

01/18/2023 Sorrento Select Board Meeting Minutes

Attending via Zoom were Select Board Chair Rob Wilpan, Selectman Jon Mickel (also in person at the Town Office), Selectwoman Diana Gazis, Town Clerk Kathi Moore, Fire Chief Joey Clark, Tom Bailey, Ann Blood, Susan Clancy-Dougherty, Darla Crocker, Dan Dougherty, Pat Dougherty, Malachy Flynn, Ann Hoffner, Amanda Mickel, Dean Potashner, Ted Preuss, Trina Wellman and Wendy Worrell. Attending in person at the Town Office was Tim Guyette.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Rob Wilpan.

IN-PERSON MEETING OPTION: Jon asked that the minutes reflect if anybody wants to attend a Select Board meeting in person they are welcome to join him at the Town Office.

1) PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing was held to review the Junkyard Permit renewal application by Guyette's, Inc. Guyette's was represented by Tim Guyette. Rob asked the Select Board and audience if they had any questions, there were none. Rob made a motion to renew the permit for one year, seconded by Jon, unanimous vote, motion passed.

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Rob made a motion to approve the 12/21/2022 meeting minutes as amended. There was a discussion about an amendment Rob made. Jon made a motion to approve the 12/21/2022 minutes as re-amended, seconded by Diana, unanimous vote, motion passed. Rob made a motion to approve the 1/04/2023 meeting minutes, seconded by Diana, unanimous vote, motion passed.

3) UPDATE ON HARBOR POWER: No update

4) UPDATE ON HARBOR RAILING: Rob reported no quote yet.

5) UPDATE ON KEARSARGE AVE/WEST SHORE ROAD VEGETATION CLEARING: Joey talked with Craig from Hyde Point; he is down to one man and will get to it within a couple of weeks.

6) UPDATE ON TOWN ROAD INVENTORY: Rob plans on having the Google drive up and ready by the next meeting.

7) UPDATE ON WEST SHORE ROAD STRIPING: Rob got an email from someone talking about the need for maintenance on the West Shore Road and said that should be considered before striping. Kathi asked what maintenance is needed, Joey said hot top patching.

8) UPDATE ON COMMUNITY BUILDING BOILER: Jon reported that the part has not arrived yet and Steve is trying to find out when it will arrive.

9) UPDATE ON SEPARATING SVFD AUXILLIARY FROM THE FIRE DEPT: Rob requested help concerning separating the Auxiliary from the Fire Department but he has nothing to bring to the table yet, possibly by the next meeting. Kathi asked who he requested help from; Town Attorney Dan Pileggi and Auditor Jim Wadman.

10) UPDATE ON TAX MAP UPDATES: Rob worked with the group; they are getting close the finished product.

11) UPDATE ON COMBINED ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER: The County is now accepting contracts from interested municipalities; the annual cost is \$2500 plus mileage and hourly pay. Rob made a motion to approve the 2023 contract, seconded by Jon, unanimous vote, motion passed.

12) UPDATE ON PLANNING GRANT:

- 1) DEEDS: Rob spoke with Melissa, the planning grant will not be usable for any kind of deed/road research unless right on the shore.
- 2) EROSION MITIGATION PLANNING: Erosion mitigation planning is appropriate for town owned property only. He would like to seek out professionals that do more than provide erosion control with just stone. The grant would pay for ¾ of the cost.

13) UPDATE ON MAINE DEPT OF LABOR: Joey reported the Maine Department of Labor has scheduled their inspection of all Town offices for February 21, 2023.

NEW BUSINESS:

REPLACEMENT OF PIER RAMP & GRANT: Lou received a quote from Henri at Custom Float Services to replace the existing wooden town ramp with a 3'6" x 46' arch style aluminum ramp, quote includes removal of old ramp and installation, total \$22,260. The length eliminates the need for the platform. Jon wants to get a 2nd quote from another company, such as Superior Docks just for comparison purposes. Lou can apply for a grant that would contribute \$15,000 towards this project which he would apply for in April; the ramp would be installed in 2024. Rob made a motion to give Lou the go-ahead to apply for the grant, seconded by Jon, unanimous vote, motion passed.

