

**TOWN OF LA POINTE  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
Tuesday, April 19, 2022  
At 5:00 PM at Town Hall  
Minutes**

39 Townspeople present as indicated on the sign-up sheet

**I. Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Glenn Carlson at 5:00pm.

**II. 2021 Financial Report:** Motion by Michael Anderson to approve the financial report. Second by Penny Gill, All Ayes, Motion Carried.

**III. Minutes**

- A. Annual Town Meeting April 20, 2021: Motion by Michael Anderson to approve minutes, second by Penny Gill, 38 Ayes, 1 Abstain, Motion Carried.
- B. Special Town Meeting December 6, 2021: Motion by John Carlson to approve minutes, second by Debbie Knopf, all Ayes, Motion Carried.

**IV. Resolution #2022-0419:** Constructing a shed at the Madeline Island Public Library: this will be an 8 x 12 shed adjacent to the outdoor classroom to be used for storage and programming, paid for with ARPA funds for the maker space. Brief discussion on the Clinic also needing storage space and the possibility of sharing space. Motion by Debbie Knopf to approve the resolution, second by Penny Gill, 32 Ayes, 2 Opposed, 5 Abstain, Motion Carried.

**V. Topics from the People**

Mike Starck asked for a moment of silence for Ric Gillman.

Cedrick Teisberg brought up concerns he has regarding the MRF recycling junk vehicles.

Steve McHugh had a question regarding the new cell tower: construction may begin this summer.

Jim Peters questioned the status of the Town putting in a sidewalk on the curve of Main Street/ Big Bay Road as well as the ADA sidewalk connecting the handicap parking space to the pavilion at the Rec Center.

Discussion with interest both for and against extending the sidewalk on the curve at Main Street and Big Bay Road.

Mike Stark thanked those who voted for him for County Board. He also informed the public that Bob Hartzell is having a open house for the public to learn more about the expandable condominium he is planning off of Mondamin.

Discussion on how the County plans on terminating the Law Enforcement Agreement with the Town at the end of the year which has provided the Town with \$135,000 annually to cover some Police Officer wages as well as part of the squad car. The Town Board is planning on having a separate meeting on the topic possibly in June to gather more public input on the situation once more information is gathered with meetings between Town and County Administration.

Mike Starck questioned the status of the Community Center Work Group: the work group completed their tasks and now the Library Board is looking into a feasibility study.

Jim Peters commented that the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee is still working on trying to find solutions to the workforce housing problem on the Island.

Cedar Schemke asked about the status of the Gateway Sculpture: to be installed when weight restrictions are removed. There will be a dedication ceremony on July 30, 2022.

**VI. Adjourn:** Motion by Mike Anderson to adjourn, second by Susan Widmar, All Ayes, Motion Carried. Adjourned at 5:50pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Micaela Montagne, Town Clerk.

**TOWN OF LA POINTE  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2022  
Immediately following a Public Hearing  
At Town Hall  
Draft Minutes**

40 Townspeople present as per the attached sign-up sheet.

I. Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Glenn Carlson at 5:18pm.

II. Consider the adoption of a resolution by the town meeting endorsing a Town Board Resolution (#2022-1117) which proposes that the town levy exceed the state allowable levy limit under Ss. 66.0602 of Wisconsin Statutes, specifically a proposed tax levy which would exceed the allowable town tax levy for 2022/Payable 2023 by 5% percent which would be a dollar increase of \$89,114 (for a total of \$1,871,395).

Motion by Mike Starck to approve the levy at the State allowable limit with no increase, second by Steve Lennick. Discussion on how it would be a mistake as the increase still does not cover the full impact of inflation, and there is already talk of the town borrowing money, and borrowing is currently not cheap. 3 Ayes, 37 opposed, Motion Failed.

Motion by Robin Trinko Russell to approve the tax levy with the 5% increase as presented, second by Dale Whittaker, 37 Ayes, 3 opposed, Motion Carried.

III. Approve the 2022 total Town Tax Levy to be collected in 2023 pursuant to Sec. 60.10(1)(a) Wisconsin Statutes:

Motion by Peter Ross to approve the tax levy at \$1,871,395, second by Debbie Knopf, All Ayes, Motion Carried.

IV. La Pointe Police Department Budget: Staffing and Funding:

Discussion included the overview of the dilemma with the WI Department of Revenue (DOR); their original opinion was that since Ashland County is discontinuing their payment to the Town for a service, the \$135K could be transferred from the County's tax levy to the Town's Levy- meaning no change for the taxpayer, just that the Town could keep the money. The DOR reversed their opinion, and now the Town is planning of filing a petition on the reversal.

Mike Starck mentioned that the County Administrator is interested in meeting again with the Town Administrator and Town Board after January 3, 2023 when the new County Sheriff begins to discuss the issue.

Further discussion and comments on the pros and cons of not having the La Pointe police department provide full coverage (the current 2023 budget includes  $\frac{3}{4}$  La Pointe coverage and  $\frac{1}{4}$  County coverage). Many comments on supporting the Town in the fight to have Ashland County continue to provide some funding for the police department as the town does not get much return on their tax money in county services. Many people also interested in providing funding for the full coverage by the Town so there are no options to be open to vulnerability or exposed because of lack of police presence.

**Townpeople advisory vote on borrowing more money (\$135,000) to have the La Pointe police department provide 100% coverage, 23 Ayes, 6 Nays, and 7 Abstain.**

**V. Adjourn: Motion by Mike Anderson to adjourn, second by Steve Lennick, All Ayes, Motion Carried. Adjourned at 5:51pm.**

**Submitted by Micaela Montagne, Town Clerk.**

**DRAFT**

**TOWN OF LA POINTE  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
Friday February 10, 2023  
4:15pm at Town Hall  
Draft Minutes**

8 Townspeople present as per the attached sign-up sheet.

Motion to have John Carlson Chair the meeting, M. Anderson/ S. Brenna, 6 Ayes, 1 Abstain, Motion Carried.

**I. Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by John Carlson at 4:16pm.

**II. Establish the hourly wage to pay an elected town officer for serving as a town employee pursuant to Statute 60.37(4)(b)(1): Elected Clerk Micaela Montagne serving as part time Librarian.** Motion by Mike Anderson to pay Micaela Montagne \$23/ hour as was posted for the position, retroactive to January 30, 2023. Second by Mike Starck. Lauren Schuppe confirmed that this wage will allow M. Montagne an average of at least 13.5 hours/ week which will adequately fill the needs of the library. 7 Ayes, 1 Abstain (M. Montagne), Motion Carried.

**III. Adjourn:** Motion by Sue Brenna to adjourn, second by Mike Anderson, All Ayes, Motion Carried. Adjourned at 4:19pm.

Submitted by Micaela Montagne, Town Clerk.