

SORRENTO NEWSLETTER

October 2025

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

OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 8 am – 3 pm

If Monday is a holiday the office will be open

The following Tuesday

Wednesday: 9am-5pm

Friday: 7 am – Noon

Office Staff

Town Clerk: Sherri Tracey

sherri-townclerk@sorrentomaine.org

Deputy Clerk/Registrar of Voters:

Joanne Holmes

townoffice@sorrentomaine.org

Select Board:

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

Hilly.cray@sorrentomaine.org

Rob Wilpan 207-422-9115 term expires 2027

rob.wilpan@sorrentomaine.org

Sue Macey 781-560-3414 term expires 2028

Sue.macey@sorrentomaine.org

Code Enforcement Officer & Plumbing Inspector:

Stephen Cox 207-263-6887

dennysriverpipe@yahoo.com

Fire Chief/Road Commissioner/Public Safety Officer:

Joey Clark 207-812-2208 term expire 2027

tonkajoe801@yahoo.com

Harbormaster:

Lou Sutherland Jr 207-266-5706

harbormaster@sorrentomaine.org

E-911 Addressing Officer:

Maggi McCaw

911officer@sorrentomaine.org

Public Access Officer

Maggi McCaw

Public.access@sorrentomaine.org

RSU 24 School Board Member:

Newbold Noyes 207-422-3396 term expires 2026

nnoyes@rsu24.org

Hancock County Animal Control

Daniel McKay ACO 207-460-0623

Frenchman Bay Regional Shellfish Conservation Warden

Michael Boucher 207-479-0620

**October is time to register your dog
Licenses will be available at the office or
online October 15th thru January 31st**

September Select Board Meetings

10/1/2025 & 10/15/2025

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=d010ajZHVE9sbStmQXpZSGMrZkNwUT09>

Meeting ID: 865 3562 3920

Passcode: 307652

Sorrento Comprehensive Plan Committee

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

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

PLANNING BOARD MEETING

Regularly scheduled meetings will resume

First Thursday of each month

Sorrento Town Office 6PM

Meetings in person unless otherwise noted on

www.sorrentome.org

planningboard@sorrentomaine.org

November 4, 2025

Referendum Election

**Applications for Absentee Ballots are
available at the Town Office and**

Online at Maine.gov

**Absentee ballots will become available
Beginning in early October**

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



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.**



Please let the Town Office know if your dog is no longer with us

*****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.

The Community Building is reserved November 5th, 8th & 9th

**Please contact the town office to reserve
The Community Building or the Village Green**

Town Of Sorrento

Select Board (SB) Meeting Minutes

August 20, 2025 Community Building 7PM

Present: Rob Wilpan, Hilly Crary, Sue Macey, several observers.

1. Crary called to order at 7:01 PM
2. Good News Report:
 - a. Bulky Trash Day went very well.
3. Minutes of August 6, 2025 and August 13, 2025. **Motion was made and seconded to approve. Motion passed: Crary aye, Wilpan aye, Macey aye.**
4. Disbursement and Payroll Warrants #4. **Motion was made and seconded to approve. Motion passed: Crary aye, Wilpan aye, Macey aye.**
5. Adjustments to the agenda. None.

Unfinished Business

6. Community Action Grant (CAG). **Motion was made and seconded to approve a submittal for a CAG for Community Building energy efficient upgrades including heat pumps and water heater. Motion passed: Crary aye, Wilpan aye, Macey aye.**

7. Update on Ocean Avenue FEMA repairs. General discussion around security cameras and closure signs.

8. Bond Counsel. **Motion was made and seconded to sign papers for our bond anticipation note. Motion passed: Crary aye, Wilpan aye, Macey aye.**

9. Weekly Trash pickup contract. **Motion was made and seconded to sign the Harris Trash pickup contract for the next 3 years. Motion passed: Crary aye, Wilpan Aye, Macey aye.**

10. Executive session pursuant to 1M.R.S 405(6)(A). Personnel Matters regarding recent Colebank emails.

New Business:

11. Dougherty request for Agenda item regarding: Important note concerning Dougherty property and Shoreland zone status. General discussion.

12. Public Comments. None

Adjournment: **Motion to adjourn at 9:30 PM was made and seconded. Motion passed: Crary aye, Wilpan aye, Macey aye.**

**Town of Sorrento
Select Board (SB) Meeting Minutes
September 3, 2025 Community Building - 7 PM**

Present: Hilly Crary, Sue Macey, several observers.