REVIEW OF RENTAL CONTRACT FOR OLD FIREHOUSE WITH SVIA: Kathi requested that the Select Board review the rental contract between the Town and the S.V.I.A. for leasing the downstairs of the building. The existing contract was signed in 2014 and has not been reviewed since. They are paying \$1500 a year for boat storage. Jon is concerned about continued maintenance of the building and that \$1500 a year doesn't cover it, we should definitely consider getting more money for the lease or consider selling the building. What is the fair market value of an unheated 2 car garage? Diana is against selling the building. Rob asked if anyone wanted to make a motion for a new rental agreement price. It was agreed to get more information before agreeing on a price. Jon requested an analysis on what the property costs annually; mowing, insurance, sweeping the parking lot, etc. Kathi said she will get this info for the next meeting.

E-911 ADDRESSING OFFICER TRAINING: Joey reported that the training has been rescheduled to this Tuesday but Darlene hasn't received anything via email yet.

OVERHEAD DOOR:

A) MAINTENANCE CONTRACT: Rob made a motion to approve the 2023 Planned Maintenance Program, seconded by Jon, unanimous vote, motion passed.

B) QUOTE FOR REPLACEMENT OF UPPER DOOR FOR SAND/SALT SHED: The first quote was for \$6995 but Rob asked them to requote without the electric motor, 2nd quote is \$5340. Joey asked Rob to make sure the door is zinc coated the same as what the DOT has. Rob could not find his quote to forward to Joey. TABLED until Rob can find the email with the quote.

TOWN GREEN EROSION: There has been 3' of erosion at the Village Green, right up to the bench. Joey will talk with Josh about adding stone as a temporary fix; Rob will ask CEO Mike G about the necessary permits.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Kathi reported to the Select Board that she is having an issue receiving sales receipts from the Fire Department for fuel purchases, she has been asking for this for the last 6 months. Just for the month of December fuel purchases totaled \$1200 with only 2 sales receipts received. The Select Board agreed that the FD needs to provide receipts for all purchases.

Jon said it was recently brought to his attention that a new green fire truck is being used by the Sorrento FD with no discussion or approval by the Board about commissioning a new fire truck. Joey said it was temporarily parked in the fire station last winter and the Park Service wanted to give it to the SFD. It is a 1988 Pierce Arrow 1000 gallon pumper truck. Jon asked Joey if he received the bill of sale and title for it and said decisions as this should be discussed with the Board prior to accepting any new apparatus. Joey said it has already been added onto the Town's insurance policy but not registered and no license plate. Rob said this truck has capabilities that are useful but adds a redundancy as it has similar functions as the forestry truck. He asked Joey what value it has if we were to sell it; Joey said the Federal Government said it was worth \$104,000 if they had sold it. Jon said we should seriously think about how much we need this truck vs getting some money for it. He asked Kathi to check and see if municipal vehicles are required to have license plates.

BUILDING PERMIT APPEAL: Jon wanted to discuss the email the Select Board received from the Dougherty's attorney regarding their building permit appeal. Rob said CEO Mike Gurtler has been working with the Doughertys and the Town Attorney and an agreeable conclusion was not met so they want to appeal. The town does not have a Board of Appeals and the Select Board cannot stand in as the Board of Appeals so it goes to Superior Court unless all parties can settle. Jon said their attorney questioned the legitimacy of our Land Use Ordinance; Rob said that's the lawyer talking, it's not considered a problem on our side. Jon asked if the Land Use Ordinance was created by an attorney/did an attorney approve it. Rob said there is no problem with it. Dan Pileggi has been working with Mike on this situation and it's in their hands. Jon asked if there is any reason why the entire Select Board is not in the loop as Rob has been in further contact with Mike and Dan regarding this situation.

At 8:06 Rob made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Diana, unanimous vote, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted on 01/30/2023 by Kathi Moore, Town Clerk