

Town Board Meeting December 8, 2008

James Parent called the regular monthly meeting of the Baileys Harbor Town Board to order at 7:00PM in the meeting room at the Town Hall. Present were James Parent, Barbara Anschutz, Dale Williams, Douglas Smith, Lois Pluff and 9 visitors. Robert Schultz and Peter Jacobs were absent.

Clerk verified posting. Motion made/second Dale/Barb to accept the agenda. Carried.

Accept minutes – Motion made/second Dale/Barb to accept the minutes. Carried.

Accept Treasurer Report – There are some budget changes for this meeting and then there will be some in January. Changes can be seen in 2008 minute book. Another item we have to think about is the land purchase and how we want to handle it. Jim and Lois will decide. Motion made/second Dale/Barb to approve budget changes as presented. Carried. Motion made/second Barb/Dale to accept the report. Carried.

Citizen input – Bill Hanusa said since he doesn't have an attorney to give him advice, he'll follow the advice he learned as a child; if you don't have something nice to say, don't say anything.

Bob Arnold – Discuss/decide changes to building inspection ordinance – There is a section in the building code ordinance that may be considered grey. That portion is the portion that deals with permits or projects after they have expired. The section in question is 1-1-11. Bob is suggesting amending it in some way. The requirement for extension or renewal is not clear. It says that permits “may be extended” but it doesn't say they have to be extended. It also doesn't say how long to extend the permit for. There are no approval parameters for the inspectors to use as guidelines. Dale mentioned it should be the same criteria when the original permit was issued. Bob said that's one way of looking at it. The biggest issue is what the permit fees should be for renewals. Permits currently expire 2 years after the date written if the final inspection has not passed. There is also a 60 day grace period. After that, they are required to be extended. The approval was always automatically granted. It was always assumed the extension was granted for 6 months. The extension fees were established at the minimum fees. The inspectors were informed by their company (Independent Inspections, LLC) that they were incorrectly charging for extensions. They said the extension fees were prorated based on extension fees and percentage of completion. If nothing was done in the 2 years, they'd have to buy a new permit. If the project had started, but there were no rough inspection, they would charge 80% of the permit fees. For no insulation 50% and no final, 20%. This happens mostly with duplexes or multi-family dwellings. One side may be finished and the other side left until a potential buyer was found. The important thing to Bob and IIL is just that there are some firm guidelines to establish renewal fees. The amount is up to the Town. We could go with the minimum fees, the prorated fees, or set a percentage. Liberty Grove amended their ordinance and defined an extension and a renewal. For a renewal, they did two 6 month extensions at the minimum fees. After both extensions were used, they defined a renewal as being a new 2 year period based on

percentage of completion. Basically this gives a builder 7 years. Jim asked how many places in Baileys Harbor extend out over 3 years. There is one owner builder in Baileys Harbor that's going on 3 or 4 years now, the rest are duplexes. It's generally new homes and not remodeling projects. Jim asked about how many in Baileys Harbor have taken more than the 2 years. Bob explained it's not a huge issue but it may become more prevalent since the housing market has slackened. The current ordinance doesn't say how many 6 month extensions are allowed. Jim understands why IIL wants to get something in place, but feels 80% is a little high. Bob explained the fees

Discuss/decide conditional use permit for GL Partners, LLC (Gordon Lodge) – They are looking to take down 5 cottages and rebuild them. They would like to have them winterized to try to stay open all year. The look will be the same and they will remain two bedrooms and two bathrooms. The Baileys Harbor Planning Commission is recommending approval. The cottages that are over the high water mark will be moved back. Motion made/second Dale/Barb to recommend approval of the CUP to the County Planning Department. Carried. Clerk will send a letter to the County.

Karl Raasch – Discuss/decide use of Town Hall for AARP's income tax assistance program – Karl Raasch and Frank Pammer spoke. They have been involved with preparing income taxes for AARP through their volunteer income tax assistance program. They've currently been doing it at Scand and would like to add one more place. A lot of the taxpayers that come in are senior citizens. They would like to be here Mondays at 8AM starting in February and going through tax season. Board is fine with them doing it. They will work out the details with Doug.

Baileys Harbor Community Association – Discuss/decide changing kiosk in front of the Town Hall to a gazebo – Michael Meulemans spoke. At the last Association meeting, they talked about the kiosk in front of the Town Hall and how it's starting to deteriorate. The idea came up to utilize the platform that's already there and build a gazebo that matches the look of the Town Hall. As for the size, it could have 6 to 10 foot sides. They'd have to measure in the spring. Barb explained that one reason for leaving something in that location is because of the electrical and the phone lines. Jim wouldn't like to see anything more in the front yard. The Visitor Bureau computer does get used. Another idea would be to place it inside the Community Association entrance. The current kiosk is functional, even though it doesn't look the best. Dale feels we should take a look at measurements and space. Jim is open to figuring out something that works. He asked Mike to come back with some specific ideas and maybe some drawings of what it would look like. We'll take a closer look in spring.

Discuss/decide potential plans for Anclam Park storm sewer – Jim has been talking to Steve Parent about a couple of things that the Board is trying to accomplish. One thing was to knock the hill down a little at the entrance of the park. He also asked about possibly lowering the culvert pipes on the jetty. The DNR will allow it, but they won't allow any dredging on the south side. Barb asked how far the perforated pipe will be going out the jetty. It will go to the end, but most of the water will soak through into the jetty itself unless there is a very hard rain. Steve was also going to check if the DNR

would allow newer or bigger culverts to go in. At the next meeting we'll have Steve in attendance to answer questions and start the process to get the bid documents out.

Discussion on written engineer's report, if any – Dale had called Steve about the wall by the Catholic Church. Steve submitted some rough plans. Dale's thought was to put curbing and a catch basin on the east side of the church parking lot and run the pipe down to the new storm sewer. Steve will be here at the next meeting for sure, so we can get some of these items finalized.

Doug – Update on website – The main design is done and the front page will be up this Friday. Agendas and minutes will be posted by year end. Doug will be putting in quite a few hours at home at night, so Fridays might be few and far between for the next few weeks.

Committee report – Chairman – Would like to reschedule the liquor license ordinance meeting. We'll tentatively set it for Thursday, December 18, 2008 at 6:30PM. We could also see if Steve will be ready for that night. We'll make sure Peter will be back, as well.

Bob – Roads – Bob was absent.

Barb – Town Hall/Cemetery/Parks – None.

Dale – Sewer report – There have been a few delays on the bar screen project, but it's starting to move along again. The original timeframe was December 2, but there was some stuff on back order. It should be done by the end of this month or shortly thereafter.

Plan Commission – We need to set a date for a closed session regarding some property that's been offered to us. We'll wait until sometime after the first of the year.

Payment of bills – Motion made/second Barb/Dale to pay all bills. Carried.

Motion made/second Dale/Barb to adjourn at 8:21PM. Carried.

These minutes are subject to correction at the next regular monthly Town Board meeting.

Douglas Smith
Town Clerk