

Town of La Pointe
Special Town Board Meeting
And 2023 Budget Workshop
Monday, October 17, 2022
5:15 pm at the Town Hall
Approved Minutes

Town Board Members Present: Chair Glenn Carlson, Supervisor Michael Anderson, Supervisor Aimée Baxter, Supervisor Sue Brenna (via telephone), Supervisor John Carlson
Staff Present: Town Administrator Michael Kuchta, Public Works Director Ben Schram, Roads Crew Evan R Erickson, MRF Supervisor Martin Curry, Airport Manager Paul Wilharm, Elected Clerk Micaela Montagne
Public Present: Michael Childers, Paul Brummer

1. Call to order: at 5:15pm
2. Open Bids for Gravel: One bid received from Nelson Construction for a total of \$32,340.00.
3. Budget Workshop with each of the following departments:

Town Administrator M. Kuchta gave a 2023 budget overview. Currently, the 2023 budget requests from all departments create a 1.15 million deficit, mostly due to a decrease in revenue. Many departments are asking for a decrease in expenditures (except for in wages). There is a blanket of 7.7% increase for wages as a cost-of-living increase. Capital projects are lower than in 2022, and there is currently no borrowing planned.

B. Harbor Commission: there is a \$50,000 placeholder for the Commission in 2023.

A. Public Works

Roads: Ben Schram & Evan Erickson went over budget requests for 2023 including an increase of culverts, fuel, and some equipment and parts. A new pick up is requested to replace the '08 Ford. Hagen Road will be repaved in 2024 (with mostly grant funds) but about \$50K in 2023 budget to prepare/ engineer. Discussion on having the sidewalk on the corner of Main Street and Big Bay Rd remain in the budget even though all easements have not been received yet.

Parks: Ben Schram and Evan Erickson presented the proposed parks budget for 2023 including a new lawn mower and a new golf cart for Big Bay Town Park. Discussion on creating an updated Campground office policy. Other items include a sidewalk at the Rec Center and some repairs to Joni's Beach dock. There is also money in the budget to work on eradicating phragmites near the gravel piles.

Materials Recovery Facility (MRF): 2023 budget requests presented by Marty Curry, Ben Schram & Evan Erickson. Revenues are down as recyclables are difficult to sell. There is a capital request to build a storage building

for recyclables so they can be stored until markets are higher. Also, discussion on the possibility of a future 'green bucket' composting program.

Airport: 2023 budget requests presented by Paul Wilharm, Ben Schram & Evan Erickson. Largest request is for a new disc cutter for the tractor to assist in brush clearing etc. The terminal building lease is up in June 2023 and there are thoughts of rehabbing the building when that occurs.

Dock: No requests for 2023.

Cemetery: 2023 request for expenditures is down slightly from 2022.

4. Public Comment: Evan Erickson reported that the online auction closed 10/17/22 and if all bids are paid, the Town will receive around \$19,000. Ben Thanked Evan for his work on the auction.

Paul Brummer commented on reducing the frequency of grass mowing and to look into outside hauling of garbage.

5. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn, J. Carlson/ A. Baxter, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried. Adjourned at 6:17pm.

Submitted by Micaela Montagne, Town Clerk.

Approved as submitted October 25, 2022. M. Montagne, Town Clerk.