

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

Called to order at 5:31pm

Present: Greg Nelson, Michael Childers, Marty Curry, Jim Patterson, Ham Ross (at 5:45pm)

Staff present: Lisa Potswald, Kristian Larsen

Public Present: Gary Russell, Arnie Nelson, Paul Brummer

I. Public Comment A*: None

Motion to move to agenda item IV. Committees. B. Harbor Committee. 2. Harbor Dredge Limits Expansion, M. Childers/ M. Curry, 4 Ayes, Motion Carried.

IV. Committees

B. Harbor Committee

2. Harbor Dredge Limits Expansion: Harbor Committee Chair Arnie Nelson present to discuss the issue. A. Nelson showed maps of the current dredge limits and the proposed expansion that need approval from the Army Corps of Engineers. If the limits are expanded (for Ferry and other boats) then the Army Corps will assist in funding future dredge projects. The approval of the expansion needs an act of congress. In 2010 a letter was sent to Congressman Obey's office, A. Nelson believes it would be a good idea to update the letter and send it to Congressman Duffy's office. In addition, A. Nelson thinks a resolution of support would be beneficial. A. Nelson has a meeting scheduled with Duffy's office in Superior for Friday March 27th at 10:00am, and he would like a letter authorizing him to speak on behalf of the Town in the matter. Motion to have Mr. Arnold Nelson represent the Town as the Chair of the Harbor Committee in the matter of expanding the harbor dredge limits, have an updated letter to Duffy's office requesting the expansion, M. Childers/ M. Curry, 4 Ayes, Motion Carried.

Motion to return to agenda item II. Town Administrator's Report, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

II. Town Administrator's Report: Discussion on Town truck reimbursement: Foreman Larsen thinking he will wait until next year to purchase a replacement. Report dated March 24, 2015 placed on file by Unanimous Consent.

III. Public Works

A. Roads: Nothing at this time.

B. Parks

1. Kayak Racks on the North Shore Access Trail: Motion to table the discussion while waiting for the Town Plan Commission to take up the matter, M. Childers/ M. Curry, 4 Ayes, Motion Carried.

C. Airport

1. Airport Manager's Report & Checklist: Report dated March 24, 2015 placed on file by Unanimous Consent.

Supervisor H. Ross entered meeting at 5:45pm

IV. Committees

A. Planning and Zoning

1. Long Term Rental Permits: discussion on whether to have long term rental permit or not. Currently the Town does require a long term rental permit, though the permit is free. The Town Plan Commission recommends maintaining the short term rental permits as they need inspections, but get rid of the long term rentals. Motion to follow the Town Plan Commission's recommendation and cease long term rental permits, J. Patterson/ M. Childers, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

2. Hegwood Legislation, March 9, 2015: New language updates, recommended by the Town Plan Commission, waiting to hear opinion from the Wisconsin Towns Association. Town Board doesn't think they need a resolution in support since they are the ones presenting the Legislation.

B. Harbor Committee

1. Appointment of new member to fill term ending March 10, 2016: Motion to appoint Hamilton Ross to fulfill the Harbor Committee term that will end March 10, 2016, M. Curry/ M. Childers, 4 Ayes, 1 Abstain (H. Ross), Motion Carried.

3. Harbor Assistance Funding: A draft resolution was prepared by Administrator Clark requesting restoration of funding for the harbor assistance program that the Governor is proposing to cut. Town Board does not see any harm in submitting a resolution. Motion to approve the draft resolution for final approval at the next Regular Town Board Meeting, J. Patterson/ M. Curry, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

V. Town Hall Administration

A. Administrative Assistant's Report: discussion on the Budget Summary Report prepared by Barb Nelson with the assistance of Supervisor Childers that shows some comparison to the budget at this time last year. Most discrepancies will solve themselves with more time, but there are some budget issues that will affect the 2016 budget: revenue shortfalls in 2016 will be around \$274,000. Options in 2016 will be to make budget 'cuts', raise the levy, bridge finance with loans, or a combination of them. Motion to place the Administrative Assistance Report dated March 23, 2015 on file, M. Curry/ M. Childers, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

B. Grant Updates: Grant Report dated March 24, 2015 placed on file by Unanimous Consent.

C. Bilingual Signage: Most of the Ojibwe Bilingual Signs are up around town. Supervisor Curry made an apology about some negative comments made after the last meeting regarding Foreman Kristian Larsen. Discussion on how to move forward with the celebrations/ unveiling. Nick Nelson to be back in town in the near future to assist in wrapping up the project and submitting the final report for the grant by June 30, 2015.

