

**TOWN OF LA POINTE**  
**REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2014**  
**5:30PM AT TOWN HALL**  
Approved Minutes

**Called to order** at 5:32pm

**Present:** Greg Nelson, Michael Childers, Marty Curry, Jim Patterson, Ham Ross

**Staff present:** Pete Clark, Kristian Larsen, Lisa Potswald, William Defoe

**Public Present:** Julie Schmitt, Paul Brummer, LeAnn Schaub, Judy Patterson, Karen Nichols, Chris Wolfe

**I. Public Comment A\*:** M. Montagne spoke on behalf of M. Starck who could not be present, that it is hard to hear some voices on the video recordings.

**II. Town Administrator's Report:** Presented by Pete Clark and placed on file by Unanimous Consent. Main discussion was on DNR Grant for Big Bay Town Park, that we do not have to build the last part of the Boardwalk, so we have already fulfilled the responsibilities of the grant. The \$370,000 reimbursement may all come in 2014 instead of being split between 2014 and 2015.

**III. Public Works**

**A. Airport**

1. Airport Manager's Report & Checklist: Placed on file by Unanimous Consent.
2. Hangar Lease lot #9A: Paid 2014 lease: Town Board had revoked the Hangar lease at the Regular Town Board Meeting on August 12, 2014 due to lack of payment, but after closer review of the lease, it was understood that the lease payment would be due on October 8, 2014. It was paid in full. Motion to rescind the revocation of the Lease between the Town of La Pointe and Gene Nelson since all had been paid and sorted out, M. Curry/ J. Patterson, 4 Ayes, 1 Abstain (G. Nelson), Motion Carried.

**IV. Town Hall Administration**

A. Administrative Assistant's Report: Motion to place report dated 10/24/14 on file, J. Patterson/ M. Curry, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

B. 2015 Budget discussion and Schedule budget meetings: Town Plan Commission Budget Workshop was postponed, and need a follow up budget meeting to begin to look at budget as a whole. Motion to schedule the TPC workshop and budget meeting for Monday November 3, 2014 at 5:30pm, J. Patterson/ H. Ross, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

C. Schedule Special Town Meeting for Highway Expenditures: 2014 Highway expenditures have gone over budget mainly due to increase in health insurance costs, a longer ice road season, and crack sealing that was not in the budget. The Townspeople need to approve an increase in highway expenditures. Motion to schedule the Special Town Meeting for the purpose of Highway Expenditures on November 13, 2014 at 5:30pm, J. Patterson/ M. Curry, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

D. Resolution #2014-1028: Re: Treasurer's Bond: this is done every year. Motion to approve Resolution #2014-1028 regarding the Treasurer's Bond, J. Patterson/ M. Curry, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

E. Future of Town Insurance Discussion: Agenda item requested by Supervisor Curry because other options for insurance have not been sought for quite some time, and want to make sure the Town couldn't save money. Discussion on directing the Town Administrator to seek proposals from other insurance providers to see if the current company's prices are competitive. The process must begin now as it will take months for other companies to provide quotes for all aspect of the Town, and the current contract is up June 2015. Motion to direct the Town Administrator to seek out insurance proposals for the Town of La Pointe, M. Curry/ J. Patterson, 4 Ayes, 1 Abstain (H. Ross- he is okay with the current insurance provider), Motion Carried.

F. Madeline Island Chamber of Commerce: Discussion on room tax: LeAnn Schaub spoke on behalf of the chamber. She submitted and read a letter that requested the 70% of the 1.5% accommodations tax revenue amount to continue to be distributed to the Chamber of Commerce as the 'Tourism Entity' on the Island. Motion to place the document submitted by the Chamber on file for further review, H. Ross/ M. Childers, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried. Board would like to have the discussion continue at the next Board Meeting, and have Attorney Fauerbach take another look at what is allowed by statute.

