

**TOWN OF LA POINTE**  
**Board of Harbor Commissioners**  
**Monday January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026**  
**4:30pm at Town Hall and Live via YouTube**  
**Approved Minutes**

**Commissioners Present:** Zach Montagne, Glenn Carlson, Jay Wiltz, Susan Widmar, Michael Collins, Evan Erickson Jr, Mary Ross (absent)

**Staff Present:** Katie Kisner, Chief Administrative Officer and Interim Harbor Commission Secretary, Richard Kula, Zoning Administrator

**Public Present:** Robin Russell (via Zoom), Cal Linehan (via Zoom), Charlie Brummer, Paul Brummer, Evan Erickson Sr.

1. Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 9am by Z. Montagne.
2. Roll Call: All members, staff and public present as listed above.
3. Public Comment A\*: Paul Brummer thanks the Harbor Commission for having an evening meeting.
4. Minutes – 1/8/26: Motion by E. Erickson Jr. to approve as presented, seconded by M. Collins, all in favor, motion carried.
5. Chief Administrative Officer Report – Katie Kisner: January revenue as of the 16<sup>th</sup> was \$66,618.18 which is 54.63% of the budgeted income for the month. Motion by Z. Montagne to place the CAO report of file, seconded by E. Erickson Jr, all in favor, motion carried.
6. Build Grant Discussion: Consensus to move forward with submitting two different applications for the Build Grant. One will be a “construction application” for the repower and super structure of the Island Queen and the other will be a “planning application” for the master plan and drawings for a new ice breaking ferry.
7. Loan Request Options: Consensus that the Harbor Commission will need to request a loan of \$450,000 from the Town of La Pointe as well as request to delay the payment of the dock lease to the Town until July 2026.
8. Hire Temporary CAO & Harbor Secretary: This position will not exceed 30 hours/week and will begin no later than February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Motion by J. Wiltz to hire Lauren Burtaux as the Temporary CAO and Harbor Secretary at her previous wage of \$30/hour, seconded by M. Collins, all in favor, motion carried.
9. Approval of Bills: Motion by Z. Montagne to approve bills in the amount of \$805,819.75, seconded by G. Carlson, all in favor, motion carried.
10. Future Agenda Items: Grant Update, Loan Request, Ice/Weather Update
11. Meeting Dates: Thursday February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 9am

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12. Public Comment B\*\*: Cal Linehan states that we are currently making good ice and that he has not heard of too many issues with the transition to the smaller vessels and reduced capacity. He is expecting heavy ice within the next 1 to 2 weeks that could affect the schedule. Susan Widmar acknowledges that it is Martin Luther King Jr. Day and everything he stood for.

13. MIFL Office Lease: Motion by G. Carlson to go into closed session, seconded by Z. Montagne, 6 ayes 1 absent, motion carried. Meeting in closed session at 4:56pm.

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.

14. Review of MIFL Management Contract

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Motion by G. Carlson to enter back into open session, seconded by E. Erickson Jr, 6 ayes 1 absent, motion carried. Meeting in open session at 5:18pm.

15. Adjourn: Motion by M. Collins to adjourn, seconded by E. Erickson Jr, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:18pm.

Respectfully submitted by Katie Kisner, Interim Harbor Commission Secretary, Monday January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Minutes approved as presented Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026.