THE SORRENTO NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2021

Sorrento Town Office Mon & Wed: 8 am – 4 pm Tuesday: 8 am – 3 pm Thurs: 1 pm – 6 pm Friday: 8 am - Noon

Phone (207) 422-6889 Fax: (207) 422-3737 79 Pomola Ave., Sorrento, Maine 04677-3126

townoffice@sorrentomaine.org

Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Treasurer/Registrar of Voters/

Harbor Secretary & Office Administrator:

Kathi Moore <u>kathi.moore@sorrentomaine.org</u>

Selectmen:

Rob Wilpan 207-422-9115
rob.wilpan@sorrentomaine.org
Craig Clement 207-460-8851
cclement808@yahoo.com
Jon Mickel 207-610-2335
jon@westcoveboatyard.com

Code Enforcement Officer/Plumbing Inspector:

Don Baker 207-356-2309 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:

Marie Zwicker: 207-460-8920/207-266-5027 Janet Robinson: 207-546-3321/0677

E-911 Addressing Officer:

Ann Blood 207-479-5781 911officer@sorrentomaine.org

RSU 24 School Board Member:

Janet Wilpan 207-422-9115

Post Office: 207-422-6896 **Library:** 207-422-8255

MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN CLERK

Please note upcoming changes to office hours:

Tuesday Nov. 2 – CLOSED (Election)
Monday Nov. 8 - Open 8 to Noon (Election)
Thursday Nov. 11 – CLOSED (Veteran's Day)
Nov. 24, 25 & 26 – CLOSED
Dec. 24 through Dec. 31- CLOSED

Notary Public Services are available at the Town Office

EXPIRATION DATES

<u>VEHICLES:</u> Expire a year from when they are registered (unless you are transferring)

<u>TRAILERS:</u> 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 of every year,

except antique.





2022 DOG LICENSES

Now available at the Town Office. A State imposed \$25 per dog late fee is charged after January 31, 2022.

** <u>Dogs must be licensed by January 1 or when</u> they reach 6 months of age.

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

The list of unlicensed dogs has been given to the Animal Control Officer on February 1. Along with the extra \$25 State fee per dog, you may be summonsed to court, which can incur additional costs.

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

**Any dog living in the Town of Sorrento must

have a **Sorrento** license/tag.



PLEASE INFORM THE TOWN OFFICE IF YOU NO LONGER OWN A DOG. Thank you.



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

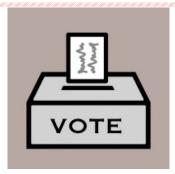
REGISTERING BOATS

.State regulations on boat registrations



The office <u>CANNOT</u> register a boat unless it has a hull number as of spring 2018. Ask for the

guidelines in the Town Office concerning the hull numbers.



MESSAGE FROM THE SORRENTO REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

Tuesday, November 2
State Referendum Election at the Sorrento Community Building.
Polls open from
10:00 am to 8:00 pm.
Absentee ballots must be received by 8:00 pm 11/2/2021

Monday, November 8
Town Election at the Sorrento
Community Building.
Polls open from
2:00 pm to 6:00 pm.
Absentee ballots must be received
by 6:00 pm 11/8/2021



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 \$1000 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 207-422-2525.





Greetings from RSU #24,

There is definitely a feel of fall in the air. The cooler temperatures and the change in colors in our area is what makes our communities special. Let's enjoy it while we can as winter will be here before we know it!

The new Charles M. Sumner Learning Campus is coming along nicely. The interior has framed out rooms and spaces and we now have multiple parking lots in place. The goal is to get the building buttoned up so that work on the interior can continue during the winter. Please check out the New Building Project link on our website (rsu24.org) to get the latest drone video. For those interested in the new building project or if you have questions, we will be holding a public meeting (via Zoom) on November 4th at 6:30 p.m. After a brief presentation, we will take time to answer questions that people have regarding the project. Please be looking for a link to the meeting as we get closer to the November 4th date.

The Friends of Sumner's Future fundraising group continues to raise funds to help with the purchase of items not covered by the state. Dugouts, scoreboards, batting cages and a 100 meter sprint track are just a few of the items on the wish list for the new campus. In addition, the money allocated for the furnishing, fixtures, and technology needed for the new building has been reduced in our project compared to other projects done by the state. This has resulted in a substantial reduction for the purchase of these items. If you are interested in making a donation, please check out the Friends of Sumner's Future link on our website.

