

Annual Meeting April 16, 2013

Donald Sitte called the Annual Meeting to order at 7:00PM in the auditorium at the Town Hall. Present were Donald Sitte, Robert Schultz, Barbara Anschutz, Roberta Thelen, Douglas Smith, Lois Pluff, Steve Parent and 56 visitors.

Recognition of Michael J. Walker's service to the Town of Baileys Harbor – Mike Walker, assessor for 36 years, has retired effective January 1, 2013. Don presented him with a plaque of appreciation and thanked him for his dedicated service to the Town of Baileys Harbor. Mike thanked the Town for the opportunity to serve as our assessor and received a standing ovation. Don then introduced the new assessor, Troy Zacharias.

Accept last year's minutes – Motion made/second Bill Nelson/Jim Jennings to accept the minutes. Carried.

Accept financial report per auditors – The General Fund for the last year had revenue of \$1.6 million, with expenses of \$1.55 million. The general obligation debt balance outstanding as of 12/31/12 was \$933,650.00. The grant proceeds for the Anclam Park improvements were not listed in the budgeted amounts for revenues or expenses. The Wastewater Utility had a net income of \$31,219.00 factoring out non-cash depreciation.

The Marina wages were up a little bit due to some late fall dredging which was conducted by Town employees. \$5,000 was transferred from the General Fund to balance out the overage.

The overall fund balance has about \$390,000 assigned (meaning funds that are designated for specific line items), with a total of \$1.2 million.

Motion made/second Karl Klug/Frank Pammer to accept the report. Carried.

Don then explained that Lois officially ends her elected term tonight at midnight, but she has been appointed by the Town Board for 3 years. Don thanked Lois for the excellent job she does.

Accept reports as printed – Brian Zak reported that the fire department went through an ISO review and our rating has improved. This should help all homeowners in the Town of Baileys Harbor reduce their home insurance cost.

Doug reported that when the auditors were here in January, they told him Baileys Harbor is financially one of the best run towns that they've worked with. Doug thanked Lois for her help in achieving this. He also reminded everyone that recycling will be moving back to the Rec. Park. Late last year, the Town Board approved a well water testing program where residents can get their water tested for a reduced charge. This will be occurring sometime in August.

Mark Merrill reported that 2012 was fairly normal in the way of calls and assists. Gary Nelson continues to help him out as Deputy Constable.

Cal Oldenburg asked about the proposed Northern Door Fire District. Brian Zak explained that Baileys Harbor has opted out at this time. Jim Jennings asked if it would effect the mutual aid agreement we have with other towns and villages. It will not. Tim Tishler asked if anyone else has opted out. Jacksonport has, and Town of Egg Harbor might opt out as well.

Motion made/second Bob Bultman/Jim Jennings to accept the reports. Carried.

Marina update – John Hammarstrom reported that this will be Marina’s 13th season. There is currently a five to six foot deep channel leading out. The interior has cladophora buildup, so they will be performing hydraulic dredging to get rid of that. A path has already been cleared for the Trout Tournament. Last year, Lake Michigan beat the all time record low from 1964 by an inch. A Marina Committee has been formed to address some of the issues pertaining to the low water as well as building maintenance. So far, the committee includes Bob Bultman, Mark Warecki, Mike LeClair and Dan Barnowsky. John explained that the building is leaking pretty severely. Karl Klug asked where the silt is taken that’s been dredged. It is taken to our green site. Bryan Nelson stated that Harbor Construction did a great job with the dredging in February.

Bob Bultman, who has been helping the Town research various grant opportunities, submitted an application to WI Coastal Management for a grant for a sediment study. Unfortunately, the application was denied but they encouraged him to reapply again during the next cycle. He will continue working with them, and will also be going to Madison for Door County Legislative Days.

Jason Pegggar asked why the dredging cost so much more than the original bid. It was due to the fact that the contractor took a lot more sand out. He also asked if a riprap wall has been considered to prevent sand from coming into the Marina. That is an example of something the committee will start doing some research on.

Brynn Swanson suggested looking into Visitor Bureau grants. Bob Bultman will get in touch them.

