

August 23, 2023

First I want to thank my supporters; I could not have made it through the past few weeks without you all. I appreciate everything you have done.

To the Select Board: It is very apparent that when you changed the locks on the town office and deactivated my town email the day after being suspended, you had already made your decision to terminate my employment with the Town. The Select Board wants me out and they have ever since I uncovered misuse of town funds in February. I was told that the board said they just wanted to “put a scare in me” by challenging the check and suspending me; they did not realize that by doing so many residents would support me by posting signs all over town and signing the citizen’s petition.

By terminating my employment, you have failed to follow the principles of progressive discipline. I have never received any form of corrective action from the select board. I have also never received a written job description, although I have requested one on many occasions.

The Board, supposedly being of sound body and mind, signed off on the \$2000 check to Taylor, MsCormack and Frame. I did not “sneak in” anything as the board claims. It was there on the front page of the disbursement warrant; on the email version sent to the board 2 hours before the meeting and on the original warrant signed by the board during the July 19 meeting. This means you signed the warrant without reading it first, so the voters should be asking the board what else they signed without reading first.

During the July 19 meeting, Rob questioned me about why I felt the town should pay for my legal fees. My reply was the same as it was when asked that question previously; because after I discovered misuse of Town funds and brought it to the board’s attention, they did not support me, instead they harassed me and created a toxic work environment in hopes that I would quit. I had no option, but to hire an employment attorney to protect my rights. My physical and mental health suffered through all of this and in the end, you have tainted my reputation and good name with your false accusations. This is not acceptable.

Over the past few months, the actions of the board have opened the eyes of many Sorrento voters. If you chose to terminate me, you are punishing the residents of the town more than me, as there is no one fully trained to handle everything necessary to run a municipal office and the learning curve to train a new employee can take anywhere from 6 months to a year. Fortunately, they are not inheriting an unorganized mess like I did. It appears to me that your agenda is more important than the good of the townspeople.

My attorney cannot be here tonight to represent me due to a conflicting appointment. I waive my right to a closed executive session and opt to have this ‘disciplinary’ hearing open to the public, and I appoint Slay Savage and Harold Page to speak on my behalf. I expect that public comments or questions be strictly prohibited during the hearing.

Kathi H. Moore