We continue to deal with the fallout of the pandemic. We continue to have positive COVID cases on a regular basis and with each case, there is a need to contact trace, work with the Maine CDC, and make decisions that impact our operations. I appreciate the continued hard work of our nurses and our educators to make the impact as minimal as possible. I also appreciate the understanding of our parents and students in supporting our schools through these difficult times.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the operations of any one school or the district, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at meastman@rsu24.org.

Sincerely,

Michael Eastman, Superintendent Regional School Unit #24 2165 US Highway 1 Sullivan, Maine 04664 Email: meastman@rsu24.org

The Sorrento Newsletter

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October/November 2021



SELECTMEN'S MEETING VIA ZOOM

First and third Wednesday of each month At 7:00 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86535623920?pwd
=d010
ajZHVE9sbStmQXpZSG M rZkNwUT09

Meeting ID: 865 3562 3920 Passcode: 307652

Selectmen Meeting Minutes 9/01/2021

Attending via Zoom were Rob Wilpan, Jon Mickel, Craig Clement, Kathi Moore, Joey Clark, Diana Gazis, Daniel Dougherty, Lynn Stone, Tish Noyes, Zelinda Welch, Susan Clancy-Dougherty and Tom Bailey. The meeting was called to order at 7:28 p.m. by Rob Wilpan.

- 1) Minutes: The 08-18-2021 meeting minutes were read by Jon and amendments were made. Rob made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Craig, unanimous vote, motion approved.
- 2) Update on Firehouse roof replacement: Joey received a verbal 2nd metal roof estimate from Chip Howell Builders for \$19,800 complete. Joey will arrange a meeting so a confirmed quote can be done.
- 3) Update on Community Building repairs: Joey reported that the last roll of tape arrived today and he will have the job completed by the end of next week. Seacoast Security has installed a new heat sensor. Rob mentioned that the screws are visible in the sheetrock and needs to have one coat of spackle over them.
- 4) Update on town pier: Rob reported that the pier is good to go until next season. He is working on getting more quotes.
- 5) Update on Traffic Logix Software: Jon reported that Roy has not gotten back to him with a date to install the software. Greg Ring stopped by his office and offered to install the software on a flash drive.
- 6) Update on heat pumps: Still waiting for installation by Valley Home Services. Rob asked Kathi to call them for a status.
- 7) Update on Versant subcontractor debris: Rob still has had no reply from Versant's Manager.
- 8) Update on installing new chlorinator at the rental building system: Joey reported that Bobby Merchant of Haslam is

very interested in doing this project, but it won't be until next spring. The cost was not discussed. Also, the issue on Win White's system was due to the pump not being bolted down. He suggested contacting American Concrete to see if they can install the chlorinator. Rob asked Joey to check it out

- 9) Update on the Fire House Floor drain cracks: Joey suggested this be tabled until next year since there is already a lot going on.
- 10) Update on basement lightbulbs @ the Community Building: Joey reported that new bulbs have been ordered.
- 11) Update on replacing the firehouse lights with LEDs: It was decided that self-install is a substantial liability. Joey will look for additional quotes.
- 12) Update on winter salt delivery: Joey is waiting for a call back from Morton Salt.
- 13) Downtown speed limit: Jon said he has been reading the laws on changing speed limits. The State will measure the speed (unobstructed) and adjust to 85% so the new speed limit could possibly be higher than it is currently. Law enforcement patrol remains the most effective means. The speed currently on the Traffic Logix sign is 30 and he will adjust it to 25 and place downtown. Joey said that after Labor Day the lobster pound is turning trucks the same way out as in. Susan added this is being down now. Regarding the parking issue downtown, Jon reported the signage painted on the side of the road is working so far, but the vegetation needs to be cut back more on the beach side. Jon also noted that there may possibly be room for more parking at Isaac's Beach using the Town owned property (right-of-way); Joey said cannonballs were found in that area so it would be best to check with the Historical Society first. 14) Parking at Doane's Point (Isaac's) Beach: Jon emailed Joey with the wording so he can order the sign.

