

SORRENTO NEWSLETTER

March 2024

79 Pomola Avenue, Sorrento, ME 04677 ☎Tel (207) 422-6889 ☎Fax (207) 422-3737
townoffice@sorrentomaine.org

“Be the reason someone smiles.
Be the reason someone feels loved and believes in the goodness in people.”
— Roy T. Bennett, The Light in the Heart

Monday: 8 am – 3 pm
Wednesday: 1pm – 6pm
Friday: 8 am – Noon

Red Light- Low Heat Warning at the Community Building
Please contact Joey Clark 207-812-2208

Select Board:

Rob Wilpan 207-422-9115 term expires 2024

rob.wilpan@sorrentomaine.org

Diana Gazis 207-422-3697 term expires 2025

diana.gazis@sorrentomaine.org

Hilly W. Crary 207-422-3462 term expires 2026

Hilly.crary@sorrentomaine.org

Code Enforcement Officer & Plumbing Inspector:

Mike Gurtler 207-460-5544

ceo-lpi@sorrentomaine.org

Fire Chief/Road Commissioner/Public Safety Officer:

Joey Clark 207-812-2208

tonkajoe801@yahoo.com

Harbormaster:

Lou Sutherland Jr 207-266-5706

harbormaster@sorrentomaine.org

Animal Control:

Rob Wilpan 207-422-9115

rob.wilpan@sorrentomaine.org

E-911 Addressing Officer:

Marc Perry 207-460-9949

downeastassessing@gmail.com

RSU 24 School Board Member:

Newbold Noyes 207-422-3396 term expires 2026

nnoyes@rsu24.com

Frenchman Bay Regional Shellfish Conservation Warden

Mike Hall 207-400-6183 or 207-963-7104



SORRENTO SELECT BOARD MEETINGS

are held the first and third Wednesday of each month
7:00 p.m.

In person at the Sorrento Community Building
and via ZOOM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86535623920?pwd=d010ajZHVE9sbStmQXpZSGM rZkNwUT09>

Meeting ID: 865 3562 3920

Passcode: 307652

PLANNING BOARD MEETING

Regularly scheduled meetings will resume 1/4/2024

First Thursday of each month

In person at the Town Office 5PM

or

VIA ZOOM

Enter Meeting ID: **889 8753 5935**

Download, install & launch Zoom Client

Enter passcode: **470621**

planningboard@sorrentomaine.org

Don't forget to vote!
Presidential Primary March 5, 2024
Sorrento Community Building
8AM to 8PM

Credit and debit cards are now accepted at the Town Office!

Minimum Fee \$1 up to \$40.00

2.5% Fee on charges \$40 and over



SAVE THE DATE!

March 11, 2024

Nomination papers will be available to be picked up at the town office for the 2024-2027 Selectmen's position.

SORRENTO MOVING FORWARD

LUNCHEON & COMMUNITY CONVERSATION
PLEASE JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS FOR A BAKED BEAN
SUPPER &

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
SORRENTO COMMUNITY BUILDING
SUNDAY, MARCH 10TH, 12 TO 2PM
DOOR PRIZES!!!

VIA ZOOM Meeting ID: 889 8753 5935 Passcode: 307652



Sorrento Volunteers Serve:

- On the Sorrento Fire Department
- On Sorrento Town Committees
- For the Sorrento Pollinator Meadow Project
- At Town Events like the Halloween Party

Here are More ways one could Volunteer for Sorrento:

- Raising the flags at the Sorrento Town Office
- After a storm to assess damage and help clean-up the roads.
- Event planning and set-up and clean-up.
- As an on-call Handy-person to help with small tasks in Town buildings.
- Starting and maintaining a Firewood Bank for residents in need.
- Helping the Town enroll in the Community Resilience Partnership to make us eligible for Community Action Grants.
- Helping the Town be a "Livable Community" and offer, for example: exercise classes, Friendly-caller, more garden projects, and welcoming new residents to Sorrento.

What are Your Ideas?

What skills would You like to offer for Sorrento?

Whether you live here year-round, or summer,
Whether you can volunteer once a year or once a week,
If interested in helping Sorrento:

Please email: dalestroh@aol.com
hilly.crary@sorrentomaine.org

And Thank You Very Much!

Republican Caucus



**Franklin, Gouldsboro,
Hancock, Sorrento, Sullivan,
Winter Harbor**

Saturday, March 2, 2024

2-4 pm

Sullivan Town Office

1888 US Route 1, Sullivan

All Registered Republicans are welcome
and are encouraged to attend!

The Sorrento Community Building and Village Green is available to rent for your next event. Call the Town Office at 422-6889 for more information.