D. Draft of Resolution #2015-0324: County Wide Assessment: the resolution expresses concern and opposition to the county wide assessment proposal by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue as the Board believes it would not benefit the Townspeople of La Pointe. Though the Board is waiting to hear from the County on their opinion, the Board thinks that it would only create inconveniences for Islanders. Motion to approve the draft Resolution #2015-0324, with final to be approved at the next Regular Town Board Meeting, M. Childers/ J. Patterson, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

E. Town Legal Counsel Status and Future: Town Attorney Michael Fauerbach will be retiring in the near future, discussion on who to have as the next legal counsel. The Board would like to have Attorney Katie Posewitz of Fauerbach and Martel come to the Island to meet with the Board and discuss the possibility of her representing the Town.

F. Agenda Items for the Annual Town Meeting, April 21, 2015:

1. 2014 Annual Financial Report
2. Approval of Minutes, Annual Meeting 2014, and two Special Town Meetings on November 13, 2014 and December 1, 2014.
3. Highway Expenditures: Not needed
4. County Wide Assessments: just have a handout/ article so the people can learn more about the issue.
5. Joni's Beach Dock Extension: The Town Plan Commission will review.
6. Other: None, Just issues from the people.

G. Insurance Quote Updates: Waiting to get a proposal from Rural Mutual Insurance as well as from the current provider, Horton Group.

H. Discussion and Consideration of Impartial Hearing Officer – per Personnel Policy: The Town must have an Impartial Hearing Officer, the current one, Bill Bussey, has retired and Colleen Daly has taken over his practice and has indicated that she would be interested in fulfilling the position of Impartial Hearing Officer for the Town. The Board would like to find out her rate/ get a proposal from her prior to any decisions being made.

I. Ashland County reimbursements in lieu of Tax Levy Exemption: the Administrator is to meet and discuss the reimbursements with County Administrator Jeff Beirl and report back to the Board.

Motion to move agenda item V. Town Administration J. Town Administrator to the end of the meeting after item X., M. Curry/ J. Patterson, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

VI. Vouchers: Motion to approve vouchers in the amount of \$17,099.00, J. Patterson/ M. Curry, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

VII. Minutes

A. Regular Town Board Meeting, March 10, 2015: Motion to approve minutes as submitted, H. Ross/ M. Curry, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

VIII. Emergency Services

A. Ambulance Service

1. Ambulance Director's Report: Report dated March 23, 2015 placed on file by Unanimous Consent.

B. Ice Rescue: There is a meeting scheduled with the Sheriff's Committee of the Bayfield County Board on April 13, 2015, the Town Administrator is to attend the meeting. Motion to have the Town Administrator continue to handle the discussions on regional ice rescue support and to be at the meeting on 4/13/15, M. Curry/ J. Patterson, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

C. SCBA Request for Proposal, Intent to Award: Motion to approve awarding of the SCBA (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus) Replacement Program to Industrial Safety, Inc. Representing Avon Protection Systems, Inc. as recommended and accepted by the La Pointe Volunteer Fire Department, M. Curry/ M. Childers, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

IX. Library

A. Library Board Minutes February 12, 2015: Placed on file by Unanimous Consent.

X. Public Comment B:** None.

V. Town Administration

J. Town Administrator: Motion to go into closed session as per statute 19.85 (1) (f) stated below, M. Curry/ J. Patterson, 5 Ayes by roll call vote, Motion Carried.

This meeting may, upon duly made motion, be convened in closed session under State Statute 19.85 (1) (f) Considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations. If the Town goes into closed session, it will reconvene in open session before adjourning.

Motion to return to open session, no motions were made in closed session, H. Ross/ M. Childers, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

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

XII. New Agenda Items for Future Meetings:

- A. Harbor Funding Resolution
- B. County Wide Assessment Resolution
- C. Attorney K. Posewitz to come meet
- D. Impartial Hearing Officer
- E. Ice Rescue Updates

XIII. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn, M. Curry/ J. Patterson, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried. Adjourned at 7:18pm

Submitted by Clerk, Micaela Montagne.
Approved as submitted April 14, 2015.