

02/01/2023 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, Susan Clancy-Dougherty, Darla & Mason Crocker, Dan Dougherty, Pat Dougherty, Malachy Flynn, Dwight Freeman, Ann Hoffner, Amanda Mickel, Ted Preuss, Trina Wellman and Sophia ??.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Rob Wilpan.

- 1) APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Rob made a motion to approve the 1/18/2023 minutes, seconded by Diana, unanimous vote, motion passed.
- 2) UPDATE ON HARBOR POWER:** Rob reported that Winkumpaugh Line Construction is no longer in business. He will look into who else sets poles and contact them for a quote.
- 3) UPDATE ON HARBOR RAILING:** Rob reported no quote yet. Rob will also call Superior Docks for a quote.
- 4) UPDATE ON KEARSARGE AVE/WEST SHORE ROAD VEGETATION CLEARING:** Joey reported no update.
- 5) UPDATE ON TOWN ROAD INVENTORY:** Rob reported the Google drive is set up. He will send Kathi something to put in the newsletter asking for volunteers to contribute to the inventory; they will email Rob if they want to get involved and he will issue a password to access the google document for updating. Also involved is measuring the width of pavement, location of culverts (using GPS), ownership info (fee simple or easement) and right of way documentation.
- 6) UPDATE ON TOWN RENTAL CONTRACT RENEWAL WITH SVIA:** Jon asked Kathi at the last meeting to gather the annual costs associated with the Old Firehouse rental building; \$142 for insurance, \$250 for lawn mowing, the roof was replaced in 2006 for \$7500; the building is currently insured for \$46,607 with \$15,000 contents. Jon said going forward we should require the tenant to carry renters insurance. In the past the building was rented for \$500/month to the aquaculture people for full use of the building, not just storage. The discussion will be continued at the next meeting when more info can be brought back.
- 7) UPDATE ON WEST SHORE ROAD STRIPING:** tabled
- 8) UPDATE ON COMMUNITY BUILDING BOILER FEED REPAIR:** Jon reported that Steve received the part, waiting to hear from him on when repair is to be scheduled. Jon has been added to Seacoast Security's contact list.
- 9) UPDATE ON TAX MAP UPDATES:** Rob just received the draft maps today for his review. Once the maps are done, they will be available on State GIS and HCPC website, even ahead of our own website.
- 10) UPDATE ON E-911 ADDRESSING OFFICER TRAINING:** Joey reported that Darlene has done the training and is being sent the forms and contact info that she has to have.
- 11) UPDATE ON OVERHEAD DOOR S/S SHED DOOR REPLACEMENT:** Joey confirmed that the door quotes is the correct one. The revised quote is \$5340 without the electric motor. Rob made a motion to approve the replacement of the upper garage door of the sand/salt shed as quoted, seconded by Jon,

unanimous vote, motion passed. Joey noted that the door won't be put in until it gets warmer.

