

TOWN OF LA POINTE
2010 BUDGET WORKSHOP
AMENDED MINUTES *Amendments underlined & in italics*
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2009
At 5:00 PM At Town Hall

Called to order at 5:20 PM

Present: Beth Fischlowitz, Ric Gillman, Greg Nelson, Ham Ross

I. Review the proposed 2010 budget along with wages and fee schedules for 2010.

The Town Board first addressed the \$500,000 budgeted for the Miller Farm Rd. project. Keith Sowl, Town Foreman, stated previously that this figure may be inaccurate.

Secondly, the Town Board considered the matter of new fire numbers for all Island addresses. These have been mandated by Ashland County as a part of the new 911 system that has GPS coordinates. The Board questioned whether or not they need to be budgeted for 2010.

Next, the Board considered the TPC/Zoning budget request. The Zoning Assistant has requested an increase in the hours of the Zoning Clerical Assistant. The Board felt that Ashland County should be approached to increase the amount of money that they pay for Zoning on the Island, which is currently \$15,000. The County recommended that the ZA needs more help in a letter from Larry Hildebrandt, Ashland County Zoning Administrator. The Board would like for the County to pay for the help needed.

Due to the negative CPI this year (the cost of living has decreased by 1.3%), the Town Board elected to freeze wages except for merit pay increases.
Motion to give no cost of living adjustment to pay received by Town employees in the calendar year 2010. RG/BF 4A MC

The Town Board next discussed the line item requested for the Celebrations Committee for watering flower baskets downtown and for paying for July Fourth fireworks. Ham Ross volunteered to water the flowers again next summer. Beth Fischlowitz stated that the fireworks display benefits the whole Town.

At this point the Town Board returned to a discussion of the Miller Farm Rd. project. It was pointed out that this project can use gravel already owned by the Town. This would save money on the project.

Barb Nelson was invited into the meeting to discuss various budget issues.

Beth Fischlowitz asked that her Park project remain in the budget. (This project calls for a park monitor and a building to be used as the monitor's headquarters.) She stated that this project would have no impact on the budget if the room tax money for tourism infrastructure were used. Included in this budget item would be the cost of upgrades to the Town Park: repairs to the crib and the bridge. The Clerk will research a Park or Camp Host program.

The CEDS list was mentioned because the Town Foreman had noted last year that upgrades were needed at Memorial Park (Joni's Beach). This is not currently in the 2010 budget.

Larry Whalen arrived at 6:12 PM

Motion to ask Foreman Sowl to come up with a closer estimate for the Miller Farm Rd. project. RG/HR. 4A 1 Abstain.. MC Larry Whalen abstained

Next the Town discussed the \$15,000 concrete bin requested by the Recycling Facility for the storage of non-recycled glass.

Motion to ask Ted Pallas to attend the next budget workshop for the purpose of discussing the bin. RG/BF 5A MC

At this point the Board revisited the request for additional hours for the Zoning Clerical Assistant. A compromise in the number of hours was suggested. Beth Fischlowitz and Larry Whalen favored this; while Ham Ross and Ric Gillman felt that if Town employees are not getting a cost of living adjustment, then the Town is obligated to avoid spending on additional hours for another employee. Gillman also felt that Ashland County needs to pay more (through the intermunicipal agreement) for Zoning services on the Island.

Motion to keep the Zoning Clerical Assistant's hours "as is" [Clerk's note: currently the ZCA works less than 600 hours.] until such time as the Town can obtain more revenue from Ashland County for the Zoning Department. RG/HR Discussion back & forth regarding the Town's obligation. 3A 2 No. MC Beth Fischlowitz & Larry Whalen voted no.

Motion to grant a portion of the line item request for the Celebrations Committee: an increase of \$1200, which gives them a total of \$1700 in their budget. RG/BF 4A 1 No. MC Larry Whalen voted no.

Motion to remove the line item request for \$7500 for the Madeline Island Chamber of Commerce/Celebrations Committee. RG/HR 4A 1 No MC Beth Fischlowitz voted no.

II. Possible setting of a next meeting date for the purpose of finalizing the 2010 budget plus wages & fee schedules. The next meeting will be Wednesday, November 4, 2009 at 5:00 PM at Town Hall.

III. Winter Transportation Agreement with Bayfield School District Discussion followed centered around item 2.D. of the Collaborative of the Collaborative Agreement concerning cost overages on maintenance and repair of the windsleds. The Town Board, by unanimous consent, agreed upon the following language:

2.D. [as it reads now] If at the end of the windsled season additional sums of money are required for maintenance/upkeep of equipment, both the District and the Town will be responsible for 1/3 each of such expenses. [The Town proposes the following language to immediately follow the existing language] If the overage is over \$3000 total, there will be a meeting of all parties to discuss the expenditures. This clause provides for all parties to have oversight of all expenditures.

The Clerk was directed to submit this language to Town's Attorney Mike Fauerbach.

IV. Ad Hoc Committee Bayfield School District and Town of La Pointe This item had been added at the request of Town Supervisor Ric Gillman and was dropped from the agenda also at his request.

Adjourned at 7:30 PM

Submitted by Patty Hobin, Clerk of the Town

Approved as amended on 11/10/09; addition in italics and underlined.

Patty Hobin

Amended on November 12, 2009 due to mismatch with agenda

Additions underline & in italics

Patty Hobin, Clerk

Approved as amended and resubmitted 12/1/09

Patty Hobin, Clerk

