

**TOWN OF LA POINTE
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2012
AT 5:30 AT TOWN HALL**

Called to order at 5:33 PM

Present: Nick Nelson, Jim Patterson, Greg Nelson, Ham Ross, Larry Whalen

Dept. Heads present: Keith Sowl, Jen Croonborg-Murphy

Public Present: Mike Starck, Dave Thomas, Lisa Potswald, Marina Lachecki, Michael Brenna, Paul Brummer, & Charlie Brummer

I. Public Comment

Dave Thomas read a letter into the record regarding the creation of an agricultural zone on the Island.

Jen Croonborg-Murphy spoke in support of the Chippewa tribes' right to be concerned over changes to the wetlands on the Island. She also requested that the application from the Madeline Island Wilderness Preserve for a Temporary "Picnic" License for an event at the Madeline Island School of the Arts be denied.

Larry Whalen responded to Dave Thomas' presentation by suggesting an agricultural overlay: many zones on the Island may be used for agriculture.

Ham Ross does not wish to revisit the Comprehensive Plan.

II. Vouchers approved in the amount of \$28,513.92. JP/NN 5A MC

III. Minutes

A. Regular Town Board Meeting 5/8/12 approved as corrected to show those present and the time at which the meeting was called to order.
LW/JP 5A MC

IV. Public Works

A. Roads

Ham Ross asked Keith Sowl for a time frame regarding the excavation on South Shore Rd. and Mondamin Trail.

Sowl answered: around July 1, 2012.

B. Parks

1. Letter from La Pointe Elementary **RE:** Hidden Village at Casper Trail: approved by motion as long as the Village will be constructed on the Town-owned part of the Casper Trail. HR/JP 5A MC

2. Big Bay Town Park Parks Assistant Position

a. Job Description

b. Posting for opening or hiring to fill position

Much discussion, the points of which are summarized as follows:

Keith Sowl stated that he thought that Beth Fischlowitz's [former Town Board member; retired effective 4/17/12] thought was always that the park improvements and reservation system would require an additional Town employee.

Greg Nelson stated that he does not recall that.

Nick Nelson suggested a solution to the time-consuming nature of the Town Park reservation system: require that reservations must be made three days or more prior to the expected stay at the Park.

Keith Sowl reiterated that there is so much work to do related to the reservation system that Dick Hardie [Parks employee] is having a hard time keeping up with all his work. Sowl also stated that there is much work that another employee could be doing that might be grant-reimbursable up to a point.

Greg Nelson pointed out that there are always 10% of the sites that remain open for first-come-first-serve, and that there are only a few weekends a year when the Park is full.

Keith Sowl stated that the Town Crew would just keep trying as best they could.

Nick Nelson asked if there is some area of compromise: does the employee have to work 599 hours?

Greg Nelson asked Sowl to keep trying to get it all done with the staff that he has, and the Board will continue to monitor the situation.

3. Big Bay Town Park Campground Host

a. Volunteer Agreement: Keith Sowl announced that the couple that had requested to host in the campground in return for free camping are now available only during the month of June. He added that he will not be posting for the position for the remaining months of summer. Ham Ross reiterated his concern regarding insurance for the hosts. Sowl pointed out the waiver that the Town of Washburn uses for its campground hosts. Larry Whalen pointed out that people cannot sign away their legal rights. Jim Patterson asked if the hosts would not have the same liability coverage as visitors to the Park. Ham Ross said that hosts should have more coverage as they would be Town employees. The group pointed out that since the hosts would be volunteers, they would not be employees. Sowl then pointed out that an email from the Town's insurance agent states that the hosts would have the same coverage as visitors to the Park have.

Motion to retain volunteer hosts for the Big Bay Town Park campground for the month of June, 2012, based on their having liability insurance.

HR/JP 5A MB

b. Posting for opening or entering into an agreement: Motion to accept as volunteers Elizabeth & Robert Lambus.