12) UPDATE ON FIRE DEPARTMENT GAS RECEIPTS: The fire department has been struggling to routinely hand in fuel receipts in a timely manner to Kathi. Rob suggested to Joey a procedure he thinks will work out well. As soon as they purchase fuel take a pic of the receipt, put in the memo the truck ID and mileage, or what it's for, and email to Kathi. Jon said at a minimum having that digital scan would be great but there's got to be some sort of accountability for the hard copy as well. Kathi said it would be helpful to also have a copy of the run reports as it is difficult to verify charges to the WEX credit card statement with no slips or documentation. In reference to the emails Kathi sent to the Select Board this afternoon, Jon said it is appropriate for the Board to go into executive session. Rob wants to email Joey (cc the Board and Kathi) with the questions requiring additional information, give Joey an opportunity to respond to those and we can discuss at next meeting in executive session then. Jon said "we need to take the opportunity now to collaborate as a Board before you take it upon yourself to act without the majority of the Board; "I formally make a motion that we go into executive session citing MRS Title 1 § 405 - Discussing personnel matters that may cause harm if disclosed publically. " Diana said she finds it difficult to talk about a matter if she has only heard about it a couple of hours before and had no time to look at things, "I don't think I would be very useful." Jon said it's our job to collaborate as a Board so this is the time where we collaborate about this matter behind closed doors and have an initial discussion about how we need to move forward. "It's entirely appropriate for me to move for an executive session (long pause) hearing no second, just to clarify, you guys do not want to collaborate as a Board on the matter that was brought to our attention today via email by the Town Treasurer?" Diana said "later, not today." Rob said he thinks we can have a more effective discussion responding to Joey's response at executive session next time. Jon asked if Rob was going to collaborate with Joey on this and is he going to allow weeks to pass with no action or discussion about it? Diana said 2 weeks. Jon asked to help him understand how this is going to help them move forward, just allowing time to pass with no action. Diana said "because we will have time to think about it, to do something BANG, you can say something wrong." Jon said that's why we do it in executive session; it's our chance to collaborate as a Board; we're not allowed to do that in a public meeting, this is our only chance. Rob said as far as a response from Joey we will have that to think about as well, prior to the executive session. Jon asked a response to what? Rob said "to the email I'm going to send to everyone." Jon said just to clarify; you are going to act without collaboration from the board on this matter. Rob said ok so then let's do this in 2 stages; I will send an email with the 3 things that Kathi pointed out. Jon said we can't do that, we can't discuss things outside a public forum, it's not legal; we aren't even supposed to email each other. Diana said she is fine with an executive session 2 weeks from now when she's had time to think about it. Rob said with the concern about communication, he'll pull back on that. Rob asked Kathi to create an email to Joey asking him to explain the three things she brought up, cc the Board and discuss it next time. Kathi said there will be more than three things; she has a whole list of things that need to be discussed. Jon said that is entirely acceptable. Kathi asked if she can request an executive session. Jon said he just did and no one seconded it so I guess not; "I requested an executive session to address your concerns that hasn't been seconded." Kathi asked why she bothers even bringing things to the Board if they're not going to even discuss it; sweep it under the rug just like everything else. Jon said the motion on the floor goes unmoved, Rob said right.

13) UPDATE ON FIRE DEPARTMENT TRUCKS: Jon said at the last meeting they had concerns about which fire trucks are included under the town's insurance and asked Kathi if she had an opportunity to look further into that. She said no, not really, she is in dire need of assistance, she's swamped. Rob said obviously you spent a lot of time looking at gas receipts. She replied "I spent 3 hours today, I'm the Treasure and I am accountable for all of the money that's spent for the town and that is my job, to go

over statements. I don't have the listing with me on the vehicles but there are 5 vehicles listed on the policy, I will bring it for next time." Jon said he just wants to make sure the newly acquired truck is listed and has appropriate replacement value. Kathi said the truck is listed but for Actual Cash Value due to the age, they require an appraisal to insure for Replacement Cost. To be continued at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE: Rob reported that the quote received from Hancock County Planning Commission is \$21,760, which Rob just sent to the Select Board for review. There is \$7560 available in that account so we will need to ask voters for \$14,200 in September to complete it. We cannot commit that money now, it depends on the voters, but we can agree to move forward with the money we have. Rob made a motion that we agree to spending the \$7500 that we have to move it along as much as we can. Diana seconded. Jon has not had a chance to review the quote, he doesn't want to vote in favor of the motion at this time; he feels it is more appropriate we table this until the next meeting. Rob said some towns have people that are willing and able to do a lot of the work and the HCPC people act more as coordinators than writing actual sections, but I think it's wise with the minimal size of our committee to ask HCPC people to be responsible for more of it. This is tabled until next meeting. Jon asked what the date is of the last Comprehensive Plan, 1995.

SCANNING MINUTES BOOKS: Rob spoke with an archival librarian at Orono; they are ready to start scanning the old minutes books and will contact Kathi when they will be picking up the books. It will be done in two stages; 1) scan and return the books and give us an electronic copy 2) they will have them transcribed which is required for them to have available to the public. Kathi questioned as to whether or not the books can leave the office. Jon asked if they catalog them at all, is there any accounting or documentation on what leaves the Town Office. Kathi will look into this further.

At 7:36 Rob made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Diana, unanimous vote, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted on 02/14/2023 by Kathi Moore, Town Clerk