

11/16/2022 Sorrento Select Board Meeting Minutes

Attending via Zoom were Select Board Chair Rob Wilpan, Selectman Jon Mickel, Selectwoman Diana Gazis, Town Clerk Kathi Moore, Tom Bailey, Chip Campbell, Susan Clancy-Dougherty, Darla and Mason Crocker, Pat Dougherty, Malachy Flynn, Ann Hoffner, Rick Knowlton, Ted Preuss, Hilly Welch-Crary, Trina Wellman and Wendy Worrell.

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

Guest Speaker, Melissa Britsch, Dept. of Marine Resources/Senior Planner of the Maine Coastal Program: Melissa manages the Shore and Harbor Planning Grant, which is what she spoke about. The grants are for \$5,000 to \$50,000 and can be used for the cost of an attorney for rights of way projects and help in determining which properties a town owns. The grant process opens in late February 2023 and there is a match requirement of 25% by the Town, cash or in kind time.

Rob read the 11/02/2022 meeting minutes and amendments were made. Rob made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Jon, unanimous vote, motion passed.

1) UPDATE ON RADAR SIGN RETURN: Kathi reported receiving a check from TrafficLogix for \$2042.59 for the return of the unused radar sign less restocking fee.

2) UPDATE ON TOWN ELECTRIC ISSUES: Rob did not get any quotes as he realized there is a problem putting a pole on south side of parking lot, it would bring the power line between the flag pole and parking lot preventing maintenance of the flag pole. One thought is to put the pole on the NE corner of the shelter and go underground from there. Someone asked about moving the flag pole. That is a thought but move it to where? To be continued.

3) UPDATE ON DOCK RAILINGS: Henri Gignoux, the contractor who the Town worked with to replace the pier, offered a quote for \$10,000 for aluminum or \$3750 for pressure treated. He is looking to see if other contractors would quote less for aluminum. The Board agreed to wait and see what he comes back with.

4) UPDATE ON WAUKEAG AVE CATCH BASIN: Tabled until Joey is in attendance.

5) UPDATE ON OCEAN AVE EROSION REPAIR: Jon said the Select Board received an email from Wendy Gamble. She is concerned about wording in the minutes, where it may have implied that the Board thought that she and Tony may have had some involvement or directed the project in some way, so she asked that we clarify things. The question was not their involvement at all, it was the fact that Joey said that their permit was used to encompass the emergency erosion repair. The questionable thing was whether the Town could use a private permit that was obtained for a different project, so at no point was the Board concerned about Wendy and Tony's involvement at all, we were just concerned about how and why the Town would use a privately obtained permit. Jon asked MMA Legal specifically that question, and because it was an emergency erosion repair to a town way no permit was actually needed, the whole thing was a moot point. An addendum was added to the 10/05/2022 minutes that this clarification was made.

6) UPDATE ON METAL DETECTOR PURCHASE: Tabled until Joey is in attendance.

7) UPDATE ON VILLAGE GREEN/SHORELINE PROPERTIES OWNERSHIP: Jon received his answer in writing from MMA Legal but does not have anything to share with the Board at this time. Rob said as he remembers their response it said that this would be an expensive project and best to be put up to a town vote. Nothing will change overnight and we need to have the town deeds worked out, he proposes that we gather what we can from all parties and see what we have before the annual meeting whether or not we need to appropriate money to go further. Jon said it needs to happen, we certainly as a town need to know what we own, and it is unacceptable that we don't. The grant might be able to fund some of these costs but if we wait until the town meeting we will miss our opportunity for the grant funding. The effort to bring together town deeds could be the contribution in kind and the grant would take care of the rest of the cost. Jon said he is willing to pursue it further. The scope of what a real estate attorney would have to do will be lessened by our efforts. If the grant will cover the attorney expense and the 25% match is able to be our time and effort put forth, then we wouldn't need a public vote to find out what the town owns; maybe what we find out might require a public vote going forward, for more expenses and further questions, the grant may be just what we are looking for.

8) TREASURE ISLAND ROAD PLOWING: Jon spoke with Josh Trundy and he is

willing to discuss an amendment to the current Snow Removal/Sanding contract. Also, Jon asked Joey to reach out to M & T Trucking who currently plows for Treasure Point Assoc. Joey had already emailed to the Board M&T's quote for plowing & sanding ½ mile of Treasure Island Rd including sand & salt \$5502. The Town's portion is 740'. Rob proposes that the Town only pay for the pro-rated amount of \$1600 and Josh can come back with what 740' is worth to him to not plow. Jon said Josh is not interested in maintaining that section of road. Jon will follow up with Joey and ask him to get M&T to submit a contract for us to agree on, as well as a Certificate of Insurance, to review and sign at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

10) The Select Board approved the 2022 Tax Commitment. The mil rate is 11.10, an increase from 10.00, primarily due to the increase in our share of the RSU 24 assessment. Rob made a motion to approve the commitment, 2nd by Jon, unanimous vote, motion passed.

11) Jon discussed a letter received from Gerald Mehl of West Shore Road which Kathi had emailed to the Board. He expressed concern about the restricted visibility of his driveway, speeding and lack of center lines. Jon will send him a response, indicating that 1) his neighbor purchased a Hidden Drive sign which Joey is having installed ASAP; 2) the traffic radar sign has been placed on West Shore Road several times in the past 2 months; 3) the bid for center lines had been declined due to the cost. It was agreed that in the spring we will put out to bid center line painting in the newspaper which then goes into a state-wide database.

Rob made a motion that we make a larger attempt to get a favorable bid to get a center line painted on West Shore Road, 2nd by Diana, unanimous vote, motion passed. The radar sign is currently down due to technical issues. Jon will place the sign Mehl's house when it is back in operation.

Rob made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 pm, seconded by Jon, unanimous vote, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted on 11/30/2022 by Kathi Moore, Town Clerk.