

**Town of La Pointe  
Special Town Board Meeting  
2020 Budget Workshop  
Wednesday, October 16, 2019  
5:15 pm at the Town Hall  
Approved Minutes**

**Town Board Members Present:** Jim Patterson, Michael Anderson, Sue Brenna, Glenn Carlson, John Carlson

**Staff Present:** Lisa Potswald, Barb Nelson, William Defoe, Carey Baxter, Ric Gillman, Rick Reichkitzer, Elected Clerk Micaela Montagne

1. Call to order: 5:15pm

2. Budget Workshop with each of the following departments

A. Police Department: William Defoe presented the 2020 budget requests. Discussion on Chief possibly retiring in 2024, there will be a new part time employee hired soon, and in general, department wages are lower than other departments in the area. The two-week work week has been working out well. Wages and overtime need to be adjusted (reduced) due to error. The County will be providing the same \$135,000 to the department in 2020 but 2021 and beyond will need to be negotiated. The new squad truck for this year has not arrived yet, and the next will be purchased in 2023.

B. Town Plan Commission/ Planning and Zoning: Ric Gillman presented 2020 budget requests. His priority is to complete the fire number project. 2020 budget similar to 2019. R. Gillman mentioned that it would be good for the Town Board to consider what the Zoning Administrator position may look like in the future in terms of pay and benefits as the current half-time with no benefits position may not be attractive to the next administrator.

C. Materials Recovery Facility (MRF): Carey Baxter presented the 2020 budget requests. Discussion on how important the third person is in the summers; budgeted 600 hours but haven't used that many due to staffing. Possibly a wage increase for the position to get an employee that can be there three days a week. Another driver for the roll-off truck was also discussed. Hopefully the MRF Work Group will provide a break down of the financial analysis to get a better understanding if self-hauling is better than outside source hauling.

G. Fire Department: Rick Reichkitzer present to go over 2020 budget requests. The department still needs to replace some equipment and vehicles after the fire; some are in the 2020 budget as some in 2021. Though compensation for volunteers was down in 2019 because there were not many calls, the 2020 budget includes responding to 20 calls for the year.

D. Community Awards Committee: The committee is requesting the same amount as 2019: \$330.

E. Affordable Housing Committee: The committee is requesting funds for travel to training/ workshops/ conferences as well as providing \$500 to the study being done in Bayfield and Ashland Counties (a total of \$1708).

F. Public Arts Committee: The committee is requesting \$10,000 (and stating that they would offset it by grants and other funding), but they are not yet sure what they would spend the money on. Discussion on not providing the money upfront, but doing a budget amendment if they come up with a project and grant money or other funding comes in.

Discussion on how the preliminary 2020 budget requests did not include the Emergency Services Building rebuild or the Dock Project, and expenditures are \$1.2 million over revenues.

3. Public Comment: None.

4. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn, M. Anderson/ G. Carlson, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried. Adjourned at 6:58pm

Submitted by Micaela Montagne, Town Clerk.

Approved as submitted October 22, 2019. M. Montagne, Town Clerk.