NEW BUSINESS:

American Aquafarms: Rob has communicated with neighboring town; 50% are against the proposed salmon farm, 40% need to look into it further and the rest knows nothing about it. The DMR has only accepted the application so far; they have not issued or approved a permit. Rob made a motion to add an article on the warrant to see if the Town will vote to oppose the American Aquafarms Salmon Project in Frenchman Bay and support the Sorrento Board of Selectmen to seek intervenor status. Jon seconded, unanimous vote, motion passed.

Rob said he would like to hold the upcoming town meeting at the Sorrento-Sullivan Rec Center since there is more room to spread out. Kathi checked and it is available on Monday Sept. 27. Rob made a motion to hold the 2021 town meeting at the Rec Center, Jon seconded, unanimous vote, motion passed.

Zelinda Welch asked for an update on the cutback of overgrowth across the street from her residence. Rob said Tom Fox is currently in Europe and when he returns he will discuss with Tom.

Lynn Stone asked the Board if they have had any conversations about registering or taxing short-term rentals in Sorrento. She asked if a house is not owner occupied isn't it considered a business. She is concerned about fire or damage to the town as the house across the street from her is a rental property listed on Air B&B. They had an outside fire so she went over to the house and was told by the property manager to leave, so she called the Fire Chief. Joey said he went to inspect the outside "fire ring" area, spoke with the property manager and made several recommendations. A discussion followed about the rising number of rental properties listed on rental sites and it is time to think about how to handle it. Jon made a motion that the Board accepts a proposal from Lynn on the possibility of taxing or requiring a permit for Air B&Bs/Rentals/Inspections.

Tish Noyes brought up her concerns about the speed limit on East Side Road and begged the Board to do something. She said the area is now commercialized and is a speeding hazard. Jon said a request can be made to that law enforcement to ramp up patrol and the town is using a radar trailer. The Town can petition the State but the selectmen decided not to do so at this time. Rob made a motion to increase law enforcement patrol frequency for September, Craig seconded, unanimous vote, motion passed.

Jon said he would like to make a request that his private road be named Hillside Drive. Rob made a motion to name Jon's road to Hillside Drive, Craig seconded, motion passed. Jon abstained from the vote.

At 8:50 there was a short break, after which the meeting continued with a Warrant Workshop.

Respectfully submitted by Kathi Moore, Town Clerk 9/14/2021

Selectmen Meeting Minutes 9/15/2021

Attending via Zoom were Rob Wilpan, Jon Mickel, Craig Clement, Kathi Moore, Joey Clark, Daniel Dougherty Tom Bailey, Tish Noyes and Pete Welch. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Rob Wilpan.

1) Minutes: The 09/01/2021 meeting minutes were read by Jon and amendments were made. Rob made a motion to

the amended minutes, seconded by Jon, unanimous vote, motion passed.

- 2) Firehouse Roof Replacement: Joey has not been able to make contact with Chip Howell Builders.
- 3) Community Building Repairs: Delayed to due Robert having Covid.
- 4) Town Pier Replacement: Rob received two quotes from Henri Gignoux of Custom Float Services, Steuben. He will have pictures and prices available at Town Meeting.
- 5) Traffic Logix Software: Jon reported that Roy has downloaded the software and the sign is operational. Jon is working on how to compile reports, will be able to do traffic studies, there is an 85 percentile report.
- 6) Heat Pumps: Kathi reported that Valley Home Services will be doing the install on Thursday Sept 23 at 9 am.
- 7) Versant Subcontractor Debris: No update.
- 8) New Chlorinator Install: Joey is calling American Concrete on Friday.
- 9) CB Basement Lights: Joey said he is waiting for the bulbs to arrive. Rob suggested if they haven't been ordered yet to get them from Home Depot.
- 10) Fire House Lights: Rob found Bud Lee's quote of \$8035 from Nov. 2020 and suggested getting new quotes.
- 11) Salt Delivery: Joey reported delivery is the end of September.
- 12) Doane's Point Beach: Joey reported that the eta on the new parking sign is 4 to 5 weeks out.
- 13) Short-Term Rentals: Jon suggested this be tabled until Lynn Stone brings her proposal to the table.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was a discussion about the American Rescue Plan funds. Jon said he spoke with Selectmen from Sullivan and Eastbrook on how they will use their funds. If we use our funds to upgrade Long Pond Water District then Sullivan will match them. Also he obtained info on the Starlink system in Sullivan which generates funds for the Rec Center. It is a low cost broadband internet provider that provides coverage in this area.