G. Request for Donation from Bayfield Recreation Center: The Town of La Pointe received a letter from the Bayfield Area Recreation Center requesting a donation of \$1000 to support the community health and recreation. Discussion included that the Town Board would love to give money, but the budget is looking pretty tight at the moment, and we have our own Rec Center to support. The Town will not be donating at this time.

H. Request by Ashland County to Delay Application/Implementation of Property Tax Exemption: The Town made the application for \$95,000 in Property Tax Exemption from the County. Ashland County Administrator has requested that the Town delay the application for one year so the County can amend the Act 282 and statutes to enable them to reapportion the exempted amount to other municipalities in the County. Currently, the County must absorb the exempted amount. There are also questions from the County on how the Town calculated and got the total of \$95,000. Discussion included not granting the request for delay because this should not have been a surprise, as it took two years for it to go through Legislation and the County had ample time with legal review. If the Board denies the request and then County follows up with denying our application and the matter may end up in Circuit Court. Motion to deny the request by Ashland County to delay the application of the Property Tax Exemption, M. Curry/ H. Ross, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

**V. Vouchers:** Motion to approve vouchers in the amount of \$33,557.06, J. Patterson/ M. Curry, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

## **VI. Minutes**

A. Special Town Board Meeting, Budget, October 13, 2014: Motion to approve minutes as submitted, H. Ross/ M. Childers, 4 Ayes, 1 Abstain (J. Patterson due to absence), Motion Carried.

B. Regular Town Board Meeting, October 14, 2014: Motion to approve minutes as submitted, H. Ross/ J. Patterson, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

C. Special Town Board Meeting, Budget, October 15, 2014: Motion to approve minutes as submitted, H. Ross/ J. Patterson, 4 Ayes, (was some confusion on who was present, and G. Nelson abstained, though in the end, he was present), Motion Carried.

D. Special Town Board Meeting, Budget, October 16, 2014: Motion to approve minutes as submitted, M. Childers/ H. Ross, 4 Ayes, 1 abstain (G. Nelson absent), Motion Carried.

## **VII. Emergency Services**

### **A. Ambulance Service**

1. Ambulance Director's Report: Motion to place report dated October 28, 2014 on file, H. Ross/ M. Childers, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

## **VIII. Library**

A. Library Board Minutes, September 11, 2014: Placed on file by Unanimous Consent. (Clerks note: H. Ross abstained)

## **IX. Public Comment B\*\*:** None

## **X. Lawsuits & Legal Issues**

A. Claim Rejection, Gene Nelson: Claim number WIPF214100853-00001: Motion to reject the claim from Gene Nelson, Claim number WIPF214100853-00001, M. Curry/ J. Patterson, 4 Ayes, 1 Abstain (Greg Nelson), Motion Carried.

## **XI. Committees**

### **A. Planning and Zoning**

1. A division of Lot 4 of Ashland County Certified Survey Map No. 644, Sections 28 and 29, Township 50 N, Range 3 W, owned by Elaine Nelson and being sold to Madeline Island Wilderness Preservation, Inc.: Planning and Zoning Administrator Lisa Potswald informed the Board that the Town Plan Commission approved the Map. Chairman Nelson mentions that he thought the frontage of the new lot was not adequate. Lisa said she thought was okay because it was connecting to another lot. Motion to remand the Certified Survey Map No 644 back to the Town Plan Commission for further review, M. Curry/ H. Ross, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

## **XII. New Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

- A. Room Tax
- B. Certified Survey Map
- C. Propane Tank Proposals
- D. Big Arn's Road

Discussion on having a Special Town Board Meeting/ personnel meeting with possible closed session, scheduled for October 30, 2014 at 5:30pm.

**XIII. Adjourn** Motion to adjourn, M. Curry/ J. Patterson, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried. Adjourned at 6:30pm.

Submitted by Micaela Montagne, Town Clerk  
Approved as submitted, November 11, 2014, MM.