

TOWN OF LA POINTE
Board of Harbor Commissioners
THURSDAY February 8th, 2024
9:00 am at Town Hall and via Zoom
Approved Minutes

Commissioners Present: Michael Collins, Michael Childers, Carol Neubauer, Pete Ross, Evan Erickson Jr., Zach Montagne, Mike Anderson

Staff Present: Lauren Burtaux, Harbor Commission Secretary, Michael Kuchta, Town Administrator

Public Present: Charley Brummer

1. Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 9:00am by M. Childers.
2. Roll Call: Members, staff, and public present as listed above.
3. Public Comment: Charley Brummer stated that he would like ferry line rates to be the same for everyone and that activities will not get a discounted rate.
4. Minutes – 2/1/2024: Motion by M. Anderson to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by M. Collins, all in favor, motion carried.
5. Committees – Updates
 - a. President: None.
 - b. Communications: M. Collins is meeting with the Otto Bremer Trust regarding potential grants.
 - c. Other: Conversation of what is on the special town board meeting agenda for tonight, Thursday, February 8th, 2024.
6. Harbor Assistance Program (HAP): Mike Halsted from the Harbor Assistance Program has sent a three-year statement of intent for the Harbor Commission to complete. The form is due by April 1st, 2024.
7. Town Dock Lease – Assignment and Assumption: Madeline Island Ferry Line to sign document.
8. Powers of Municipalities (FAQ5): This document relates to the rules that dictate the authority of a municipality to provide favorable rates to different types of entities (non-profit or for profit). Consensus that getting legal counsel from Robert Burns (Amundsen Davis) is best to understand and confirm the rules and regulations.
9. Bremer Bank Proposal & Ehlers Financial Model Review: Motion by M. Anderson to recommend the Town Board to adopt and sign the Bremer Bank proposal and Ehlers financial model, seconded by P. Ross, discussion regarding limitations of outside borrowing, all in favor, motion carried.

10. Offers of Assistance – Updates:
 - a. L. Burtaux submitted reimbursement from the Department of Administration for the Governor’s budgeted award of \$200,000. The request is for \$98,379.07, which leaves \$101,620.93 still available for reimbursement requests.
 - b. Motion by Z. Montagne to go into closed session to discuss updates and offers of assistance pertaining to the managing director, seconded by E. Erickson, roll call vote, 7 ayes, in closed session at 9:23am.

Motion by E. Erickson to come out of closed session, seconded by M. Collins, all in favor, motion carried, out of closed session at 9:35am.

This meeting may, upon duly made motion, be convened in closed session under State Statute 19.85 (1)(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. If the Commission goes into closed session; it will reconvene in open session before adjourning.

Glenn Carlson has offered to volunteer his time and assistance to set up process between the Harbor Commission and Madeline Island Ferry Line, LLC. Motion by M. Anderson to approve Glenn’s assistance, seconded by E. Erickson, all in favor, motion carried.

11. Approval of Bills: Motion by M. Anderson to approve the bill from Amundsen Davis for legal fees for \$4,773.50, seconded by Z. Montagne, all in favor, motion carried.
12. Future Agenda Items: Baker Tilly engagement letter.
13. Meeting Dates: Thursday, February 15th, 2024, at 9am.
14. Adjourn: Motion by M. Collins to adjourn, seconded by E. Erickson, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:38am.

Respectfully submitted by Lauren Burtaux, Harbor Commission Secretary.
Minutes approved as presented on February 8th, 2024, L. Burtaux.