

TOWN OF LA POINTE
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
December 12th, 2023
4:45 PM AT TOWN HALL
Approved Minutes

Town Board Members Present: Chair Glenn Carlson, Supervisor Michael Anderson, Supervisor Aimée Baxter, Supervisor Sue Brenna, Supervisor Samantha Dobson (via zoom)

Staff Present: Town Administrator Michael Kuchta, Town Clerk Alex Smith

Public Present: John Carlson, Paul Brummer, Michael Childers, Jim Peters (via zoom)

Call to Order: at 4:45pm.

I. Public Comment A*

Paul Brummer stated that in regards to the snowless winter so far, to consider laying off, in staggering terms, members of the town road crew. With only one employee off per week, operations shouldn't be affected, and it would be cost saving for the town.

John Carlson asked to revise the minutes of the Dec. 5 public hearing regarding his questions on police overtime.

Motion to move up XII and discuss the Harbor Commission updates, S. Brenna/A. Baxter, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

XII. Harbor Commission Update

Michael Childers presented updates on the purchase of the ferry. He stated there are three agreements in place: vessel, real estate, and operation. Carol is working with Ehlers on a narrative to go with the financial model for a better understanding. Ehlers is willing to meet with the Town Board if any questions arise. At the Special Town Meeting on December 27th, the town electors will be asked to approve and authorize the purchase of the real estate. The Harbor Commission hopes that after that meeting, the town board could authorize the Harbor Commission to execute the three agreements. Thus, giving the authorization for the Harbor Commission to sign the agreements, making the 27th the date of signing the documents. The ferry line is aware that the transaction won't be financially funded until early in the first quarter of next year when the bonds are finalized, and issues are resolved. Rates are still uncertain at this time.

II. Administrative Reports

- A. Town Administrator's Report: Prepared and presented by Michael Kuchta.
- B. Public Works Director's Report: Prepared by Ben Schram.
- C. MRF Supervisor's Report: Prepared by Martin Curry.
- D. Airport Manager's Report & Checklist: Prepared by Paul Wilharm.
- E. Planning and Zoning Administrator's Report: Prepared by Ed Schaffer.
- F. Accounting Report: Prepared by Lauren Burtaux.
- G. Police Chief's Report: Prepared by William Defoe.
- H. Fire Chief's Report: Prepared by Rick Reichkitzer.

I. Ambulance Director's Report: Prepared by Cindy Dalzell

III. Public Works

A. Roads, Dock and Harbor

B. Parks

a. Job Posting for Camp Host #1:

Motion to approve the job posting with the budgeted amount of \$18/hour, not to exceed 1,000 hours, S. Brenna/A. Baxter, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

C. Airport

a. Potential lease renewals for airport hangars: Theodore Fritsche, L & F Land Management, Jon Stevens:

Motion to approve the lease renewals with Theodore Fritsche (#14) and John Stevens (#8), A. Baxter/S. Brenna, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

L & F Land Management postponed.

b. Potential lease renewals for industrial lots: Cedric Teisberg. Postponed.

D. Greenwood Cemetery

a. Potential contract renewals: Kathleen Erickson (mowing)

Motion to approve the contract renewal with Kathleen Erickson for mowing the cemetery, S. Brenna/A. Baxter, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

IV. Committees

A. Planning and Zoning

a. Fire Sign Installation:

Motion to reject the fire sign installation bids and hire a seasonal employee directly, A. Baxter/S. Brenna, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

b. Rental Ordinance:

Glenn presented an update on the Rental Ordinance and stated that he spoke with several TPC members and rental owners and believes that progress is being made.

V. Town Hall Administration

A. Resolution #2023-1212 A Elected Officials' Salaries:

Motion to affirm the resolution, A. Baxter/S. Dobson, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

B. Resolution #2023-1212 B Election Inspectors:

Motion to approve the resolution, S. Brenna/M. Anderson, 4 Ayes, Motion Carried.

C. Resolution #2023-1212 C Fee Schedule 2024:

Motion to approve the resolution, S. Brenna/A. Baxter, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

D. Potential contract renewals: YWS Technology. Postponed.

E. Resolution #2023-1212 D Compensation Resolution

Motion to approve the resolution, A. Baxter/S. Brenna, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

F. 2024 Insurance: Property, Crime, Inland Marine, Auto, General Liability, Public Officials and Management Liability, Excess Liability, Airport Liability, Cyber Liability, Workers Compensation, Volunteer Accident and Sickness:

Motion to approve the annual insurance package with the addition of Volunteer Accident and Sickness, A. Baxter/S. Brenna, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

G. Premier Resort Tax:

Motion to allow Michael Kuchta and Glenn Carlson to go to state legislators and seek discussion regarding a 0.5% increase in sales tax, S. Brenna/A. Baxter, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

H. Recognition of Island Gazette's 60th Anniversary on December 20th, 2023

Motion to proclaim December 20th, 2023, as Island Gazette Day on Madeline Island, M. Anderson/S. Brenna, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

VI. Vouchers: Motion to approve the vouchers in the amount of \$55,398.81, M. Anderson, A. Baxter, 5 Ayes, Motion carried.

VII. Minutes

- A. Regular Town Board Meeting November 28th, 2023
- B. Special Town Board Meeting (1) December 5th, 2023
- C. Public Hearing December 5th, 2023
- D. Special Town Board Meeting (2) December 5th, 2023

Motion to approve all minutes A-D with John Carlson's change to letter C stated above, S. Brenna/A. Baxter, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

VIII. Emergency Services

- A. Police Department
 - a. Revision of Ordinance Chapter 42-34: Parking restrictions on Whitefish Street. Postponed.
- B. Fire Department
 - a. Potential contract renewals: Big Water Fire Apparatus. Postponed.
- C. Ambulance

IX. Public Comment B**

John Carlson stated that his first question from the December 5th meeting was not answered, and he was given a math problem for his second question. He stated that he believes something is being held back and wonders why he must ask a question several times before getting an answer.

Paul Brummer recommended being cautious with raising the premier resort tax because of who may be affected/targeted, especially people who already pay a healthy property tax. In regard to the Rental Ordinance, he also stated that anyone who attended the public hearing in August should have been considered an interested party to discuss with.

X. Liquor & Operators' Licenses None

XI. Lawsuits & Legal Issues

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.

- A. Petition with the Wisconsin Department of Revenue Regarding Ashland County
- B. Claim against Ashland County pursuant to WI Statute 893.80(1d)(a)
- C. Possible Lawsuit Against Ashland County

Motion to instruct our attorneys not to pursue the claim/lawsuit against Ashland County, M. Anderson/A. Baxter, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

XIII. New Agenda Items for Future Meetings

Potential lease renewals for airport hangar: L & F Land Management
Potential lease renewals for industrial lot: Cedric Teisberg
Rental Ordinance
Potential contract renewal: YWS Technology
Revision of Ordinance Chapter 42-34: Parking restrictions on Whitefish Street
Potential contract renewal: Big Water Fire Apparatus
Treasurer Interview Updates
Vouchers

XIV. Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn, S. Brenna/A. Baxter, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried. 5:33pm

Submitted by Town Clerk, Alex Smith.

Approved as submitted. 12/27/23