

August 4, 2011

To: Town Board

From: Michael Anderson

Re: Monthly Report for August 2011

During the month of July 2011 the La Pointe Police Department responded to the following:

- 114 Various Incidents/Complaints
 - 17 Citizen Assist Requests
 - 2 Before/After Duty Call Outs
 - 4 Reportable Traffic Accidents
 - 2 Non-Reportable Traffic Accidents
 - 11 Vehicle Title/Registrations
 - 6 False Intruder Alarms
 - 25 Traffic Citations Issued
 - 5 Parking Violations
 - 5 Animal Calls
 - 5 Noise Complaints-3 Bar Related
 - 4 Civil Process Served

Shortly after the 4th of July, life for the Police Department got complicated. Our computer crashed and spent a week on the HSI repair desk. They were able to get the computer to function again but in the process we lost the last two years of data. It appears that for the past two years our backup systems appeared to be working fine but in reality they weren't. This problem, we hope, will never happen again but in talking to HSI staff and the Town Hall staff I think it's a good idea to get the Town's computers on a maintenance schedule with HSI. They offer a quarterly maintenance plan and check internal problems that may be going on when the average employee would never know there was a problem, such as our back-up saying it was working when it wasn't. I think just about all of the departments have HSI computers so it only makes sense to get on a maintenance plan rather than wait until it crashes then pay them for trying to repair it.

Beginning August 19, the La Pointe Police Department will once again participate with the national campaign to prevent impaired driving. The 2011 mobilization campaign will run from

August 19 to September 5 and this years theme is “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over”. I put an article in the Gazette as a informational notice so hopefully anyone who’s been drinking and goes to start their car will think twice before they put it in drive. We’ve been very fortunate to have had as few traffic crashes as we had with alcohol being a contributing factor.

You have probably seen the news about Wisconsin becoming the 49th state to pass the carry and concealed law. We, chiefs/sheriffs, knew we couldn’t prevent it from happening so we tried to get the language as restrictive as possible, the verdict is still out on that. There’s a lot of unanswered questions in the bill that passed and many concerns that seem to be overlooked. We are relying on the DOJ to sort it out and provide us with direction throughout the next few months. I’ve overheard several comments around town that are not accurate but everyone who applies for a CCW permit will be mandated to be properly educated and hopefully the speculation will slowly go away.

You may recall a couple years back that the exterior portion on some of the Town Hall doors became rotten and needed to be replaced or resealed. Somehow, the PD back door never showed signs of any problems until recently. Our door faces North and suffers the NE wind, snow, rain etc. but has held up until now. I’ve notified Keith and whatever was done to the other doors will most likely be needed to be done to ours. I think the past work was put out on bids but I don’t know the details.

On the afternoon of July 22 the ACSD requested I respond to a disturbance outside the Madeline Island Ferry Line Office. While investigating the complaint I interviewed one of the participants, Tom Nelson. During the course of our discussion Tom wanted it on the record that the underground propane tanks that supply propane to the Beach Club were illegally installed as they protrude underground into the 13’ alley that lies between the Beach Club and the ferry line office.

I told Tom I was not familiar or qualified to determine whether or not this was illegal but would pass his complaint onto the Town Board. I’m not sure if it is a trespass/encroachment issue or improper placing of a propane tank or no issue at all.

I received the 2012 Ashland County Budget Worksheet to be completed and returned by the end of the month. There was a \$2,000 error in the AC 2011 final budget and Mr. Beirl assured us last year that we would get the money although they weren’t going to go back and change the budget. I see the error remains on the 2012 worksheet and I’ll point that out in the letter I attach to worksheet. Mr. Beirl also requests that budgets be reduced from 2011 but I don’t see how that will be possible.

Sincerely,

Michael Anderson
Police Chief