

9/21/2022 Sorrento Select Board Meeting Minutes

Attending via Zoom were Select Board Chairman Rob Wilpan, Selectman Jon Mickel, Town Clerk Kathi Moore, Fire Chief Joey Clark, Ben Arruda, Susan Clancy-Dougherty, Dan Dougherty, Pat Dougherty, Tom Fox, Diana Gazis, Hetty Nerod, Ted Preuss, Mary & Peter Seterdahl, John Singer & Ruth Kennedy, G. Welch, Jim Welch, Pete Welch, ? Welch, and Trina Wellman. Selectman Craig Clement was absent.

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Rob Wilpan. Jon read the 8/31/2022 SPECIAL WARRANT meeting minutes and he made a motion to approve the minutes as read, seconded by Rob, unanimous vote, motion passed. Rob read the 9/07/2022 meeting minutes and amendments were made. Jon made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Rob, unanimous vote, motion passed.

UPDATE ON WAUKEAG DRAINAGE PIPE: With some help by Bob who is working on a house on Waukeag, Rob was looking at the pipe that drains on the harbor side, it's actually a 6" clay pipe so it's not easy to locate because it's not magnetic. He will need to think further on how to do this, to be continued.

UPDATE ON AQUACULTURE MORATORIUM: Rob spoke with MMA legal, no need for a hearing since it's an open floor town meeting which allows people to have the opportunity to ask questions before the vote, so there was no public hearing.

UPDATE ON COMMUNITY SUPPORT: Rob contacted the board chairmen of the Ellsworth Public Library and DE YMCA to let them know they failed to make a request and therefore lost the opportunity to have a donation this year.

UPDATE ON RADAR SIGN RETURN: Kathi reported she is still waiting to receive credit from the vendor.

UPDATE ON CAPACITY TAG AT COMMUNITY BUILDING: Joey reported he met with the Fire Marshall's office and the capacity has been set at 80 (sitting in chairs, no tables). This will be posted on a sign inside the building in the foyer area.

UPDATE ON WATER ISSUE AT NEW SCHOOL: Rob said he is hoping to have more information soon.

UPDATE ON QUOTES FOR REPAIRING ISSUES AT COMMUNITY BUILDING: Joey said he can fix the water pooling problem with Quikrete Parking Lot Patch from Home Depot, he bought 4 bags, with any extra going into the potholes around town.

UPDATE ON POND STREET/OCEAN AVE SPEEDERS: Jon will try to touch base with HCSO on this.

UPDATE ON CENTER LINES ON WEST SHORE ROAD: The Selectmen agreed to put this out to bid and look at this again in the spring.

UPDATE ON COMBINED ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER: Kathi reported that our current ACO Marie Zwicker submitted her resignation effective Sept 30. Marie was asked about one of her assistants possibly taking over for her; she has none as they never followed thru with training. There is another Zoom meeting tomorrow 9/22. Jon made a motion that Sorrento join the County and use the county wide ACO, Rob seconded, motion passed.

UPDATE ON TOWN ELECTRIC ISSUES: Rob hasn't purchased a lock yet. He contacted Donnie Lee and he said that the codes have changed and a utility pole below extreme high tide is no longer acceptable so that's forcing our hands to do something different. Donnie suggests putting a new pole at the south end of the parking lot and running a narrow line, but Rob suggests running an underground conduit to the shelter which houses the panel, then more conduit underground to the new concrete walkway, then walkway to the pier. Jon said it's best to look at the price of both alternatives. Rob said that Donnie said to first get a work order from Versant and with that number Donnie can talk with them to see what is acceptable to code.

UPDATE ON DOCK RAILINGS: Rob met with Dan Whittier from MMA yesterday and it was a good meeting. Dan has no problem with the pier as is. He does require railings on the entrance but they simply have to be top, horizontal and middle and Rob has heights. He had no problem with not replacing the small ramp at end of gangway covering the wheels. He did suggest that the ramp off the additional platform at the very bottom should have additional mineral paper

attached as well as fixing the rotten boards on the central platform. Dan also said every year there are safety grants available for \$5,000 which we could apply for the new ramp and can be added to the grant Lou is applying for.

UPDATE ON MSB CREDIT CARDS: Kathi said the card for Joey is on order.

