

**Town of Sorrento**  
**Board of Selectpersons Minutes**  
**Town Office**  
**2/21/24**

**Attending:** Hilly Crary (chair), Rob Wilpan (deputy chair), Diana Gazis, 6 observers in person, and also several observers on ZOOM.

Call to order, good news report. The meeting was called to order at 7PM. Good news was that six volunteers had gone to the village green and moved most of the storm-thrown gravel back to the beach. And that Sorrento's Amy Wheaton was named Maine PE teacher-of-the-year in 2023 by the Maine Department of Education and was recently recognized and awarded a plaque.

Adjustments. Repairs to the Community Building boiler and a request from the town clerk were added to the agenda.

Minutes of the 2/7/24 Selectboard meeting. The minutes of the previous selectboard meeting were approved. The motion to approve was made by Hilly Crary, seconded by Rob Wilpan and passed, Wilpan aye, Crary aye, Gazis aye.

Disbursement warrant #16. After a short discussion, a motion to approve the disbursement warrant was made by Hilly Crary, seconded by Rob Wilpan and passed: Gazis aye, Crary aye, Wilpan aye. The warrant was then signed by the selectpersons.

Repairs to the Community Building boiler. Chris Bell explained in detail his proposed repairs for the Community Building boiler. These included taking it partially apart to replace the specific sections that needed work and would be much less expensive than replacing it with a new unit. The cost for the repairs is \$14,529.64, of which \$3000 for labor. After a lengthy discussion of accepting the bid at this time, a motion to accept the bid was made by Diana Gazis, seconded by Rob Wilpan, and passed Gazis aye, Wilpan aye, Crary abstaining.

Singer Shoreland plan. A meeting on February 10 to look at the proposed shoreland changes and have them explained was held as planned. One minor change to the plan (choosing a sucker to survive when cutting down an oak by the shore). The Singers will get estimates for the tree-cutting needed, the selectboard will make the choice of the individual doing the cutting, and the Singers will pay for the expense of cutting. Hilly Crary moved and Diana Gazis seconded that the plan be accepted, and the motion passed, Crary aye. Gazis aye, Wilpan aye.

Procurement Policy. After a short discussion, Hilly Crary moved to approve the Procurement Policy, Diana Gazis seconded the motion, and the motion passed, Crary aye, Gazis aye, Wilpan aye.

Town pier power. After an examination of a map of the dock area and a review of possible changes to the way electricity is sent to and monitored at the dock, the discussion was tabled until the next selectboard meeting.

Appoint Katie Eastman to the Budget Committee. Diana Gazis moved and Rob Wilpan seconded that Katie Eastman be appointed to the Budget Committee. The motion passed, Gazis aye, Wilpan aye, Crary aye.

Browntail moth/caterpillar. Bob Worrell explained (through Zoom) the extent of the infestation of browntail moth in Sorrento over the last 4 years, the means by which the VIA, Church of the Redeemer property, and private property owners have tried to eradicate this pest, and suggested that the town might try to eradicate this pest on Ocean Avenue. The caterpillar

devastates infected trees, and its hairs, which are released into the air, can cause a skin outbreak something like poison ivy. The selectboard decided to ask Tom Fox, who was preparing an estimate on eradication for the VIA, to prepare an estimate for the town for Ocean Avenue. Eradication needs to be done before the end of April.

Bluehost/Wix/Zoom. Wix is our service provider for our website and Bluehost is our service provider for our town email system. The internet domain names are different at the moment, being sorrentome.org for Wix and sorrentomaine.org for Bluehost. The town office ZOOM system needs to be set up in a way so that ZOOM meetings can be accessed, modified, and shared as needed. Some adjustments have been made, but more work is needed. This discussion was tabled until the next meeting, when Rob Wilpan will explain what has been done.

Request from the town clerk. Sherri requested that the selectboard write off a list of ten 2006 to 2012 individual property tax bills ranging from 0.01 to 8.04 dollars (\$31.36 total). Rob Wilpan moved, and Hilly Crary seconded that this list be written off. The motion passed, Crary aye, Gazis aye, Wilpan aye.

Public Comments on Agenda Items. There were no public comments.

Meeting Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 PM.