

Town Board Meeting January 19, 2009

James Parent called a special Town Board meeting to order at 6:01PM in the meeting at the Town Hall. Present were James Parent, Robert Schultz, Dale Williams and Douglas Smith. Peter Jacobs arrived at 6:14PM. Barbara Anschutz was absent.

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

Finalize renewal/extension rates for building permits – Jim changed one word in the copy from last week (which can be reviewed in the 2009 minute book). Six-month grace period applies to everyone, regardless the degree of completion. At the end of the grace period, if the inspection had not been passed, a 1-year extension will be granted with the payment of the extension based on the minimum fees of \$195. At the end of the 1-year extension, the permit would have to be renewed at 20% of the original permit. Renewal would be valid for a period of 2 years. Bob mentioned that in some cases 20% of the new permit fees would be less than the minimum fees. It should really say something along the lines of “20% of the original cost or the minimum fees, whichever is higher.” Dale feels there should be something about exterior completion. Something like that probably wouldn’t be part of the permit fee process, but we should consider it as a possible future amendment. Peter arrived and was given the rundown from the prior conversations. Motion made/second Jim/Dale to incorporate the submitted changes into the ordinance for permit extension and permit renewals subject to attorney’s review and approval. Carried.

Review and possibly decide on proposal from R. Mark Inspections – Jim has received some concerns and complaints from homeowners, developers, etc. that they are not happy with the inspection process and the way everything is set up and specifically some things they don’t like about IIL. Jim had heard Mark Stevenson’s name come up, so just wanted to take a look and see what we might be able to do. Some of the concerns Jim has heard are the fee structures and costs. Also there have been concerns about availability of inspectors. Mark has done inspections for 35 years, the last 18 of which were with the state. His philosophy with the state was you deal with the individual. Some of the people Jim has talked to have used the words “common sense” a lot. One discrepancy Jim noticed was the initial fees that are charged for a new permit. One example was about \$1200 more than what IIL charges. Jim ran few examples and in all cases it came up quite a bit cheaper. The town receives 10% of the total fees. Right now, Mark handles 7 townships. When he is out of town, he has someone that fills in for him, but other than that, he is a one-person operation. Board will take some time to think about this and talk about it at some point in the near future. Bob Arnold requested that the Board hear IIL’s side of things before a decision is made. Board agreed.

Motion made/second Bob/Dale to adjourn at 6:37PM. Carried.

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

Douglas Smith
Town Clerk