

TOWN OF LA POINTE
Board of Harbor Commissioners
THURSDAY May 23rd, 2024
9:00 a.m. at Town Hall and via Zoom
Approved Minutes

Commissioners Present: Michael Collins, Evan Erickson Jr., Zach Montagne, Jay Wiltz, Susan Widmar, Glenn Carlson

Commissioners Absent: Pete Ross

Public Present: Garry Schalla, Big Top Chautauqua

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

1. Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 9am by Z. Montagne.
2. Roll Call: All members and staff present as listed above.
3. Public Comment: M. Kuchta congratulated the Harbor Commission on the passenger data report from ferry ridership.
4. Update from Big Top Chautauqua – Garry Schalla: Big Top has requested five shows to have a late night 10:30pm boat. The special ferry cost is \$675 for extra boats. Question of who will pay for the boats. Further discussions will be had.
5. Minutes – 5/16/24: Motion by M. Collins to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by S. Widmar, all in favor, J. Wiltz abstains, motion carried.
6. Committees – Updates
 - a. President: None.
 - b. Communications: AIMClear/Rob Karwath will have an update on the three grant submissions for the Duluth Superior Community Foundation by the end of the day today. Otto Bremer is still making decisions which should come mid-May/early June.
 - c. Other: A lot of letters of support have been provided for the EPA grant.
7. Update on Upcoming Operational Tasks – Katie Kisner (Chief Administrative Officer): Review of report. Discussion on budget vs. actual. Motion by Z. Montagne to put the CAO report on file, seconded by M. Collins, all in favor, motion carried.
8. EPA Grant Application Update: The total for the grant request will be \$34 million at a 90/10 match, the town would commit to spending \$3.4 million. Discussion of a way to get the 3.4 million covered with other grant sources. Motion by M. Collins to recommend the town board approves the financial commitment for \$3.4 million, seconded by S. Widmar, all in favor, motion carried.
9. Adopt Policy on Gratis Travel: Motion by G. Carlson to adopt the draft gratis travel policy with the amendment that ‘Bayfield School District students’ is changed to

Harbor Commission May 23rd, 2024

‘Madeline Island resident students,’ seconded by M. Collins, all in favor, motion carried.

10. Parking Ordinance Review: Discussion on the details of the current ordinance. Ordinance will continue to be examined.
11. Review of Trek & Trail Lease Agreement: Discussion that the Harbor Commission’s lawyer did not respond to request to review and give feedback on lease. Consensus to have the town’s attorney review the lease for guidance on next steps.
12. MIFL Operational Budget: Motion by G. Carlson to go into closed session to discuss the MIFL operational budget, seconded by M. Collins, roll call vote, six ayes, motion carried and in closed session at 9:52am.

Motion by M. Collins to return to open session, seconded by E. Erickson, all in favor, motion carried, back in open session at 10:18am.

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.

13. Authorize Increase in Hours for Chief Administrative Officer: Motion by G. Carlson to increase the chief administrative officer hours to 30 hours/week, seconded by M. Collins, all in favor, motion carried.
14. Renewal of Loan from the Town: Motion by G. Carlson to approve the renewal of the loan for \$450,000 from the town to the Harbor Commission for another 90 days at 5% interest rate, seconded by J. Wiltz, all in favor, motion carried.
15. Approval of Bills: Motion by E. Erickson to approve the bill for \$5,625.00, seconded by M. Collins, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by G. Carlson to approve the bills for \$203,101.87, seconded by E. Erickson, all in favor, motion carried.

16. Future Agenda Items: Parking ordinance review, Trek & Trail lease, Big Top update, MIFL and Harbor Commission budget, Harbor Commission Secretary performance review.
17. Meeting Dates: Thursday, May 30th, 2024, at 9am.
18. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Z. Montagne, seconded by G. Carlson, all in favor, meeting adjourned at 10:26am.

Respectfully submitted by Lauren Burtaux, Harbor Commission Secretary.
Minutes approved as presented on Thursday, May 30th, 2024, L. Burtaux.