

## 9/01/2021 Sorrento Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes

Attending via Zoom were Rob Wilpan, Jon Mickel, Craig Clement, Kathi Moore, Joey Clark, Diana Gazis, Daniel Dougherty, Lynn Stone, Tish Noyes, Zelinda Welch and Susan Clancy-Dougherty and Tom Bailey. The meeting was called to order at 7:28 p.m. by Rob Wilpan.

1. Minutes:  
The 08-18-2021 meeting minutes were read by Jon and amendments were made. Rob made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Craig, unanimous vote, motion approved.
2. Update on Firehouse roof replacement:  
Joey received a verbal 2<sup>nd</sup> metal roof estimate from Chip Howell Builders for \$19,800 complete. Joey will arrange a meeting so a confirmed quote can be done.
3. Update on Community Building repairs:  
Joey reported that the last roll of tape arrived today and he will have the job completed by the end of next week. Seacoast Security has installed a new heat sensor. Rob mentioned that the screws are visible in the sheetrock and needs to have one coat of spackle over them.
4. Update on town pier:  
Rob reported that the pier is good to go until next season. He is working on getting more quotes.
5. Update on Traffic Logix Software:  
Jon reported that Roy has not gotten back to him with a date to install the software. Greg Ring stopped by his office and offered to install the software on a flash drive.
6. Update on heat pumps:  
Still waiting for installation by Valley Home Services. Rob asked Kathi to call them for a status.
7. Update on Versant subcontractor debris:  
Rob still has had no reply from Versant's Manager.
8. Update on installing new chlorinator at the rental building system:  
Joey reported that Bobby Merchant, of Haslam, is very interested in doing this project, but it won't be until next spring. The cost was not discussed. Also, the issue on Win White's system was due to the pump not being bolted down. He suggested contacting American Concrete to see if they can install the chlorinator, Rob asked him to check it out.
9. Update on the Fire House Floor drain cracks:  
Joey suggested this be tabled until next year since there is already a lot going on.
10. Update on basement lightbulbs @ the Community Building:  
Joey reported that new bulbs have been ordered.
11. Update on replacing the firehouse lights with LEDs:  
It was decided that self-install is a substantial liability. Joey will look for additional quotes.

12. Update on winter salt delivery:

Joey is waiting for a call back from Morton Salt.

13. Downtown speed limit:

Jon said he has been reading the laws on changing speed limits. The State will measure the speed (unobstructed) and adjust to 85% so the new speed limit could possibly be higher than it is currently. Law enforcement patrol remains the most effective means. The speed currently on the Traffic Logix sign is 30 and he will adjust it to 25 and place downtown. Joey said that after Labor Day the lobster pound is turning trucks the same way out as in. Susan added this is being down now. Regarding the parking issue downtown, Jon reported the signage painted on the side of the road is working so far, but the vegetation needs to be cut back more on the beach side. Jon also noted that there may possibly be room for more parking at Isaac's Beach using the Town owned property; Joey said cannonballs were found in that area so it would be best to check with the Historical Society first.

14. Parking at Doane's Point (Isaac's) Beach:

Jon emailed Joey with the wording so he can order the sign.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

American Aquafarms: Rob has communicated with neighboring town; 50% are against the proposed salmon farm, 40% need to look into it further and the rest knows nothing about it. The DMR has only accepted the application so far; they have not issued or approved a permit. Rob made a motion to add an article on the warrant to see if the Town will vote to oppose the American Aquafarms Salmon Project in Frenchman Bay and support the Sorrento Board of Selectmen to seek intervenor status. Jon seconded, unanimous vote, motion passed.

Rob said he would like to hold the upcoming town meeting at the Sorrento-Sullivan Rec Center since there is more room to spread out. Kathi checked and it is available on Monday Sept. 27. Rob made a motion to hold the 2021 town meeting at the Rec Center, Jon seconded, unanimous vote, motion passed.

Zelinda Welch asked for an update on the cutback of overgrowth across the street from her residence. Rob said Tom Fox is currently in Europe and when he returns he will start.

Lynn Stone asked the Board if they have had any conversations about registering or taxing short-term rentals in Sorrento. She asked if a house is not owner occupied isn't it considered a business. She is concerned about fire or damage to the town as the house across the street from her is a rental property listed on Air B&B. They had an outside fire so she went over to the house and was told by the property manager to leave, so she called the Fire Chief. Joey said he went to inspect the outside "fire ring" area, spoke with the property manager and made several recommendations. A discussion followed about the rising number of rental properties listed on rental sites and it is time to think about how to handle it. Jon made a motion that the Board accepts a proposal from Lynn on the possibility of taxing or requiring a permit for Air B&Bs/Rentals/Inspections.

Tish Noyes brought up her concerns about the speed limit on East Side Road and begged the Board to do something. She said the area is now commercialized and is a speeding hazard. Jon said a request can be made to that law enforcement to ramp up patrol and the town is using a radar trailer. The Town can petition the State but the selectmen decided not to do so at this time. Rob made a motion to increase law enforcement patrol frequency for September, Craig seconded, unanimous vote, motion passed.

Jon said he would like to make a request that his private road be named Hillside Drive. Rob made a motion to name Jon's road to Hillside Drive, Craig seconded, motion passed. Jon abstained from the vote.

At 8:50 there was a short break, after which the meeting continued with a Warrant Workshop.

Respectfully submitted by Kathi Moore, Town Clerk  
9/14/2021