SORRENTO COMMUNITY BUILDING

Reserved for: March 5, 10, 19; April 27; June 8, 11, 15, 17

Please visit the Sorrento Comprehensive Plan website to review the presentation and discussion group results.

<https://aphilson.wixsite.com/sorrentocompplan>

**Town of Sorrento
Board of Selectpersons Minutes
Town Office 1/17/24**

Attending: Hilly Crary (chair), Rob Wilpan (deputy chair), Diana Gazis, 7 observers in person, and also several observers on ZOOM.

Call to order. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM. The chair gave the good news that Sorrento had less storm damage than other waterfront communities, that 6 to 8 people from Ready Seafood had joined the volunteer clean-up crew removing debris (two truckloads of it) from the area from the dock to the landing, that we had finally received our \$4000 credit from TRIO, and that we had received a nice thank-you letter from the Sorrento Scholarship Fund.

Adjustments. No adjustments were added to the agenda.

Minutes of the 1/3/24 Selectboard meeting. The minutes of the previous selectboard meeting were approved as edited. The motion to approve was made by Rob Wilpan, seconded by Diana Gazis, and passed, Wilpan aye, Crary aye, Gazis aye.

Disbursement warrant #14. A motion to approve the disbursement warrant was made by Rob Wilpan, seconded by Diana Gazis, Gazis aye, Crary aye, Wilpan aye. The warrant was then signed by the selectpersons.

Procurement Policy. A proposed draft for a procurement policy was discussed, with questions as to the dollar limits used in the draft, the permissions needed before vendor selection and payment could be made, and how the chain of authority in specific situations could be made more explicit. The selectpersons decided that the draft should be sent to a few more people for comments before being finalized. Gazis then made a motion, seconded by Wilpan, to table the discussion until the next selectboard meeting. The motion passed: Gazis aye, Crary aye, Wilpan aye.

Approval of the admission of Charles Bennett to the Comprehensive Planning Committee. It was moved by Crary, seconded by Gazis, and passed (Gazis aye, Crary aye, Wilpan aye) that Charles Bennett be made a member of the Comprehensive Planning Committee.

Changes to the Land Use Ordinance. The state has enacted a new housing ordinance intended to increase the amount of affordable housing. This ordinance will come in force in July and will apply to all communities unless they have previously adopted a zoning ordinance that covers the material in the state housing ordinance. Most of the new ordinance does not apply to Sorrento, because unlike larger towns, we do not provide water or sewage service to the residents. Two portions of the ordinance do apply, and we need to write and adopt an ordinance more tailored to our specific circumstances than the state ordinance before the state deadline occurs. These issues were discussed - - mainly the adoption of accessory housing units and what this would mean. Our proposed ordinance would need public discussion before it could be voted on. Therefore, the selectboard made a motion to hold a public hearing on the subject at 7PM on Wednesday, February 28. Motion made by Crary, seconded by Gazis, Crary aye, Gazis aye, Wilpan aye.

Singer Shoreland Plan John Singer submitted a plan to prune the vegetation on the shoreland (owned by the town) opposite his house. The plan was made by an accredited forester and examined by our shoreland zoning officer, Michael Gurtler. After discussion of the plan, its acceptance was postponed until Gurtler can see the final coy.

Storm Damage How to repair the storm damage to our roads and how to change them in a way that would lessen future storm damage was discussed. We have filled out and sent in the report on storm damage that the state has asked for. We have also received two bids for repair. The selectboard voted to accept the bid by RF Jordan for immediate repair and table discussion and acceptance of its bid on later, permanent repair. Hilly proposed this motion, Gazis seconded it, Gazis aye, Cray aye, Wilpan aye.

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

Meeting Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM.

SORRENTO FIRE DEPARTMENT CALLS 2024

Tree smoking on lines-Sorrento January 10

Road washout-Sorrento January 10

PD accident-Sullivan January 11

PD accident-Sullivan January 11

Fire alarm-Sorrento January 11

Chimney fire-Sullivan January 21

Smoke investigation-Sorrento January 24

Vehicle fire-Sullivan January 26

Cooking fire-Sorrento January 27

Fire alarm-Sullivan February 3

Brush fire-Sullivan February 19

Water flow alarm-Sullivan February 22

Evoc Class January 20th

Ecov driving Certification February 3

Certified to drive Emergency vehicles

Taught by state instructors

Attended was Kasey Bean, Pepper Mitchell, Jarod Donnell and Beau Parker

Was a great class and enjoyed it

Basic Firefighting

Taught by state instructors

March 16th - August 3

Attending is Kasey Bean, Pepper Mitchell, Tracy Painter and Rita Boutaugh

Dog Licenses

****Dogs must be licensed by January 1 of each year or when they reach 6 months of age.**

\$6 for neutered/spayed... \$11 for unaltered

****Any dog living in the Town of Sorrento must have a Sorrento license/tag.**



*****When licensing your dog, you must bring with you your dog's rabies certificate showing the tag number and date of expiration and your certificate of proof of spay or neuter, unless these are already on file at the Town Office.**

Online licensing is available October 15 thru January 31

www.apps1.web.maine.gov

Starting February 1 a fine of \$25 will be due along with the registration fee on any unregistered dog. If you no longer own a dog that was registered last year, please call the Town Office to update our records.

