and plumbing permits are not being kept at the town office any more, it is public information and we should have copies at the least. Rob said to ask the CEO to return them so we have access them. Scan them as soon as they are applied for.

The Selectmen completed the Warrant, except for the LD1 article which required calculations involving the proposed expenditures, prior to signing the Warrant.

Rob made a motion to adjourn at 10:19, seconded by Jon, unanimous vote, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted on 9/21/2022 by Kathi Moore, Town Clerk