

**TOWN OF LA POINTE**  
**SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY JUNE 29, 2022**  
**5:00pm at the Emergency Services Building/ Zoom**  
Approved Minutes

**Town Board Members Present:** Chair Glenn Carlson, Supervisor Michael Anderson, Supervisor Aimée Baxter, Supervisor Sue Brenna, Supervisor John Carlson

**Staff Present:** Town Administrator Michael Kuchta, Police Chief William Defoe, Elected Clerk Micaela Montagne

31 members of the public present in person and via zoom.

1. Call to order: 5:00pm.
2. Presentation of background information regarding the Law Enforcement Agreement with Ashland County: Town Administrator Michael Kuchta presented some background information on the agreement with Ashland County. In the recent years the County has paid/reimbursed the Town \$135,000 annually to help cover costs of police department wages and to put some money toward a new squad car. M. Kuchta also reported that though the Town of La Pointe is only 2.7% of Ashland County's population, the County portion of the La Pointe tax levy accounts for 22.4% of their tax revenue. The Ashland County Board of Supervisors voted to terminate the agreement to spend the \$135,000 elsewhere (most likely for correction officers at the County jail). The La Pointe police department expenditures in 2022 were budgeted around \$385,000. The busiest times are in the summer, and La Pointe is busier than other municipalities in Ashland County. M. Kuchta introduced some options including updating the agreement and trying to get Ashland County to continue to provide funding for the police department, keep the full police department and pay for the loss with tax levy, reduce the size of the department with supplemental coverage from the county, eliminate the local police department and just rely on county for coverage, or try to join a different department or contract with another jurisdiction.
3. Public comment:  
There were many public comments including pushing back to the County to get them to continue an agreement, change the police department, use cameras instead of officers, eliminate the local police department because the county is obligated to provide coverage (some comments included having the county provide deputies but use equipment already here on the Island, others were ~~wary~~ wary of this as it could take a county deputy over an hour to respond), maybe find local people who would like to become officers, and working toward legislation that would provide funding because of our unique location. Many comments on the importance of having officers that know the community as it provides a safer environment and is better for EMTs etc. Many more comments on persuading the County Board that it would be foolish to throw away the current agreement as it is a win for both parties.

The Vice President of the County Board commented that after hearing the presentation and comments he supports putting the money back in for the Town and encouraged everyone to contact the other County Board members as well.

4. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn, M. Anderson/ J. Carlson, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.  
Adjourned at 6:37pm.

Submitted by Micaela Montagne, Town Clerk.

Approved with a typo corrected ~~wear~~ wary in item 3., July 12, 2022. M. Montagne, Town Clerk.