

TOWN OF LA POINTE
Board of Harbor Commissioners
THURSDAY April 25th, 2024
9:00 a.m. at Town Hall and via Zoom
Approved Minutes

Commissioners Present: Michael Collins, Evan Erickson Jr., Zach Montagne, Pete Ross, Mike Anderson, Jay Wiltz, Carol Neubauer

Staff Present: Lauren Burtaux, Harbor Commission Secretary, Katie Kisner, Chief Administrative Officer, Michael Kuchta, Town Administrator

Public Present: Glenn Carlson, Michael Childers, Arnie Nelson

1. Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 9am by Z. Montagne.
2. Roll Call: Members, staff, and public present as listed above.
3. Public Comment: Z. Montagne welcomes Commissioner Jay Wiltz to the Harbor Commission.
4. Minutes – 4/16/2024 & 4/19/2024: The 4/16/24 minutes are deferred. Motion by M. Collins to approve the 4/19 minutes as presented, seconded by E. Erickson, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by E. Erickson to move item #12 up on the agenda as A. Nelson is present, seconded by M. Collins, all in favor, motion carried.

12. Review Nelson Construction Bayfield Dock Lease Agreement: Discussion of length of lease, clause for mutual cancellation, and dredging. Motion by M. Collins to recommend the lease to the town board with discussed changes, seconded by E. Erickson, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by C. Neubauer to move back to item #5, seconded by M. Collins, all in favor, motion carried.

5. Keith Sowl Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Letter: Discussion on the letter from Keith Sowl regarding concerns of the Emerald Ash Borer getting to the island. Discussion that while this is an issue, it is not feasible to enforce through the ferry line. Consensus to suggest that there are notices posted on various websites and around town.
6. Committees – Updates
 - a. President: There was an incident on the ferry with a crew member having sustained an injury. Northern News Now is doing an interview regarding the ferry purchase.
 - b. Communications: Continued meetings with Rob Karwath from AIMClear regarding grant opportunities.

- c. Other: C. Neubauer will set up a meeting with K. Kisner and Bob Toftey (bond attorney) to go over the financing details.
 - i. This is C. Neubauer's last meeting with the Harbor Commission; Z. Montagne thanks Carol for all her dedication and hard work while going through the acquisition of MIFL.

- 7. Update on Upcoming Operational Tasks – Katie Kisner (Chief Administrative Officer): Review of CAO report.
- 8. Operation Budget from MIFL: Motion by E. Erickson to go into closed session to discuss MIFL operational budget, seconded by M. Collins, all in favor and in closed session at 9:40am.

This meeting may, upon duly made motion, be convened in closed session under State Statute 19.85 (1)(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. If the Commission goes into closed session; it will reconvene in open session before adjourning.

Motion by E. Erickson to come out of closed session, seconded by J. Wiltz, all in favor and out of closed session at 10:13am.

- 9. EPA Grant Application: Initial costs for a grant writer are more than expected. More updates to come.
- 10. Consideration of Legal Representation: Discussion of using town lawyers which is not possible. Consensus to continue to use Amundsen Davis.

E. Erickson left the meeting at 11:20am.

- 11. Dockside Lease Agreement Recommendation: Motion by M. Collins to recommend to the town board the Dockside Lease agreement, seconded by J. Wiltz, discussion regarding all in favor, motion carried.
- 13. Approval of Bills: Motion by P. Ross to approve the bill for MIFL for March expenses in the amount of \$276,274.35, seconded by M. Collins, all in favor, motion carried.
- 14. Future Agenda Items: Discounted rates, elect new vice president, Big Top Chautauqua.
- 15. Meeting Dates: Thursday, May 2nd at 9am.
- 16. Adjourn: Motion by M. Collins to adjourn, seconded by J. Wiltz, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:37am.

Respectfully submitted by Lauren Burtaux, Harbor Commission Secretary.
Minutes approved as presented on Thursday, May 2nd, 2024, L. Burtaux.