UPDATE ON UPGRADE TO TRIO SOFTWARE: No update.

UPDATE ON LETTER FROM TOWN ATTORNEY REGARDING PAPER STREETS: Dan Pileggi from Acadia Law sent the letter to the Selectmen and it will be put in the October newsletter

UPDATE ON BUILDING PERMITS: Kathi reported that all issued permits are back in the office and filed in their proper folders.

UPDATE ON TAX MAPS: Rob has been working with Tora Johnson, a professor at UMM, to digitize our property tax maps. Digitized maps are easier to update and costs less to produce. She has a paid intern and will do this for free.

NEW BUSINESS:

Rob said there is a change in the protocol for Town shoreline care and trimming as the Town needs to maintain total control over what happens with Town property. As far as in front of the Welch property, it was obvious that the work wasn't completed but with our discussion it will be completed along the same time frame as in front of Sharpe's. Going forward, from the utility pole, east of the ram to the end of town property, south of Henry Sharpe's property and beyond, Tom Fox has expressed a plan for next year for \$5,000 to continue trimming spouts and maintain invasive species and I am hoping we will get some donations to our Shoreland account to continue that process. Tom Fox of Fox Forestry spoke about the work they did this spring on Ocean Avenue; brown tail moth and apple tree pruning, and will continue with that and he has a plan on what they will do next spring. Ben Arruda, Supervising Forester, will be in charge. The plan is handling some invasive species (Multiflora Rose, Asiatic Bittersweet, Rugosa Rose and Autumn Olive) and selecting the best root stems to leave at a recommended distance, 4'-6' spacing. Tom said the original plan (in front of Welch's property) fell through because they didn't follow through with the planting. He now has a

“Prescription” – a management prescription, which recommends 4’ to 6’ spacing on the root sprouts, choosing the nicest root sprout as the winner. The prescription would be $1 \frac{1}{2}$ x the diameter of the tree in feet around the tree, so as the trees get bigger the distance between them can increase; as the trees are small they need to grow together. There are a limited number of root sprouts throughout the year chosen as the right sprout to stay but they have been cut in the past. A discussion took place with Rob, Jon, Tom Fox, Ben Arruda, John Singer, Pete & Jim Welch and Peter Seterdahl. Tom said he can work with the Selectmen and come up with a couple different ideas to present to the neighborhood and then we can make some decisions but the decision is ultimately up to the Town of Sorrento. Rob said the plan moving forward is to do the planned work at the agreed upon price, then we will discuss the possibility of cutting further and planting further and budget, present before spring time and see if neighbors agree to support. Tom will propose a budget for the plan and then we will present it at a Select Board meeting to get support for it and discuss it, take baby steps so that we actually have a plan in place and we have a budget with donations coming in to support it and then we do it.

Rob met with Hetty Nerod to discuss moving forward with the plan from several years ago regarding the storm catch basin on Waukeag Ave. Currently there are logs on top, when the logs are removed we will be able locate the catch basin. He put a request in to LPWD to mark the water main in that area, then we will need a contractor to dig over the sewer main and get a benchmark established where the top of the main is so that we can create a plan moving forward, as the depth of the pipe will determine how far we can put the catch basin from where it is.

Rob finally established town email addresses for the Planning Board, Jon and Craig. They didn’t make it into the Town Report but they will be included in the Newsletter going forward.

Jon had a resident ask him about the flooding on Bunker Road who spoke to Joey about it a while back and had not seen any progress. Joey said Josh Trundy was working on it today, he confirmed that muskrats were plugging the culverts and made quite a mess. There may be a need to replace the current 15” steel culverts, Rob said to use 18” polyethylene.

Kathi brought up a letter received from Efficiency Maine regarding financial incentives for Maine Municipalities interested in upgrading their heating, cooling and lighting systems. Maine towns with less than 5,000 people are eligible and spaces include community centers, fire stations, town halls, etc. Rob recommends 3 projects: 1) heat pump in the back room of the Community Building 2) heat pump and LED lighting in the fire department office and 3) LED lighting in the fire house. Kathi will look into how to proceed.

Rob made a motion to adjourn at 8:30, seconded by Jon, unanimous vote, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted on 10/05/2022 by Kathi Moore, Town Clerk.