

**TOWN OF LA POINTE  
SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2010  
At 4:30 At Town Hall**

**I. Called to Order** at 4:35 PM

Present: Beth Fischlowitz, Jim Patterson, Greg Nelson, Ham Ross, Larry Whalen  
Also present: Mike Starck, Barb Nelson

**II. 2011 Budget**

A. Review 2011 Proposed budget & makes changes as necessary

Mike Starck asked to be recognized and began the meeting by presenting a page of numbers that seemed to show that there would be a greater than 10% increase in taxes.

Barb Nelson explained that the annual tax levy may not increase by more than 3% unless the Town votes to give its permission to do so. She further explained that every year the state Department of Revenue takes last year's tax levy and adds 3%. That is what it means to stay within the allowable levy increase. She stated that Mike Starck says this is a 10% increase.

Beth Fischlowitz asked, "10% of what?"

Ham Ross stated that he felt the numbers presented by Starck do not accurately reflect the amount of the increase.

Barb Nelson stated that taxes will increase, but that part of this is due to an increase in the Bayfield School District budget. [She also pointed out that the school tax credits that are refunded each year have not yet arrived.]

Ham Ross added that the mill rate is not included either. **He further stated that there is "not a perfect nexus between the levy rate & the mill rate, and that a 10% increase in the budget does not imply a 10% increase in people's taxes."**

Barb Nelson responded that we won't know that till the school tax credits arrive.

Greg Nelson asked if the school tax increase really go up that much, or did the Island's portion of it go up. Barb Nelson responded that it went up 8%.

Discussion followed as the Town Board reviewed the increases in previous years.

Greg Nelson summarized by saying that the Town is putting money away for projects & equipment that will be needed in the future. Rather than doing this, the Town could borrow the money for these future expenditures and pay interest on the loan, but it is the feeling of the Board that increasing the budget in order to avoid borrowing is more fiscally responsible. It was also Nelson's view that improvements at the Big Bay Town Park will pay for themselves through increased revenue from the Park in its improved state.

Beth Fischlowitz & Ham Ross stated that they feel the Board has done all it can to reduce expenses and remain debt-free.

**III. Review 2011 Fee Schedule & make changes as necessary**

Discussion ensued regarding five changes to the fee schedule as follows:

Under Town Hall Fees: there will be a fee of \$10 (per parcel) for Tax Exempt Filing (not to include churches)

Under Under 2010 Licensing Fees: The cost of Non-intoxicating Beverage License (soda/water) is increased from \$5 yearly to \$10 yearly.

Under Materials Recovery Fee Schedule

Garbage per 33 Clear Gallon Bag	From \$4 to \$5
Mattresses per single	From \$8 to \$12
double	From \$12 to \$16
queen	From \$16 to \$20
Box Springs	From \$8 to \$12
double	From \$12 to \$16
queen	From \$16 to \$20
Couch	From \$10 to \$15
Hide-a-Bed	From \$17 to \$20

Love Seat	From \$5 to \$10
Chairs (each)	From \$5 to \$8
Recliners	From \$15 to \$18
Televisions	From \$5-\$50 to \$5 to \$100 depending on size
The VCR, Radio, DVD category now includes ALL ELECTRONICS	
Demolition & Construction per pick-up	From \$60 to \$75
	From \$160 to \$190/five-yard truck depending on weight
Business Recyclables	From \$4 to \$5 per 33-gallon container
Drain Oil	From \$.15 to \$.20/gallon
Paint-HazMat	From \$2-\$20 to \$5-\$50/gallon depending on material

Motion to approve the 2011 Fee Schedule as presented. Hamilton Ross/Beth Fischlowitz 5A Motion Carries

**IV. Adjournment** at 5:30 PM

Approved as corrected on 12/6/10: Additions in boldface & underlined.

*Patty Hobin, Town Clerk*