State of Maine's Rapid Renewal system for Sorrento is now available:

<http://www.1.maine.gov/online/bmv/rapid-renewal/>

Online Boat Registration Renewal: <https://apps1.web.maine.gov/online/boat/>

Online Fishing and Hunting licenses: <https://moses.informe.org/cgi-bin/online/mosesv3/index>



When transferring your auto registration from your vehicle to a new/newer vehicle, you MUST bring in the registration of the vehicle you are transferring from.

Ellsworth branch BMV hours are
8-4:30 Monday through Friday Tel: (207) 667-9363 8:30-4:30 Fax: (207) 667-0048

EXPIRATION DATES

VEHICLES: Expire a year from when they are registered (unless you are transferring)

TRAILERS: Can be registered for 1 or 2 years, same month, except over 2000 lb.

Trailers expire in Feb. (1 or 2 years)

BOATS: Expire Dec. 31st

ATVs: Expire June 30th

SNOWMOBILES: Expire June 30th

MOTORCYCLES: Expire March 31 of every year, except antique

SORRENTO SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Residents of Sorrento are eligible for scholarship funds to pursue additional learning after high school. These scholarships can be used for a wide variety of education – college, technical school or many other accredited programs. Students receive \$1500 per semester plus a bonus for achieving top grades.

Please consider a gift to this fund and become a part of the community encouraging the next generation of high school graduates to pursue additional education after high school.

Please make checks payable to: Sorrento Scholarship Fund

and mail or drop off checks to:

Gina Bennett, PO Box 93,

Sorrento, ME 04677

Sorrento residents, who are currently or will be starting post high school education in the future, please contact Wendy Worrell at

402-689-8682

CARTER BROTHER'S SCRAP METAL PICK-UP

Danny Carter 207-422-9120

We pick up appliances, plumbing material, household wiring, or any metals.

Call us to schedule a pick-up



To submit news or advertise in the Sorrento Newsletter, email
townoffice@sorrentomaine.org
or call 422-6889. The deadline is the 20th of the month.

Sorrento Fire Department

BURN PERMITS

You are required by Maine law to have a permit to burn, even for a small pile of grass clippings or leaves. A Forestry Warden will be called if you burn without a permit, possibly resulting in you being summonsed to court and fined.

The person who signs the fire permit is responsible for the fire. Do not leave any fire unattended.

To obtain a burn permit contact:

Joey Clark, Fire Chief	207-812-2208
Brian Clement, Deputy Chief	207-460-4772
Mike Parker, Asst. Chief	207-460-7340
Chris Eklund, Asst. Chief	207-610-2794
Craig Clement, Chief Engineer	207-460-8851

Required for burning:

*****at least two adults to attend the burn,***

*****some form of water supply and hand tools must be on hand,***

*****and it is recommended you have a cellular phone or other communication device to call for assistance should the fire escape.***

YOU are responsible to see that the fire is out before leaving.

TAKE NOTE

BURNING TRASH IS ILLEGAL!!

State Laws (12 MRSA 9321-25) governing the backyard burning of household trash are enforced by the Maine Forest Service.

If you think someone is burning trash **please call 973-3700 immediately!** 24 hours/day, 7 days a week.

ONLINE BURNING PERMITS

Traditional hand-written burn permits are still available, but the state online system allows permits to be acquired 24 hours a day, seven days a week, throughout the state, provided that the fire danger is not high.

For more information, call 287-4989 or visit www.maineburnpermit.com.

SORRENTO FIRE FIGHTER MEMORIAL

Fire Chief Joey Clark is looking for volunteers to form a committee for the Sorrento Fire Fighter Memorial to be built on the old Sorrento fire house property, honoring deceased members of the Sorrento Volunteer Fire Department.

Contact Joey at 207-812-2208 or email tonkajoe801@yahoo.com



Please consider donating to the Sorrento Fire Fighter Memorial Fund. Checks can be made out to the Town of Sorrento (write FF MEMORIAL in the memo field) and mailed/dropped off at the Town Office, 79 Pomola Avenue, Sorrento, ME 04677

The Schoodic National Scenic Byway Committee

would like to have a member from Sorrento! If you are interested please email:

info@barbaraeshanahan.com

or call 207-479-2699. And check out their website: schoodicbyway.org