

8/10/2022 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, Tom Bailey, Dan Dougherty, Diana Gazis, Ann Hoffner and Wendy Worrell. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Rob Wilpan.

MINUTES: Rob read the 7/27/2022 minutes and amendments were made. Rob made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Jon, unanimous vote, motion passed.

UPDATE ON DOANE'S POINT SIGN POST: Joey said the sign will be put up by Friday.

UPDATE ON RADAR SIGN RETURN: Jon forgot to look in the CB basement to see if the box from the first sign is stored there. Kathi reported she purchased packing material and the sign is all packed up and ready for shipment, just waiting for instructions from the vendor.

UPDATE ON PROPOSED HARBOR ORDINANCE AMENDMENT: Jon reported that Lou agreed to the revisions and was going to try to attend this meeting, tabled until he does.

UPDATE ON CAPACITY TAG AT COMMUNITY BUILDING: Joey reported that he will call the Fire Marshall on Friday to see what his schedule is.

UPDATE ON FIREHOUSE ROOF: Rob asked Jon and Craig if they have had a chance to look at the roof, Jon said it looks good.

UPDATE ON WATER ISSUE AT NEW SCHOOL: No solution has been found yet but they are still working on it.

UPDATE ON QUOTES FOR REPAIRING ISSUES AT COMMUNITY BUILDING: Rob asked Kathi to forward to him the info for the subcontractor that worked on the front porch

UPDATE ON POND STREET/OCEAN AVE SPEEDERS: Joey asked Jon if he has plans to place the radar sign near the Village Green, he noticed two cars flying over the speed bumps recently. Jon will move the sign there next. Joey said they need a NO THRU TRUCKS sign on Doane's Point Road at the intersection of Pond Street where it turns to dirt. A truck got lost and got stuck. Rob said to ask the lobster pound to put up the sign. Joey said they are putting up a NO RIGHT TURN sign by Joe Lewis'. Tom Bailey said there has been an incredible amount of truck traffic lately. Betsy at the lobster pound told him the trucks have a capacity of 41000# net load. Jon said if we continue to have a speeding problem we will have to do something, increased patrols or hire a part-time constable. He has received no reports yet from the Sheriff Office. Jon still hasn't fixed the glitch with the radar data but he will continue to work on it.

UPDATE ON SHARE THE ROAD SIGNS: Joey reported that the signs have been ordered and waiting on delivery.

UPDATE ON CENTER LINES ON WEST SHORE ROAD: Joey said he received another estimate that isn't much better than the first. The last time the lines were painted the cost was around \$3000. Rob asked Joey if we could hire the State to do it. Joey said he will check it out.

UPDATE ON DEBRIS PILES ON OCEAN AVENUE: The piles have been cleaned up.

UPDATE ON COMBINED ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER: Kathi said that she is attending an ACO meeting via ZOOM tomorrow the 11th and will learn more info then.

UPDATE ON OCEAN AVE DRAINAGE: Jon said we should consider widening that section of Ocean Ave, it is quite the bottle neck, parking problems and access to waterfront. There was a discussion about if the roads are owned by the Town or not. Rob said it would need a retaining wall and it would be a big budget item but worth it and we would have to negotiate with property owners. Wendy Worrell asked what area they were talking about widening; across from the seawall, south and east of Fuller's, between Howell's and Fuller's. Kathi added that Harbor Master Lou has started issuing parking violation tickets with a \$25 fine. Jokingly it was suggested making Lou a constable and give him a radar gun.

NEW BUSINESS:

Diana Gazis reported that someone talked to her about no railings on the side of the walkway from the dock to the road. If someone fell the injury could be a big lawsuit. Rob said we have to address that and also fill loam on one side of the concrete. Craig will contact Maynard to have him drop and compact a load of loam and have the lawn guy seed it. As soon as the loam is filled in Rob will ask MMA to come by to inspect the pier and they will dictate where the railing should be.

Kathi reported that she had a visit from our representative from Machias Savings Bank. She recommended we discontinue using the debit card and use credit cards instead due to increased fraud protection. They use an in-house card underwriter and everything is processed there. There can be multiple cards issued with the ability to set the limit online and the balance is paid off monthly. Rob made motion to switch to a MSB credit card, seconded by Jon, unanimous vote, motion approved.

Kathi reported that today she received a call from John Harris/Harris Downeast Disposal. He was at the salt & sand shed which is already full with bulk trash items that have been prematurely dropped off. Rob said this always happens, last month someone dropped off a bunch of lobster rope. It was agreed that the game can be positioned towards that direction to see who the culprits are.

Kathi asked if there was going to be any dedication or in memoriam for the annual report this year. Rob asked everyone to think about it, usually there are two but since there were none last year we should have three this year.

Kathi asked to discuss her email to the Selectmen regarding a proposal for the purchase of Trio municipal software. Rob shared the expense summary on his screen. The yearly cost is \$4,240.45, \$1,648.45 additional over what we are currently spending. The start-up cost is \$17,565.45 plus training. Jon said since Kathi is overwhelmed with the amount of work in the office, the options are to hire a part-time assistant, reduce the hours that the Town Office is open to the public, or purchase a software upgrade like Trio. Discussion. Rob said they will use an amount of \$20,000 for start-up costs which includes \$3000 or less for training, and they will figure out what happens to the budget when including that

cost. He made a motion that the Board strongly considers figuring out how to do it, seconded by Jon, unanimous vote, motion passed.

Jon said the laws have changed with remote board meetings. In order to have that be legit a motion needs to be made by the chair with a vote by the Board. He wanted to discuss any benefits on going back to in person meetings rather than remote. Discussion. Rob made a motion to officially continue remote Selectmen meetings using Zoom, seconded by Craig, unanimous vote, motion passed.

Joey said he received an invoice for mercury testing on the sewer system. Rob said it happens every five years. Per instructions from Travis Higgins, don't pay the invoice until he finds out who requested the testing. Kathi said she won't pay the invoice until told to do so.

Rob made a motion to adjourn at 8:08 pm, seconded by Jon, unanimous vote, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted on 8/16/2022 by Kathi Moore, Town Clerk