

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

To: Town Board

From: Michael Kuchta

DATES COVERED IN REPORT: July 21-Aug. 3, 2023

1. Accomplished/Completed

- **Department heads.** Quarterly meeting took place Aug. 2.
- **Promotional mailing.** Fliers will be delivered to all 425 boxholders promoting the gravel road survey and the public hearings on the Comprehensive Plan and Rental Ordinance.

2. Coming Up

- **Airport runway.** The BOA expects to begin repairs on Aug. 7. The airport will be closed while crack-sealing, micro-surfacing, and fresh painting takes place.
- **Affordable Housing information session.** Tuesday Aug. 15, 5 p.m.
- **Rental Ordinance Q&A.** Wednesday Aug. 16, 5 p.m.
- **Barb's last day.** Friday Aug. 18

3. Town Board Agenda – Information/Comments

- **Auction Items.** Town Board must approve selling Town-owned property. If you approve the list, the decommissioned Ford Explorer and 30 miscellaneous items will be submitted to Wisconsin Surplus for auction between Aug. 14-28. Note: The watercraft were impounded, abandoned or unclaimed from BBTP.
- **Hangar Lease.** The hangar that is part of the Terminal building is now under Town control. It probably will be at least a year before any rehabilitation/remodeling can take place. Airport manager Paul Wilharm has lined up a month-to-month lease to generate revenue.
- **Public Arts Committee.** Robin Trinko Russell is seeking reappointment for a term ending July 31, 2025.
- **Library Board.** The July 25 appointment of Jessica Belt must be rescinded because she no longer is a La Pointe resident. That leaves one vacancy, but there are no additional applicants who meet residency requirements.
- **Town Hall administration.** See separate memo.

4. Follow Up on Previous/Ongoing Projects

- **Airport.** The airport generator was repaired July 25 after being disabled by a lightning strike. We are seeking insurance reimbursement for the circuit board and related costs.
- **EMS Polka Ball.** The raffle license has arrived. The Chamber of Commerce is covering the cost of the band and amusements. We are working with organizers to get purchasing, donation and other paperwork systems in place.
- **ESB.** Johnson Controls is scheduled to connect the Metasys smart-building system on Aug. 9, finally giving us remote access to monitor and control building systems. The sprinkler system had its annual inspection Aug. 2; the transfer pump will be replaced after sediment disabled it during the testing process. We received an initial estimate to replace gutters and install snow guards; we are continuing discussions on how to proceed.

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- **Fire numbers.** After receiving the analysis from Lange Enterprises, zoning administrator Ed Schaffer has completed assigning and updating numbers for the North Shore network of roads. He is proceeding to other parts of the island. In the meantime, we are seeking quotes for the manufacture and installation of new signs, so we can budget appropriately in 2024.
- **Town Hall sound.** Ray Hakola installed an auxiliary microphone, which should make conversation at the conference table easier to hear for those watching a recording or online.

s. Grant Report

- No update.

t. Lawsuits/Legal Issues

- See separate memo for closed-session discussions on Ashland County issues.

u. Other Information

- **Equalized values.** The Department of Revenue released preliminary calculations for 2023 real estate taxes payable in 2024. La Pointe's equalized value will be \$1.72 billion, an increase of 15%. That makes La Pointe's share of Ashland County taxes 22.3%, up from 20.9% this year.
- * correction: \$1.72 billion is Ashland County total, \$383,140 is the Town of La Pointe- which is an increase of 23%.