

Bill Donohue

I first came to Harbor Springs in 1981, to go skiing with a customer. I was in the baking industry and my customer managed one of the largest oven manufacturers serving large, wholesale bakeries (think Wonder Bread, Sanders, Awrey). It was a perfect, winter weekend and Harbor looked like something out of a Currier and Ives print. It was beautiful and I knew right then, I loved this place. About 6-months later this same customer called to say he was moving his company to North Carolina and did I want to buy his house. The answer was a quick “yes” and we have had a home up here since 1982.

I grew up in Evanston, IL graduating from high school in 1962. Right after high school, I joined the marines and served from 1962-65. After my service, I enrolled at Bowling Green State University(Ohio) graduating with a degree in Economics in 1969. I met my wife, Claudia at Bowling Green, and we were married my Junior year. After graduation I went to work for a large steel company (Inland Steel) based in Chicago. Over the next 5-years I moved to St. Louis, Houston, Kansas City, and finally back to Chicago where I began my career in publishing and stayed in publishing (mostly serving the baking industry) for the rest of my career. After 11-years at Gorman Publishing in Chicago, I left to start my own company , Donohue-Meehan Publishing in Des Plaines, IL. We published to the bakery market and convenience store companies and soon, both publications were number one in their fields. In 1998 I sold the company to Penton Media in Cleveland, and we went public on the NYSE, where I served on the board of directors for 2-years. In 2005 I left to form Harbor Communications, another publishing company, and launched Club & Resort Business, a business magazine for the mangers of city, golf, and country clubs. I retired in 2014 and moved to London to pursue a Masters in Military History with the University of Buckingham.

I mention the various moves to illustrate just how much I love and appreciate Harbor Springs, There is no other place like it and that is why I am running for City Council. It's vital that whatever decisions the town makes, it not only doesn't detract from the charm that is Harbor, but in fact enhances it.

I am running on the following principles...

- Any changes in our zoning *must* preserve the unique charm of Harbor Springs. Any movement that detracts from this I will vigorously oppose.
- Our schools are sacrosanct. I will support any and all sensible initiatives to maintain or improve the quality of our school system.
- Our city should fund the basics. I want good streets and roads, well maintained sidewalks, and basic infrastructure.
- Live within our budgets. We receive money from the taxpayers to maintain Harbor Springs to the citizen's expectations. It is our job to spend it responsibly.

- Less government is good governance. I will resist any attempt to expand governmental authority into our private lives or property.

I ask for your vote on November 4. If you give it to me I promise to a) live up to the above principles, b) always be honest in the reasons for my votes and c) most importantly work to maintain the charm that is Harbor Springs.

