

8/9/2023 Sorrento Select Board Meeting Minutes

Attending in person at the Sorrento Community Building were Selectmen Rob Wilpan, Selectwoman Diana Gazis, Town Clerk Kathi Moore, Deputy Clerk Joanne Holmes, Sorrento residents plus attendees via Zoom.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Rob Wilpan.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Barry Malmrose announced he will be going door to door with a retirement book for residents and USPS customers of Rusty Gordon; a contract USPS mail carrier in Sullivan, Sorrento and Franklin for 35 years. As a contract mail carrier, Rusty does not receive a pension so donations of appreciation of his service will be accepted.

MURAL PROJECT: Connie Dedham sent an invitation to the unveiling of the mural dedicated to the 125 Year Anniversary of Sorrento. This event will be held at the Sorrento Community Building, Sunday, August 27th, at 4pm. The artist, Chris Sarro will be present to describe his work. Refreshments will be served.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Commitment letter to Auditor James W Wadman, C.P.A. to be signed; Public Safety Compliance update; Trash and furniture behind Community Building to be taken to bulky trash Saturday

MINUTES: Rob made a motion to approve the 7/19/2023 Select Board meeting minutes, seconded by Diana. Vote: Gazis aye, Wilpan aye; motion passed.

DISBURSEMENT WARRANT: Corrections were made to the Warrant #3- the 8/9/2023, voiding a \$500 check made out to Darla Crocker intended for Diana Gazis. This was a yearend check for the selectmen's salary. Rob made a motion to approve Warrant #2- the 7/19/2022 Disbursement Warrant and Warrant #3- the 8/9/2023 Disbursement Warrant seconded by Diana. Vote: Gazis aye, Wilpan aye; motion passed and both warrants were signed by the Select Board.

MOTION TO RESCIND CHECK #54638: Dispute between Kathi Moore and Rob Wilpan as to whether to Select Board reviewed the July 19th Warrant containing check before signing. Rob made a motion to rescind check # 54638 for \$2000 to Taylor, McCormack & Frame, LLC which is the law firm Kathi Moore contracted to represent her against the Town of Sorrento. Motion seconded by Diana. Wilpan aye, Gazis aye; motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MRSA SECTION 405 SECTION 6A: As per Kathi Moore's request, there was no Executive Session as all information was already available to the public against FOAA regulations. Rob stated there would be no open discussion. Diana made a motion to terminate Kathi immediately. Rob replied there was not sufficient notice in the agenda to discuss the check with the Town Clerk and made a motion to suspend Kathi Moore's employment from the Town of Sorrento without pay immediately because of her misconduct in placing a \$2000 check for her personal attorney on the July 19th Warrant despite the Select Board never giving approval of the town paying for her attorney. The fiduciary duty of the Town Treasurer is to act in the town's interest not in her own personal interest. If requested in writing by Kathi, a disciplinary hearing will be scheduled August 16, 2023 at 7PM at the beginning of the Select Board meeting. Motion seconded by Diana. Gazis aye, Wilpan aye; motion passed.

MEETING PAUSED: Kathi retrieved personal belongings

On return Rob made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Diana. Vote: Gazis aye, Wilpan aye, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted on 8/14/2023 by Joanne Holmes, Deputy Town Clerk