

TOWN OF LA POINTE
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2015
5:30PM AT TOWN HALL
Approved Minutes

Called to order at 5:33pm

Present: Greg Nelson, Michael Childers, Marty Curry, Ham Ross

Absent: Jim Patterson

Staff present: Pete Clark, Kristian Larsen, Lisa Potswald

Public Present: John Carlson, Max Paap, LeeAnn Schaub, Julie Schmit, Paul Brummer

I. Public Comment A*: John Carlson wondered if anything could be done about the abandoned car near the approach on the ice road, and if the DNR needed to be notified. Max Paap, Director of the Chamber of Commerce, brought in the Chamber's business marketing plan for 2015 for the Board to review.

II. Town Administrator's Report: Presented by Pete Clark and placed on file by Unanimous Consent.

III. Public Works

A. Roads: Nothing at this time.

B. Parks

1. Update Parks Job Descriptions: Foreman Kristian Larsen is requesting to eliminate the Parks Supervisor position and update the job descriptions for Parks Assistant, Attendant, Laborer, and Camp Host to reflect the change. All work will still be done/ covered, just rearranging the positions, and the Foreman will be the supervisor. Motion to eliminate the Parks Supervisor position as recommended by the Foreman and to amend the parks job descriptions to have the Foreman as the supervisor, M. Curry/ M. Childers, 4 Ayes, Motion Carried.

2. Foreman Hiring Invasive Species Coordinators: Applications have been received and Foreman Larsen is requesting to hire the best candidates after interviews are completed later in the week. K. Larsen will do the interviews and hiring with Bonnie Matuseski of the Madeline Island Wilderness Preserve who funds the project. The consensus of the Board is that Foreman Kristian Larsen has the authority to hire the Invasive Species Coordinators.

C. Airport

1. Airport Manager's Report & Checklist: Not available.

IV. Committees

A. Planning and Zoning: Nothing at this time.

B. Alternative Energy Committee

1. Purchase of flash drives for Committee Members: no action.

V. Town Hall Administration

A. Administrative Assistant's Report: discussion included questions presented by Barb Nelson on whether to continue billing Ashland County for permits when the County does not pay

them. The County pays a quarterly share but has not been paying the per permit fee (the Town has requested this, but the County has not agreed). The Board would like to continue to bill the County. There was also discussion on the status of the Town's tax levy exemption that the County had disapproved. The Administrator will put together a list of line items for services the Town provides that we believe the County should be reimbursing us for. This was requested by the County in place of the exemption. The Administrator will present the information to the Board at the next meeting.

Motion to place the Administrative Assistant Report dated 2/23/2015 on file, H. Ross/ M. Curry, 4 Ayes, Motion Carried.

B. Budget Summary Discussion: Supervisor Childers and Admin Assistant Barb Nelson have been working together to outline the budget in a brief summary that shows differences from last year's budget and explanations for the differences. The current summary shows that revenues are down so far this year because tax collections are down, but it will even out by August when the next installment is due. It also shows expenditures up from last year due to changes/ increases in budgeted items. Motion to place the Budget Summary on file, M. Curry/ H. Ross, 4 Ayes, Motion Carried.

C. Grant Updates: Discussion on whether to submit the grant for the Speed Trailer for the Police Department which would be entirely funded by grants and donations. Motion to deny the grant for the Speed Truck/ Trailer, H. Ross/ M. Curry, 2 Ayes (H. Ross and M. Curry), 2 Opposed (M. Childers, G. Nelson), Motion Fails. Grants will be submitted for the Speed Truck as well as for night vision thermal cameras for the Fire Department/ Ice Rescue.

D. Bilingual Signs: Foreman Larsen brought in examples of the completed signs and asked if the Board wanted them put up. Yes, the signs are to be placed with their English match, and maybe something could be done to increase knowledge and awareness about the Ojibwe signs and their importance.

E. Resolution #2015-0224: 2014 Collection & Use of Additional 1.5% Accommodations Tax: Motion to approve Resolution #2015-0224: 2014 Collection & Use of Additional 1.5% Accommodations Tax which pays the Chamber of Commerce its portion of the Accommodations Tax, M. Childers/ H. Ross, 4 Ayes, Motion Carried.

F. Senate Bill 25 Updates: Concerns on the language of the bill were addressed at the last meeting. There have been a number of letters and memos that address the issue and show correspondence on possible remedies to the language. Discussion included having the legislative language changed to accept the Town's zoning authority and not take out the county's authority. There have been differing opinions on which language would best support the Town. It was also discussed that it would be beneficial to have just one person to organize and handle the correspondence, Lisa Potswald to manage the task. Updates are still occurring, the matter is ongoing.

G. Ineffective and Disappearing Committees: Agenda item requested by Jim Patterson to address committees that are no longer effective. Jim Patterson being absent, the agenda item will be put on the 3/10/15 agenda as well.

H. Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of La Pointe and Ashland County regarding Zoning in the Shoreland Area: The Memorandum of Understanding has a clause that it will be reviewed annually. Administrator Clark discussed how many aspects of the memo are moot at this point. Motion to sustain the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of La Pointe and Ashland County regarding Zoning in the Shoreland Area for another year, H. Ross/ M. Curry, 4 Ayes, Motion Carried.

Motion to move item V. Town Administration. I. Town Administrator Status to after X. Public Comment B, M. Childers/ M. Curry, 4 Ayes, Motion Carried.

VI. Vouchers: Motion to approve vouchers in the amount of \$36,820.15, M. Curry/ M. Childers, 4 Ayes, Motion Carried.

VII. Minutes

A. Regular Town Board Meeting, February 10, 2015: Motion to approve minutes as submitted, M. Childers/ H. Ross, 4 Ayes, Motion Carried.

VIII. Emergency Services

A. Ambulance Service

1. Ambulance Director's Report: Report dated February 23, 2014 placed on file by unanimous consent.

IX. Library

A. Library Board Minutes January 8, 2015: Minutes placed on file by Unanimous Consent (H. Ross abstains).

X. Public Comment B:** Paul Brummer mentions that H. Ross's signs are top notch.

V. Town Administration

I. Town Administrator Status: Motion to go into closed session as noticed, under Wisconsin State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. M. Childers/ M. Curry, 4 Ayes, Motion Carried.

No action was made while in closed session. Motion to return to open session as posted, M. Curry/ H. Ross, 4 Ayes, Motion Carried.

XI. Lawsuits & Legal Issues: Nothing at this time.

XII. New Agenda Items for Future Meetings: Ashland County Tax Levy Exemption and line items for possible reimbursement, Ineffective and disappearing committees, and having a clinic representative present to clarify the loss of Rural Clinic status and the possibility of not accepting Medicare or Medicaid any longer.

XIII. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn, M. Curry/ M. Childers, 4 Ayes, Motion Carried. Adjourned at 7:08pm.

Submitted by Micaela Montagne, Town Clerk.
Approved as submitted, March 10, 2015