

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

To: Town Board

From: Michael Kuchta

DATES COVERED IN REPORT: July 6-18, 2024

1. Accomplished/Completed

- **Budget amendment.** Completed first version of revised budget of 2024 for Town Board review.
- **Gazette.** Submitted articles for Aug. 3 edition.
- **Ordinances.** Created new drafts of Construction Ordinance Chapter 205 and Direct Sellers Ordinance Chapter 345 for Town Plan Commission and Town Board review.
- **Resignation.** Organized files, drafted memos to help staff transition in my absence.

2. Coming Up

- **Open Book Board of Review.** Tuesday July 30, 3-6 p.m., Town Hall.
- **Point to La Pointe Swim.** Saturday Aug. 3.
- **Board of Review.** Tuesday Aug. 6, 4-6 p.m., Town Hall.
- **Great Lakes Islands Alliance.** Monthly meeting: Wednesday Aug. 7, 9 a.m. Central time. Note: Early registration deadline is Aug. 1 for annual Summit, which is Sept. 22-25 on Les Cheneaux Islands in Michigan's UP. Zoning administrator Ed Schaffer hopes to attend.
- **Primary election.** Tuesday Aug. 13, 7 a.m.-8 p.m., Town Hall.

3. Town Board Agenda – Information/Comments

- See separate memo.

4. Follow Up on Previous/Ongoing Projects

- **Airport hangar leases.** Continue talking with hangar owners about revised leases, and gathering required information in order to create individual parcel numbers as part of state's transition away from hangars being designated personal property. Town needs to submit electronic real estate transfer returns with the state for each hangar, then file with county recorder of deeds.
- **ESB microgrid.** Began filling out the EQ-1 environmental assessment for the state grant; forwarded the draft to Public Works, Jolma Electric, and Cheq Bay Renewables for more detail.
- **Fire number signs.** The new crew is making substantial progress, with additional signs mounted on Big Bay Road and elsewhere.
- **Law enforcement survey.** The survey launched July 10. In its first week, the survey had 390 responses: 38.5% from year-round residents, 38.9% from seasonal residents, and 22.6% from others. The survey closes on Aug. 15.
- **Police back pay.** Checks were issued July 12.
- **RV sanitary disposal site.** Met July 8 with Zach Montagne and Paul Brummer from sanitary district, and David Lindsley and Robert Skalitzky from DNR. If the site is relocated to Town property adjacent to MRF, DNR likely will need easement language to codify the state's interest in the site. Sanitary district will seek a quote to incorporate preliminary engineering for various options as part of facility planning the district already has under way with SEH. Because of the state budget cycle, the DNR cannot commit funding until 2026-2028 biennium at the earliest.

How to pay for engineering and other work remains a major challenge, especially because the Town has no borrowing capacity at the moment. It is unlikely that engineering work will be completed in time to seek a loan by the Sept. 30 deadline for the state's Clean Water Fund program. A new MOU needs to confirm a location, easement language, and shared funding.

- **UW Extension Extreme Weather meetings.** Sessions in La Pointe are postponed, with hopes of rescheduling them in fall.

5. Grant Report

- **Big Bay Town Park accessibility project.** DNR informed us that, because of the Town's inability to commit local money, our application for a \$500,000 Knowles-Nelson grant was denied. The regional manager said "the application you put together was highly competitive" and urged the Town to apply again next year, even though less funding will be available.

6. Lawsuits/Legal Issues

- No updates.

7. Other Information

- My last day in the office was July 18.