

**TOWN OF LA POINTE**  
**REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**4:45 PM AT TOWN HALL**

*Approved Minutes*

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

**Staff Present:** Town Administrator Michael Kuchta, Public Works Director Ben Schram, Town Clerk Alex Smith

**Public Present:** Paul Brummer, Michael Childers, Michael Collins, Will Bruncker, Justin Giegerich, Bill Bailey (via zoom) Jim Peters (via zoom)

**Call to Order:** at 4:45pm.

**I. Public Comment A\***

Paul Brummer stated regarding the Rental Ordinance, with the numerous text changes, the Town Board should hold a Public Hearing to comply with state statues.

Paul Brummer suggested the Town should look into giving the “Rieman Park” back to the Rieman family if the Town is not going to develop it.

Paul Brummer stated though we did get some snow, the forecast is looking dry. He suggested laying off snowplow drivers in staggering terms to save the taxpayers some money.

**II. Open Proposals**

- A. Building Inspectors: 2 bids were opened, Alder and Willdan. No action was taken.
- B. Solar Installation: 2 bids were opened, Jolma Electric and Wescom. No action was taken.

**III. Administrative Reports**

- A. Town Administrator’s Report: Prepared and presented by Michael Kutcha.
- B. Public Works Director’s Report: Prepared and presented 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.  
Placed on file by unanimous consent.

**IV. Public Works**

- A. Roads, Dock and Harbor: Nothing to report at this time.
- B. Parks: Nothing to report at this time.
- C. Airport
  - a. Lease for Hanger 1A: Motion to sign the lease for Hanger 1A, M. Anderson/A. Baxter, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

**V. Committees**

- A. Planning and Zoning

a. Rental Ordinance review: Town Board members reviewed the new language. No action was taken at this time. The Rental Ordinance Workshop is set to be held on 1/11/24.

b. Comprehensive Plan Maps: Maps are in the midst of being corrected. There will be 13 maps, including large scale maps to physically look at.

B. Committee Minutes: Placed on file by unanimous consent.

#### **VI. Town Hall Administration**

A. Resolution #2024-0109 for countywide solar/EV grant application: Motion to approve Resolution #2024-0109, A. Baxter/S. Dobson, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

B. Recommendation to appoint Treasurer: Sue Brenna discussed the interview process leading to their recommendation. Motion to appoint Michael Childers as Treasurer starting 2/16/24, A. Baxter/S. Dobson, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

**VII. Vouchers:** Motion to approve the vouchers in the amount of \$1,067,579.47, M. Anderson/A. Baxter, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

#### **VIII. Minutes**

A. Special Town Board Meeting December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023: Motion to approve the minutes as submitted, S. Brenna/S. Dobson, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

#### **IX. Emergency Services**

A. Police Department

a. Ashland County response: Town Administrator Michael Kutcha and Police Chief William Defoe wanted to make the Town Board and public aware of the deteriorating and incorrect responses from Ashland County. For example, sending the ambulance department to perform a welfare check. The Town Board discussed advising the Ashland County Sherrif what has been happening it terms of these responses or lack thereof.

#### **X. Public Comment B\*\***

John Carlson sent a letter via email regarding his concerns. Please see the attached document. Samatha Dobson mentioned the After School Program's status with the program being cut significantly. She has already cut one day a week and is looking at future cuts. This will have a significant impact on the island.

Ben Schram thanked Evan Erickson Jr. for making two back-to-back trips for the MRF Facility. There are 18 more loads to go, and he stated we are at a good start to the new year.

**XI. Liquor & Operators' Licenses:** Nothing to report at this time.

#### **XII. 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

#### **XIII. New Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

Cooperative Agreement between Harbor Commission and Town

Affordable Housing Advisory Committee: Recommendation to designate 687 Middle Road as preferred Town parcel

**XIV. Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn, S. Brenna/A. Baxter, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried. 5:20pm

**Submitted by Town Clerk, Alex Smith.**

**Approved as submitted, 1/23/23.**