1. Crary called to order at 7:00 PM. Good News Report:

a. Good progress on Ocean Ave. with the FEMA project.

2. Minutes of August 20, 2025. Motion was made and seconded to approve. Motion passed: Crary aye, Macey aye.

3. Disbursement and Payroll Warrants #5. Motion was made and seconded to approve. Motion passed: Crary aye, Macey aye.

4. Adjustments to the agenda. None.

Unfinished Business:

5. Update Ocean Ave: repairs/construction/signage. General discussion.

New Business:

6. Location for November 5th Election CB/FH. General discussion, no action needed. Election will remain at the Community Building.

7. Downtown sewer/seaweed odors. No action, smells are likely due to low tide.

8. Trash bin at Town Pier parking lot. Hilly will talk to Lou/Harbormaster regarding signage.

9. Tree limb down at Town Green near the Ram. Sue and her husband will take a look.

10. Auditor suggestion. Motion was made and seconded to abate all of the Richard Andrews back taxes totalling \$907.61 and the Vandever back taxes of \$207.20; due to deaths neither party will pay. Motion passed: Crary aye, Macey aye. Sherri will do the paperwork.

11. Blue host webmail. Motion was made and seconded to have Rob transfer administrative access of the Town's Blue Host webmail account to the Town Office. Motion passed: Crary aye, Macey aye

12. FOAA. General discussion. We will check with Maggi McCaw, Sorrento Public Access Officer, to confirm that we are charging fees for copies and for time over 2 hours and to remind people that some information is available on the Town website.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 8:22 PM was made and seconded. Motion passed: Crary aye, Macey aye.

Notes from the Chair - October 2025

2 (long!) years ago I was elected to the Sorrento Select Board, and as Chair. I would like to report what Many Volunteer Hours has helped the Select Board accomplish in the past 2 years:

- 1) Town Website: up and running for over a year now.**
- 2) Town Audits: finally up to date! The most recent audit, (for FY 2024 which ended June 30, 2025) is being worked on as I write this.**
- 3) Overdue Townwide Revaluation: completed.**
- 4) Town Comprehensive Plan: Hancock County Planning Commission's draft of the full document has been reviewed by our Comprehensive Plan Committee, and is now back with HCPC. They will send it to the State for approval. After that, we schedule a Special Town Meeting to see if the Town will vote to approve it.**

Having a State and Town approved Comp Plan helps guide the Town's future by providing a long term community vision, legal protection for land use ordinances, and makes the Town eligible for state and federal funding.

This has been a long process with a lot of public input, hundreds of hours of volunteer time, and thousands of dollars of your tax money. So not to pass a State approved Comprehensive Plan would be a colossal waste of your tax dollars, and of your neighbor's time and energy.

5) We are trying New Ideas:

- 2 Free metal pickup days this summer, (1 in July and 1 in August), thanks to Danny Carter, were well received. We can consider doing this on a more regular basis.

-Bulky Trash Day 2025 at the Town Center, staffed by volunteers, with more free metal pickup, cost the Town less than \$1,300 this year, versus over \$12,000 last year!

-And, for what we believe is the first time in Sorrento history, your property Tax bill may now be paid in 2 installments (first half due 9/30/25 and 2nd half due 3/31/26).

6) We have a volunteer Climate Resilience Committee.

Thanks to them and help from Hancock County Planning Commission the Town has received one Community Action Grant, and they are applying for another CAG for the Town for the benefit of our Community Building.

7) Ocean Avenue! The extreme weather events of January 2024 (called the January Storms) necessitated Major repairs and reconstruction of 4 areas of Ocean Avenue. This work finally began this summer.

Very good progress is being made thanks to Walsh Engineering, Whitcomb Construction, and oversight and help from Rick Knowlton.

We are told that FEMA and MEMA have obligated the funding for this huge project. The Town has a line of credit to pay the bills and we expect 90% reimbursement, eventually.

The Town is responsible for 10% of the total cost.

We acknowledge that the residents of Fuller Road and part of West Shore Road have had to tolerate the daily very loud banging of boulders being unloaded at the sand/salt shed and then reloaded to be taken downtown.

And all the residents who live along Ocean Avenue have had to listen to the very noisy daily work in progress. And we acknowledge that the increase in dump truck and other construction vehicle traffic on East Side and West Shore roads, and downtown, has been daunting all summer.