Kathi reported that our prepay contract with No Frills Oil is over. The prepay price we were given is \$2.199/gallon. A discussion followed. Today's price on their web site is \$2.65/gallon. Since the Town Office is having heat pumps installed, Rob made a motion to go with the prepaid price minus the Town Office, Jon seconded, unanimous vote, motion passed.

Rob shared The Warrant on his screen for review by the Selectmen. Rob asked Kathi to make copies for signature to post by Friday 9/17.

Joey asked when the Northern Light ambulance contract expires, as mutual aid exists between Sorrento, Gouldsboro

and Sullivan. We can make a request to the RCC to change our first choice from NL. Right now the order is NL, Gouldsboro, Sullivan, and Pleasant River. A discussion followed and it was decided that the first choice would be Sullivan, then Gouldsboro. Joey said he would need a letter typed on Town letterhead to give to RCC requesting this change. Rob asked Kathi to call NL for status of the contract with them. Rob made a motion to look into getting a refund from NL Ambulance to change ambulance service to Sullivan as first responder and Gouldsboro as second responder. Jon seconded, unanimous vote, motion passed.

Rob made a motion to sign Disbursement Warrant #5 and Disbursement Warrant #6, Jon seconded, unanimous vote, motion passed.

Pete Welch asked for more information on the proposed 125th Birthday Mural Project. Rob shared the sketch on his screen and provided info.

Tish Noyes asked for clarification of the aquaculture item on the warrant for the Town Meeting on 9/27, which Rob proved. Tish also spoke about the Town's speeding issue and that testing with the speed sign should not be done during slow periods. Jon explained that it will take over a year to collect data with the speed sign. She said there is a rise of commercial trucks and asked if the Town can do anything to halt this. A discussion followed.

At 8:40 Rob made a motion to adjourn, Jon seconded, unanimous vote, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted by Kathi Moore, Town Clerk 10/06/2021

SAFETY STICKERS

Please also remember that the Sorrento Fire Department also has safety stickers that you may pick up in the Town Office. Just ask for them. These stickers are Tot Finder stickers, Disabled stickers and stickers for your pets.

These are to be placed in your windows so that First Responders will know if, in case of an emergency, there is anyone that may need help.

Tips on emergency preparedness can be found at http://www.maineprepares.com





NOTICE

PLANNING BOARD MEETING VIA ZOOM

First Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Easy option for first time users: search: join.zoom.us with Chrome browser

Enter Meeting ID: **889 8753 5935**Download, install & launch Zoom Client
Enter Passcode: **470 621**

Frenchman Bay Regional Shellfish Conservation Program Mike Hall, Shellfish Warden 207-400-6183 or 207-963-71014

.CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER SORRENTO

To schedule use of the church, contact Thelma White (207)422-3616 or (207)546-0536 sorrento155@gmail.com

STATE OF MAINE RAPID RENEWAL SERVICES:

Online Vehicle Registration Renewal: https://www1.maine.gov/online/bmv/rapid-renewal/

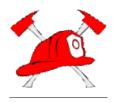
Online Boat Registration Renewal: https://apps1.web.maine.gov/online/boat/

Fishing and Hunting licenses: https://moses.informe.org/cgi-bin/online/ moses v3/index



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Sorrento Fire Department



FOR BURN PERMITS ANY TIME OF THE YEAR: 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:

| Fire Chief Joey Clark | 207-812-2208 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Dep. Fire Chief Dwayne Clement | 207-479-6049 |
| Asst. Fire Chief Mike Parker | 207-422-6755 |
| Asst. Fire Chief Brian Clement | 207-422-3503 |
| Chief Engineer Craig Clement | 207-460-8851 |
| Captain Jon Mickel | 207-610-2335 |

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.

FIRE PERMITS

Commercial burn permits are available
October 15 thru April 15.

Regular burn permits are available year-round.

Current conditions require rain for

a permit to be issued.

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 <u>please call</u> <u>973-3700</u> <u>immediately!</u> 24 hours/day, 7 days a week.

STATE 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. These you pay for. You don't pay for burn permits issued by the below fire department members.