Historical Society update – Susie Bauldry reminded everyone to pick up a copy of the latest BHHS newsletter. In June there will be a program on commercial fishing presented by Mr. Jensen who is the author of “Wooden Boats and Iron Men.” Nancy Rafal will do a presentation about the history of Moonlight Bay on July 17. Nancy is also the spearhead of the mural on Nelson’s store. On August 15th, Bill Becker and Bob Schultz will do a program on the history of Baileys Harbor baseball. In September, Randy Zahn will do a program on the Zahn Family. Susie is working on getting all of the cemetery records digitized and they will eventually be available on the Town’s website. They also would like more members, and they desperately need more volunteers. She also thanked the Town Board for their support.

Presentation of Scenic Byways Kiosk design – Kriss Schorer explained both the National Scenic Byways Program as well as the Door County Coastal Byway. She then presented mock-ups of the new Coastal Byways kiosk that will be placed in front of the Town Hall and encouraged people to look at them and give any input/corrections/changes. The Scenic Byways program opens up various grant opportunities for the Town. For example, the second phase of the Anclam Park project will be partially funded by Scenic Byways money. The kiosk itself will be partially covered by Scenic Byways money. Tammy Musiel asked if the kiosks will have a standard look across the County. Yes, they will.

Any other business per State Statutes – Don called on Steve Parent to go over some of the information for the Anclam Park project. He explained the first phase of the project is complete, \$103,000.00 of which was paid for by a grant from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. The first phase was more of the beach clean-up/storm water filtration portion of the project. The second phase will be more of the aesthetic/beautification aspects. Originally we had planned to bid the project out by now, for a start in May. However, due to issues at the federal government, the grant money for the project won't be available until after July 1 of this year.

Carol Williams asked about fixing some of the problems remaining from the first phase. For example, there are some deep ditches along the mounds. Steve will stop by and take a look at it. If some of the plantings don't come back, they are covered by a one year warranty.

Jane Pluff stated the Lutheran Church will be holding another electronics recycling day on June 1 at the fire station.

Nancy Miller asked about weather warning sirens. This issue was looked into and the cost is very prohibitive. Brian Zak explained that the sound of the siren currently installed on the fire station won't get past the bluff, so the coverage area is very small. He also stated that we are still in the running for a FEMA grant which could potentially supply a weather radio for everyone in the Town.

Karen Smuda asked about a sidewalk on Bluff Road going up the hill. We are working on it. Steve Parent prepared some cost estimates for the Town. The Town is receptive to doing it. Once the final plan is prepared, we'll have an idea for dollar amounts.

Bill Becker reported on the Baileys Harbor Athlete Club. Baileys Harbor has played baseball continuously since 1883. Semi-pro football will also be coming to Baileys Harbor, with the new team of Door County Destroyers, members of the Wisconsin State Football League. The Baileys Harbor Athlete Club consists of: President, Bob Schultz; Vice President, Mike Parent; Secretary/Treasurer, Bill Becker; Board Members, Patrick Keehan, Mike LeClair and Wayne Heiman. Don asked for a round of applause for all the work they do.

Bob Bultman thanked the Board for the “dark sky” street lighting. He also thanked Carl Berndt for trapping some of the stray cats in the downtown area. As for Anclam Park, he would recommend against any irrigation system.

Francha Barnard asked about progress being made on the Green Site. We have a design and we’re getting cost estimates. We’re currently working with the DNR as the entrance to the site is actually on DNR property.

Mike Meulemans, Vice President of the Baileys Harbor Community Association, gave an update. Brynn Swanson was hired as an administrative assistant last fall and she has been doing a great job. The Brown Trout Tournament is this coming weekend. Spring Fling is on the third weekend in May, which will now include a community garage sale. Anyone interested should contact Brynn. The soup tasting will also be back.

Set date for Annual Meeting 2014 – April 15, 2014.

Motion made/second Jim Jennings/Doug Smith to adjourn at 8:32PM. Carried.

Douglas Smith
Town Clerk/Administrator