HR/NN 5A MC

C. Airport

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

2. Federal Aviation Admin (FAA) Airport Improvement Program Terms & Conditions: motion to authorize the Town Chair to sign the FAA Airport Improvement Program Terms & Conditions. HR/JP 5A MC

D. Harbors

1. An Ordinance to Amend an Ordinance within the Town of LaPointe's Code of Ordinances:

Chapter 347 PARKS AND RECREATION

Article I: Joni's Beach and Town Dock

Addition to §347-5. Prohibited acts.

(Related to Break Wall/Break water)

Nick Nelson pointed out that the Harbor Committee just proposed providing docking space as a revenue stream, so why is the break wall off limits now? Greg Nelson responded that the Ordinance can be changed again after there is more time to consider how best to handle the use of the break wall space; this amendment will work in the short term.

Motion to adopt the Ordinance to Amend the Joni's Beach 7 Town Dock Ordinance. HR/JP 3A 1 Ab [LW] 1 Nay [NN] MC

V. Emergency Services

A. Fire Department

1. Fire Chief's Report not available

B. Ambulance Service

1. Concealed & Carry Law & the Madeline Island Ambulance Service: discussion regarding the dangers faced by EMT's in the wake of the passage of the Concealed Carry Law. Nick Nelson will be meeting with the Ashland paramedics in an effort to find out how they handle armed patients.

VI. Library

A. Library Board Minutes 4/8/12 placed on file by unanimous consent

B. Library Request to install informational sign in Library front yard approved by motion: NN/JP 4A 1 Ab [HR] MC **VII. Committees**

A. Zoning

1. Northern State Bank **RE:** Certified Survey Map to combine three parcels into two at the corner of Snowplace Lane and Big Bay Road. Motion to accept the Town Plan Commission to approve: HR/JP 5A MC

B. CAPP

VIII. Town Hall Administration

A. Administrative Assistant’s Report placed on file by unanimous consent.

B. Appointment of members to ad Hoc Tribal Relations Committee: motion to appoint Marty Curry, Barb With, Marina Lachecki, Patty Hobin, and Nick Vander Puy to this ad Hoc Committee. JP/LW 5A MC

C. 2012 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Annual Report: motion to approve & adopt the CEDS list: JP/HR 5A MC

D. Alliance for Sustainability

1. Request for sponsorship: Motion to become a Supporting Sponsor for the event called Pie & Politics at a cost of \$100: LW/JP 5A MC

E. Monthly Budget Reports for January, February, March and April plus the Annual Report approved by motion: HR/JP 5A MC

IX. New Agenda Items for Future Meetings

A. Concealed Carry Law & the Ambulance Service: update

B. Fire Chief’s Report for May, 2012

X. Lawsuits & Legal Issues

XI. Liquor & Operators’ Licenses

A. Soda & Water/Non-Intoxicating:

1. Sugar Shack

2. Motion To Go

3. Café Seiche

4. Ella’s Island Café

5. Madeline Island Wilderness Preserve [at MISA]

6. The Inn & Pub on Madeline Island

7. Madeline Island Golf Club

8. Middle Road Literary/Arts Society

Motion to approve Soda & Water Licenses to Sugar Shack, Motion To Go, Café Seiche, Ella’s Island Café, The Inn & Pub on Madeline Island, Madeline Island Golf Club and the Middle Road Literary Arts Society. HR/NN 4A 1 Ab [JP] MC

Motion to deny Madeline Island School of the Arts [for Madeline Island Wilderness Preserve]. NN/HR 5A MC

B. Temporary Class “B” [Picnic] License:

1. Madeline Island Wilderness Preserve [at MISA] May 26th, 2012 Motion to deny this license: HR/JP 5A MC [Reasons given: LW stated that the original CUP for Madeline Island School of the Arts specified that no events such as receptions occur there. NN stated that, while it may be that the Wilderness Preserve is unaware of the terms of the MISA CUP, this event does not fit the Town Plan Commission interpretation of the CUP. GN stated that he supports the Town Plan Commission’s decision.

C. Operators:

1. Nora Taylor

2. Diana Kopanarova

3. Chris Wolfe

4. Nicole McNally

All approved by motion: HR/NN 5A MC

XII. Adjourned at 7:12 PM

Submitted by Patty Hobin, Town Clerk

Approved as submitted on June 12, 2012

Patty Hobin, Town Clerk