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

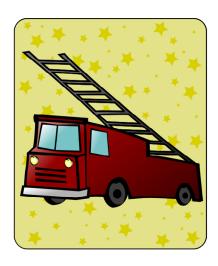


Process for the Safe Disposal of Marine Flares

Anyone who needs a safe manner for the disposal of outdated or unwanted marine flares should call the

Office of State Fire Marshal at 207-626-3870.

The caller will receive a return call for the purpose of picking up the outdated or unwanted marine flares for proper disposal.



Sorrento Code Enforcement Officer/Shoreland Zoning Officer & Plumbing Inspector

Don Baker 207-356-2309 ceo-lpi@sorrentomaine.org

Please use email to help document your requests.

A REMINDER

TO EVERYONE APPLYING FOR A BUILDING PERMIT –

NO WORK IS TO BE STARTED UNTIL YOUR PERMIT IS ISSUED.

STARTING THE WORK BEFORE THE PERMIT IS ISSUED CAN RESULT IN FINES.

THE PERMIT IS TO BE DISPLAYED ON THE PREMISES OF THE CONSTRUCTION.

REMINDER: All contractors doing soil work in the shoreland <u>must</u> have State Certification and <u>must</u> furnish a copy to code enforcement for <u>every</u> shoreland project

SULLIVAN RECREATION CENTER

Is available to rent for events! Cleaning is included in the rental fee. Call 422-3134 for more info

If you are a resident of Sorrento or Sullivan over 18, you are a member of the Corporation of the Sorrento-Sullivan Recreation Center. That means you have an equal stake in how the place operates with every other resident of our two towns. The meetings, open to all residents of the two towns, are the third Thursday of the month at 5:30 pm at the Recreation Center.

SULLIVAN THRIFT SHOP IS OPEN Tuesdays – Open 1pm-5pm & Saturdays 10am-2pm

Donations are always welcome, please drop donations off on Tuesdays or call 422-3134. Please donate to our shop instead of Goodwill! Proceeds benefit the Recreation Center Repairs Project & Community Fund.

We <u>do not</u> take electronics. Goodwill will dispose of these for you for free.

Marita Kilton Memorial Scholarship

Awarded to Sumner Memorial High School graduates & alumni who are pursuing a degree in education.

DONATIONS: Donate returnables to TeeTee's Redemption Center

Or

Mail monetary donations to:
Sumner Memorial High School
Marita Kilton Scholarship Fund
2456 US Highway 1 Sullivan, ME 04664
C/O Lucille Null



SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAM

Do you need help getting your animal spayed or neutered? The Ark & SPCA have a voucher program that offers some help. They pay 1/3, a participating vet will pay 1/3 and you would pay 1/3.

Call the SPCA PAL Program at 667-8088 or The Ark's Stitch in Time

Program at 546-3484 and ask for a voucher.

Also, the Help Fix ME Program is open for cats and pit bull mixes – call at the beginning of the month for a voucher to fix your animal for only \$10.

Visit www.spaymaine.org for a full list of assistance programs.

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









PROTECTING ANIMALS WELFARE



P.A.W.

P.A.W. is seeking people to foster cats until a forever home is found. We vet check, vaccinate and spay/neuter. Food will be provided. We rescue stray and abandoned animals from Sullivan, Hancock, Franklin & surrounding areas.

Contact Marie at 460-8920 (home) or 266-5027 (cell) or

Email wolfspiritm@gmail.com



To advertise or submit news in the Sorrento Newsletter, email <u>kathi.moore@sorrentomaine.org</u> or call 422-6889. The deadline is the 20th of the month.

FOR SALE

The Sorrento Fire Department has for sale a 1999 International rescue truck with 82,000 miles, automatic transmission and air ride suspension.

\$5,000 FIRM.

Contact the Town Office at 422-6889 by October 27, 2021

Looking to purchase a small sailing dinghy (8-9 ft). Prefer sail kit but will consider if not included.

Call Ann at 862-239-3200

Towns surrounding Gouldsboro are invited to participate in

ADULT VOLLEYBALL

Starting October 18
Every Monday 6-8 pm
Gouldsboro Recreation Center
679 Pond Road, Gouldsboro



For more information or questions, please contact Valeriy Pogrebitskiy via email vpogrebi@iname.com or Ellysea Bryant at 207-610-0972