Thank you All for your patience and forbearance.

The project is progressing, looking good, and the end of this work is in sight!

Greetings from RSU #24

With three plus weeks of school under our belt, students and teachers are back into their daily routines and there is positive energy in the air across the district.

With the start of school comes the start of the fall sports season. We wish the following coaches and their teams the best of luck throughout the season.

Boys Varsity Soccer - John Frye
Girls Varsity Soccer - Chris Joy
High School Cross-Country - Adam Lord
High School Volleyball - Deena Segel
Middle School Soccer - Curtis Alley
Middle School Cross-Country - Ellysea Bryant

We started the school year with 753 students enrolled in our schools. That is an increase of 24 students from last year with the biggest increase coming at Sumner Middle School.

For those (parents) planning ahead, we do not have school on October 10 as it is a professional development day and October 13 as it is a holiday.

Thank you for your continued support of the school district. If you have any questions, concerns, or comments that you would like to pass along, please send them 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

Sullivan-Sorrento Historical Society

Sorrento Bowling Alley c.1915





Join us as we celebrate

Autumn
at

THE FARMSTEAD BARN

OCTOBER 18th, 2025

Starts at 12:30

Old Fashion Cider Press Demo
from the Sullivan Sorrento
Historical Society

POT LUCK LUNCH!

Let's meet & share our stories
in the barn!

Contact Ray & Judy
if you can bring a dish
schoodiclife@gmail.com

Due to ongoing traffic concerns on the Town of Sorrento roads

Rules and Regulations regarding golf carts on Maine public roads

Golf carts are not allowed on a public road that does not have conspicuous signs placed at regular intervals stating that the road is for golf cart access. These roads are only near golf courses or in areas with a large number of courses.

To drive on allowed low speed roads:

The cart must weigh less than 3,000 pounds, must be registered with the [local DMV](#) and operated by a licensed driver. This requires you to get the cart inspected to meet federal and state safety standards. At this point, you'll get a VIN and can register and license your cart. Upgrades that you need to add to your cart include windshields, seat belts, stop lights, turn signals, taillights, headlights, reflex reflectors, parking brakes, rearview mirrors, and more. These upgrades must be done according to state and federal law or they may be null and void.

Contact a local golf cart repair technician to upgrade your cart in this way.

Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2093

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

[Rapid Renewal | Vehicle & Trailer Registration Renewal Service](#)

If you would like an email reminder for you motor vehicle registration renewal at the beginning of the month, please send your name and email to:

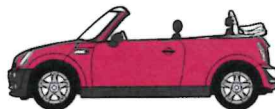
townoffice@sorrentomaine.org

Online Boat Registration Renewal:

[maine rapid renewal boat registration - Search](#)

Online Fishing and Hunting licenses:

[IFW Hunting & Fishing Licenses | Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife](#)



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.

Sorrento Town Office hours Monday 8am-3pm, Wednesday 9am-5pm and Friday 7am-12pm

Sorrento now has vehicle plates!

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 31st of every year, except antique

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.

This online service allows you to request an open burning permit from 9am - Midnight, 7 days a week, provided that the fire danger is not high.

www.maineburnpermit.com

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

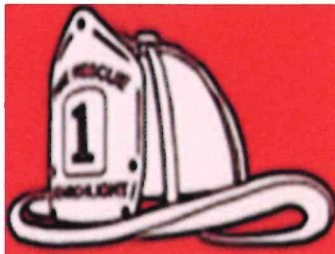
Traditional hand-written burn permits are still available, but the state online system allows permits to be acquired 24 hours a day, seven days a week, throughout the state, provided that the fire danger is not high.

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

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 up to \$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

To submit news or advertise in the
Sorrento Newsletter, email
townoffice@sorrentomaine.org or
call 207-422-6889



**The deadline is the 20th
of the month.**

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

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

An advertisement for JUNK REMOVAL SERVICES. It features a logo with a stylized 'A' and the word 'JUNK' in large letters, followed by 'REMOVAL SERVICES'. Below this is contact information for Wyatt Burke (207-460-4353) and a list of services including weekly trash pickup, yard junk removal, furniture/appliances removal, house cleanouts, garage/basement/attic cleanouts, snow shoveling, leaf blowing, and more. The ad also mentions 'We offer great rates', 'Fast & dependable service', and 'References available'. A small circular inset photo shows a person working on a pile of junk.