

10/05/2022 Sorrento Select Board Meeting Minutes

Attending via Zoom were Select Board Chair Rob Wilpan, Selectman Jon Mickel, Selectwoman Diana Gazis, Town Clerk Kathi Moore, Fire Chief Joey Clark, Tom Bailey, Susan Clancy-Dougherty, Dan Dougherty, Pat Dougherty, Malachy Flynn, Ann Hoffner, Ruth Kennedy and John Singer.

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Rob Wilpan. Diana read the 9/21/2022 meeting minutes. Jon made a motion to approve the minutes as read, seconded by Rob, unanimous vote, motion passed.

UPDATE ON WAUKEAG DRAINAGE PIPE: Rob's thought is, with GPS locate the drain on the road and drain on ocean side and make an estimated location from there.

UPDATE ON RADAR SIGN RETURN: Kathi received an email from the Vendor that they are sending us a check for \$2042.59. The restocking fee is \$907 which is quite a bit more than what was quoted to Jon. He will follow up with the sales rep to find out what is going on.

UPDATE ON WATER ISSUE AT NEW SCHOOL: Rob contacted two companies who provide water; one said no due to the distance to travel, the other provided a quote which very expensive, he forwarded the info to the superintendent's office.

UPDATE ON COMMUNITY BUILDING REPAIRS: Joey applied the pavement patch, he will check for settling after it rains and apply more as needed.

UPDATE ON POND ST/OCEAN AVE SPEEDERS: Jon spoke with the Sherriff's office, one question they had is when we want their patrols to end. Rob said now, Jon will call them back with this info.

UPDATE ON COMBINED ACO: The ACO job description is currently being worked on. They will be asking more towns (Amherst, Aurora, Eastbrook, Mariaville, Osborn, Otis and Waltham) to see if they want to join which will reduce the participation cost per town.

UPDATE ON TOWN ELECTRIC ISSUES: Rob hasn't contacted Versant yet.

UPDATE ON DOCK RAILINGS: Rob contacted Henri about railings. He inspected the site and drew up some railings, using the same gauge heights as the handrail on the pier but extended further than MMA's suggestion, to the 2nd expansion cut. Do we want to go by Henri's suggestion, or MMA's? It was agreed to get a quote based on Henri's drawing.

UPDATE ON MSB CREDIT CARDS: Joey's card is in and he needs to inform Kathi when he needs funds loaded onto it.

UPDATE ON TAX MAPS: Rob added that there is a possibility we can pay for their services to have accurate GPS locations recorded for things like ancient drains in Sorrento.

UPDATE ON CATCH BASIN ON WAUKEAG AVE: Rob contacted Crosby to mark the water main. Joey is to get a contractor to dig on top of the sewer line avoiding the water main and get the depth of it. A plan will then be made going forward.

UPDATE ON TOWN EMAIL ADDRESSES: Rob will have an email made for Diana.

UPDATE ON BUNKER ROAD FLOODING: Joey reported there is good water flow and a muskrat deceiver has been installed on the flow side.

UPDATE ON EFFICIENCY MAINE UPGRADES: Kathi reported she contacted them and is waiting to have a virtual meeting.

UPDATE ON TRIO SOFTWARE: During a recent phone conversation Kathi had with Assessor Mark Gibson, it was determined that we really need to add the Real Estate Assessing and Personal Property modules for an additional cost of \$6259 plus training. Mark has this module and this is how he produces our tax bills and reports. When he retires the Town Clerk will be able to make a smooth transition.

UPDATE ON ANNUAL MEETING WARRANT: Rob reported that there was an error on the Warrant which made the tax levy limit incorrect which was presented at the annual meeting on September 24. The \$21,500 to purchase TRIO should have been appropriated from Capital Improvement, not raised and appropriated, so therefore we are over the tax levy limit. A Special Town Meeting is needed to correct this error, so we can use this opportunity to amend the TRIO article for the

addition of the Real Estate Assessing module, and we will still be under the tax levy limit. The decision needs to be made at this meeting whether or not to purchase the additional TRIO module so the process for the special town meeting can be started and the warrant finalized tonight. Diana asked if the donations to Ellsworth Public Library and Downeast Family YMCA could be added onto the warrant. There was a discussion between the board members. Rob made a motion to approve \$10,000 for the Real Estate Assessing modules, seconded by Diana, unanimous vote, motion passed. Rob also made a motion to add onto the warrant donating \$1375 to Ellsworth Public Library and \$775 to DEFYMCA (same amounts as last year), seconded by Diana, unanimous vote, motion passed. The meeting will be Monday, October 17, 2022 at 7 pm at the Sorrento Community Building. Rob shared on his screen the working warrant, revisions were made and the warrant was finalized.

NEW BUSINESS:

A question was raised by Diana: During a walk today on Doane's Pt/Ocean Ave she noticed someone had put a lot of rip rap on the shore between the end of the Gamble's, all the way in front of the Younger property. Did they get permission and how can they put it in front of someone else's property? Ann said that she was with Diana on the walk and she contacted Dana Younger about it, Lou Sutherland sent him a picture and said the town was splitting the cost for this with Wendy Gamble & Tony Kuehn.* Jon said he knew nothing about this. Rob asked Joey what he knew about this. Joey reported the work was done using Gamble's existing Shoreline Stabilization Permit which expires next month. He got Josh in to repair the road so it didn't wash away. Jon asked who owns the property; Joey said where it's washed out it falls on the town's right of way. Jon asked why we are allowing somebody else's permit to take care of repairs to town property. Joey said he had the State come down and they approved using Wendy's permit, we went in, got it done so at least the road's not going to wash. Jon said with other areas in need for shoreline improvement where we don't allow adjacent property owners to have any say in what's going on seems like a double standard. Rob asked if there is the need for planting there, Diana suggested he take a look at it, Rob said maybe they all should take a look at it. Joey added that he didn't know there would be such turmoil over this, next time he will wait until it washes out.

Jon said he received a letter from a resident with some concerns about the ownership of certain stretches of Shoreland off of Ocean Ave and felt it was

appropriate to share that and asked the Board if they have a copy of the letter. Rob said at this point let's move it to the next meeting; Diana agreed stating there is not enough information to be able to discuss that in a proper way. Jon agreed in the interest of time to postpone the discussion until the next meeting.

The owner of 501 West Shore Road contacted Rob about hidden visibility when pulling out of his driveway. Joey checked it out and said we should put up some signage saying HIDDEN DRIVE and should schedule the corner from Brinton all the way around heading out of town to be trimmed back; you cannot see the man's dooryard at all. There was a discussion about what the signs should actually say, Rob said think about it and they will discuss it again at the next meeting. In the meantime, Joey is to get the trimming done ASAP.

At 8:13 Rob made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Diana, unanimous vote, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted on 10/19/2022 by Kathi Moore, Town Clerk.

***SEE THE 11/16/2022 SELECT BOARD MINUTES FOR A CLARIFICATION TO WENDY & TONY'S INVOLVEMENT WITH THIS SITUATION.**