

**BAL HARBOUR VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**FIRST BUDGET HEARING – SEPTEMBER 12, 2006**

The First Budget Hearing of Bal Harbour Village was held on Tuesday, September 12, 2006, in the Council Chambers at Bal Harbour Village Hall (655 – 96<sup>th</sup> Street, Bal Harbour, Florida).

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m. by Mayor Roth. The following were present:

Mayor Seymour “Sy” Roth  
 Assistant Mayor Howard J. Berlin  
 Councilman Jean Rosenfield  
 Councilman Jaime M. Sanz

Alfred J. Treppeda, Village Manager  
 Ellisa Horvath, CMC, Village Clerk  
 Andrea Greenblatt, Admin. Assistant  
 Richard J. Weiss, Village Attorney

Absent: Councilman Joel S. Jacobi

As a quorum was determined to be present, the meeting commenced.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge was led by Village resident Dina Cellini.

**3. ANNOUNCEMENT:** Mrs. Horvath announced that the Bal Harbour Village rolled-back millage rate is 2.4714 mills and that the proposed millage rate is 2.902 mills, which is 17.42% greater than the rolled-back rate.

**4. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED TAX MILLAGE RATE AND DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED BUDGET:** Chris Wallace, Finance Director, conducted a Powerpoint presentation on the Proposed Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2006/2007, highlighting the following items:

- Taxable Property Values Increased by 19.03%
- Proposed Millage Rate is 2.902 (same as last year)
- Bal Harbour’s Millage is the 5<sup>th</sup> Lowest in the County
- Chart Showing Bal Harbour’s Millage Rate since 1978
- Comparison of Taxes FY 2006 compared to FY 2007
- Expenditure by Department
  - Law Enforcement – 38%
  - General Government – 19%
  - Building Dept. – 7%
  - Roads/Streets – 7%
  - Solid Waste – 9%

- Executive – 5%
- Park & Recreation – 5%
- Legislative – 4%
- Open Spaces – 3%
- Finance/Adm – 3%
- Expenditure Increase/Decrease by Department (Total: \$714,238)
- Largest Expenditure Increases/Decreases
  - Executive (+\$117,736)
  - General Government (+\$186,400)
  - Police (+\$264,535)
  - Building (-\$526,271)
  - Solid Waste (+\$259,669)
  - Roads and Streets (+\$203,189)
  - Parks and Recreation (+\$146,749)
- Bal Harbour Total Tax Bill Comparison (Rate Decrease of 2.52%)
- Total Tax Bill Comparison (Increase of \$54.68 Annual)
- Largest Revenue Sources (Total \$11,084,840)
- Where the Money Comes From

Mayor Roth discussed the notice from the Property Appraiser showing that taxes would go up a maximum of approximately \$60 for the year.

Mayor Roth opened the public hearing.

**Babak Raheb, resident – 128 Balfour Drive**, clarified that Bal Harbour taxes are going up, but the millage rate will remain. Mayor Roth explained that taxes will increase slightly, due to the property valuations. Mr. Raheb questioned why taxes didn't go down, since the Sheraton project was approved. Mr. Treppeda noted that if the project happens and the revenues come in, then the Council could consider lowering taxes at that time. Mr. Raheb questioned money allotted to install new street crossing signalizations. Mr. Treppeda explained that would be paid for by FDOT and the County.

**Dina Cellini, resident - 211 Bal Cross Drive**, noted that the revenues and other funds appropriated total \$16,746,325 and questioned the increase compared to last year. Mr. Treppeda reported that it's an increase of \$714,238 (6.89%) Ms. Cellini discussed Open Spaces and questioned if the General Revenue Fund pays for the maintenance of the park property located east of the guard gate, adjacent to Collins Avenue, between Harbour Way West and East. Mr. Treppeda advised that it does. Ms. Cellini questioned if the Security District Fund contributes to the maintenance of that property. Mr. Treppeda explained that the Security District Fund pays for the area directly around the guardhouse (flowers) and for the replacement of Royal Palm trees that were originally placed on the park property. Ms. Cellini requested a list of the Royal Palms purchased for that property.

