

Town of La Pointe
Special Town Board Meeting
2025 Budget Workshop
Thursday, October 17th, 2024
5:00 pm at the Town Hall
Minutes

Town Board Members Present: Town Chair Glenn Carlson, Supervisor Sue Brenna, Supervisor Mike Anderson, Supervisor Aimee Baxter, Supervisor Samantha Dobson

Staff Present: Town Clerk Alex Smith, Police Chief William Defoe (via zoom) Ambulance Assistant Sarah Schram

Public Present: None

1. Call to order:

Meeting called to order by Glenn Carlson at 5:00pm.

2. Public Comment:

None.

3. Hire Mechanic/CDL Driver:

Motion to hire Matthew Herriot, M. Anderson/A. Baxter

Discussion: The Town Board discussed a starting salary of \$28/hr until CDL training is completed and then a salary of \$30/hr.

Amended motion to hire Matthew Herriot starting at \$28/hr, M. Anderson/A. Baxter, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.

4. Approve CDL Training for Mechanic/CDL Driver:

Motion to approve the CDL training with an estimate of \$2500 and additional \$1000 for travel/expenses, A. Baxter/S. Dobson, 5 Ayes. Motion Carried.

5. Budget Workshop with each of the following departments:

A. Police:

William Defoe prepared and discussed the budget for 2025. The 2025 budget is similar to the 2024 budget. The police department is much better staffed than the previous 2024 budget. William Defoe plans to retire in March of 2026 and therefore did not request funds under the "Hiring Expense". However, if Defoe was to retire early, he suggests a \$2,000 budget and completing a search before he leaves. The department is requesting \$5,000 for a storage container to properly store supplies. The hard drive at the ESB has had several outages this year and therefore the storage room needs a replacement and better ventilation. This would be a mutual expense between the police, fire, and ambulance. The Town Board and Defoe discussed "Parking Violations" being high in 2023 and being much lower this year with less tickets being issued due to proper deterrence and cleaning up LOT W.

B. Ambulance:

Sarah Schram prepared and discussed the budget for 2025. There have been major changes to the department with Cindy Dalzell retiring. The department's biggest challenge is the lack of members. However, there are currently 10 members enrolled in the courses and if they pass, these members will receive certification by the end of the year. In the 2025 proposed budget the increase in wages for more members is included. The department is requesting a slight increase in pay for the EMT's, with the most training required, necessity, and the most responsibility when caring for a patient. The town has hired a new collections company that is working well and doing a better job collecting. Schram stated there are roughly 75-90 calls a year and it hasn't been less than in quite some time. With the support of the board, Schram plans to combine the role of Ambulance Assistance and Director and is confident she can take that role on. The Town Board mentioned that the Ambulance will still pay for the ferry even though the Town owes it as it is a bookkeeping issue. Schram mentioned slowly setting aside funds for a new ambulance and the possibility of a fundraiser.

C. Fire Department:

The 2025 Fire Department budget was postponed. There were no department members present to discuss the budget.

D. Community Clinic:

Molly Sullivan prepared the budget for 2025. Sarah Schram was present to discuss the proposed clinic budget. The clinic is requesting \$24,000 this year, which was what was requested last year. The clinic continues to provide quality healthcare to residents and tourists. They have hired a nurse practitioner and were able to be open three days a week in the busy season.

4. Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn, S. Brenna/S. Dobson, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried. 5:38pm

Submitted by Town Clerk, Alex Smith.

Approved as submitted, 10/22/24.