

**TOWN OF LA POINTE**  
**REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY AUGUST 10, 2022**  
**5:30 PM AT TOWN HALL**  
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 (via phone), Public Works Director Ben Schram, Roads Crew Evan R. Erickson, Elected Clerk Micaela Montagne  
**Public Present:** Dave Donkers, Charley Brummer, Lucy Sievers, Steve Eggen, Olive Montagne  
**Called to Order:** 5:30pm

**I. Public Comment A\*:** Charley Brummer commented on how a head tax or use tax could be helpful.

**II. Open Request for Proposals:** Big Bay Town Park Accessibility Study “RFP 22-02”: One proposal received from Cooper Engineering for a total of \$65,480.00.

**III. Administrative Reports**

- A. Town Administrator’s Report: Report prepared and presented by Michael Kuchta. Some discussion on the smart system at the ESB as well as billing Wendel for the costs of the compressor, including Town labor.
  - B. Public Works Director’s Report: July report prepared and presented by Ben Schram.
  - C. MRF Supervisor’s Report: July report prepared by Martin Curry.
  - D. Airport Manager’s Report & Checklist: July report prepared by Paul Wilharm.
  - E. Planning and Zoning Administrator’s Report: July report prepared by Ed Schaffer.
  - F. Accounting Administrator’s Report: July report prepared by Barb Nelson.
  - G. Police Chief’s Report: July report prepared by William Defoe.
  - H. Fire Chief’s Report: July report prepared by Rick Reichkitzer. Discussion on getting an agreement with Bad River for providing services on the Reservation.
  - I. Ambulance Director’s Report: July report prepared by Cindy Dalzell.
- All reports placed on file by Unanimous Consent.

**IV. Public Works**

- A. Roads, Dock and Harbor
  - 1. Purchase John Deere Wheel Loader: Motion to approve the purchase (the Town has been leasing the loader, the lease is mature) for \$113,948.33, J. Carlson/ A. Baxter, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.
- B. Parks
- C. Materials Recovery Facility (MRF)
  - 1. Revised Purchase Order for MRF Skid Steer: Motion to approve the purchase (a high flow hydraulics instead of low flow), for \$42,112 (includes \$6,900 for a trade in), S. Brenna/ A. Baxter, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

## **V. Committees**

### **A. Planning and Zoning**

1. Recommendation from Town Plan Commission: Certified Survey Map for Lots 1 and 2 of Ashland County Certified Survey Map No. 489, Volume 3 of Certified Surveys on pages 184-186, as Document No. 306138 Located in Section 30, T. 50 N, R. 3 W., combining Parcels 014-00399-0100 and 014-00399-0200. Nancy Kron Sievers Revocable Trust: Motion to approve, M. Anderson/ A. Baxter, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

### **B. Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee**

1. Updates and Timeline: The community forums are still taking place and Northland College is working on analyzing the data from the survey. The Committee will be asking for a timeline extension at the next meeting.

## **VI. Town Hall Administration**

A. Grant Updates: No updates besides what was mentioned in the Town Administrator's Report.

B. Initial Budget Discussion: The Town Board would like to put a place holder for COLA raises at 9.1%, other things will wait to see what comes out of the Department Heads requests. May need to budget for road reconstruction if the Town receives the BIL grant, and additional funding for the new fire truck.

Motion to have Agenda items VI. C, IX. A. 1 &2, and IX. B. to after item X., S. Brenna/ A. Baxter, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

**VII. Vouchers:** Motion to approve vouchers in the amount of \$80,316.29, M. Anderson/ J. Carlson, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

## **VIII. Minutes**

A. Regular Town Board Meeting July 26, 2022: Motion to approve as submitted, S. Brenna/ A. Baxter, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried. G. Carlson thanked J. Carlson for chairing the meeting in his absence.

## **IX. Emergency Services**

### **A. Police Department**

1. Ashland County Law Enforcement Agreement: Nothing to report at this time. The County is waiting for the Town to provide a more detailed police department budget to give them a better understanding prior to moving forward.

**X. Public Comment B\*\*:** None.

Motion to go into closed session to discuss items IX. A. 2, IX. B, and VI. C, S. Brenna/ A. Baxter, 5 Ayes by roll call vote, Motion Carried. 5:58pm

Motion to return to open session, M. Anderson/ J. Carlson, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried. 6:27pm.

## **VI. Town Hall Administration**

### **C. Annual Performance Review of the Town Administrator & Possible Compensation Adjustment**

This meeting may, upon duly made motion, be convened in closed session under State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. If the Town goes into closed session, it will reconvene in open session before adjourning.

Motion to approve a 5% merit raise for Michael Kuchta effective 6/1/2022, his anniversary date, A. Baxter/ S. Brenna, 4 Ayes, 1 Nay (J. Carlson), Motion Carried. G. Carlson to meet with M. Kuchta to go over the review. Then will be on the next agenda for follow up.

## **IX. Emergency Services**

### **A. Police Department**

#### **2. Police Officer Overnight Policy**

The Town Board may go into closed session during the meeting for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved in accordance with to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85 (1)(g) and/ or 19.85 (1) (c) considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. After the completion of the closed session, the Board will come back into open session to act upon the discussion in the closed session or otherwise complete the business of the meeting before adjourning.

Motion to approve the Police Officer On-Call/ Stand-By Policy with the addition of a disclaimer that the Town Board can change the policy at any time. The policy will be effective this current pay period, J. Carlson/ A. Baxter, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

### **B. Updates on Construction and Warranty Work at the Emergency Services Building**

The Town Board may go into closed session during the meeting for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved in accordance with to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85 (1)(g). After the completion of the closed session, the Board will come back into open session to act upon the discussion in the closed session or otherwise complete the business of the meeting before adjourning.

No action, M. Kuchta to look into a problem with the switches.

## **XI. Lawsuits & Legal Issues**

### **A. William Defoe vs. Town of La Pointe, Case No. 19CV57**

**XII. New Agenda Items for Future Meetings:** Comp Plan Committee timeline extension, TA review follow up, propane proposals, Town Dock issues, November meeting date change.

**XIII. Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn, S. Brenna/ J. Carlson, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried. Adjourned at 6:32pm.

Submitted by Micaela Montagne, Town Clerk.

Approved as submitted August 23, 2022. M. Montagne, Town Clerk.