Ms. Cellini discussed the Security District budget and questioned how much of the budgeted \$25,000 legal fees were spent last year. Mr. Treppeda responded that as of May 31, 2006 \$2,497 was spent. Ms. Cellini questioned if the money budgeted for 2006/2007 is in addition to the money left over from the previous year. Mr. Treppeda responded that it's not and that a total fund of \$25,000 is projected. Ms. Cellini questioned the budget increase for Kent Security. Mr. Treppeda explained that a cost of living increase (5 ½%) was added

to the actual expenditure from the previous year. Ms. Cellini questioned the Ego Pass Fund. Mr. Treppeda explained that project has not been done yet and that the \$20,000 was re-budgeted again for 2006/2007. Ms. Cellini questioned if any money was spent in Security District Contingency fund last year. Mr. Treppeda explained that as of May 31, 2006 the spreadsheet shows that \$15,746 was spent, but will re-check that. Ms. Cellini requested a list of items that the money was spent on.

Babak Raheb questioned if a competitive bid was received for the maintenance of Security gates. Mr. Treppeda explained that the budget is an estimate and that prices will be received when the work is done.

There being no additional discussion, Mayor Roth closed the public hearing.

## **5. RESOLUTION – ADOPTION OF THE TENTATIVE MILLAGE**

**RATE:** The following resolution was read by title, by Mrs. Horvath:

**A RESOLUTION OF BAL HARBOUR VILLAGE, FLORIDA, ADOPTING A TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006/2007; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Mayor Roth opened the meeting for public discussion. There being no comments, Mayor Roth closed the meeting for public discussion.

*A motion was offered by Councilman Rosenfield and seconded by Councilman Sanz to approve. The motion carried unanimously (4-0), Thus becoming Resolution No. 687.*

**6. ORDINANCES FIRST READING/PUBLIC HEARING:** The following ordinance was read by title, by Mrs. Horvath:

**ORDINANCE OF BAL HARBOUR VILLAGE ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR ALL VILLAGE FUNDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2006, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2007; APPROPRIATING REVENUES AND OTHER FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$16,746,325; AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The public hearing was opened by Mayor Roth.

***Dina Cellini, resident – 211 Bal Cross Drive***, questioned the lack of an Other Business Section on the agenda. Mr. Weiss explained that an Other Business section is not included on budget hearing agendas. Ms. Cellini suggested that Assistant Mayor Berlin recuse himself from the Executive Session and not have any input, due to a possible conflict with the Plaintiff's Lawyer John Shubin (Berlin was a previous client). Mr. Weiss noted that he is not aware of any ethical rule or conflict in the fact that Berlin was a former client of someone suing the Village and noted that Assistant Mayor Berlin no longer has a relationship with that Attorney.

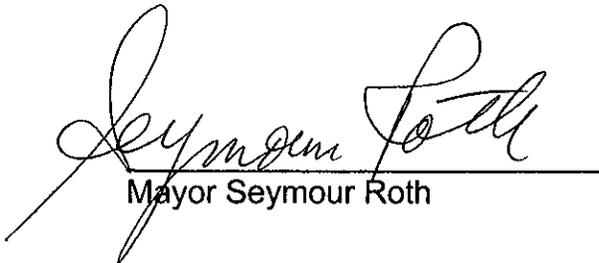
There being no additional comments, Mayor Roth closed the public hearing.

*A motion was offered by Councilman Rosenfield and seconded by Councilman Sanz to approve*

this Ordinance. The motion carried with the vote as follows: Mayor Roth aye; Assistant Mayor Berlin aye; Councilman Jacobi aye; Councilman Rosenfield aye; Councilman Sanz aye.

**7. ANNOUNCEMENT:** The next budget hearing date is September 19, 2006, at 5:01 p.m.

**8. ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion was offered by Councilman Sanz to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously (4-0), and the meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.



Mayor Seymour Roth

Attest:



Ellisa Horvath, CMC  
Village Clerk