

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Monday, December 1, 2008 – 5 p.m.

TOWN OF LAPOINTE

A public hearing will be conducted by the town of LaPointe Town Board on Monday, December 1, 2008, at 5:00 pm at the LaPointe Town Hall.

The purpose of this hearing will be to discuss the 2009 proposed budget.

All members of the wishing to be heard on this matter are here notified to appear at the Town Hall at this time.

The proposed budget, in detail, is available for inspection at the Town Hall from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

Present: Mike Starck, Jim Patterson, Greg Nelson, Ric Gillman, Beth Fischlowitz
Called to order at 5:03 P.M by Chairman Greg Nelson

Mike Starck points out that the mill rate has fallen some 20.8%, but that assessments went up. He suggests that if your property value went up 26%, your property taxes will remain the same.

Mike Anderson wants to know how much the town is paying annually in loans? Mike Starck suggests that in '09 and '10, \$433,023 is being paid on interest and principal. The loan for the EMS Building and paving South Shore Road will be paid in full in the first quarter of 2011, which will reduce payments.

Discussion: Debt service is excluded from the 2% limit on levy increases.

Keith Sowl, Town Foreman would like \$25,000 put back in the budget for sidewalks. LaPointe Town Board agrees that there would be room for that.

Judy Patterson wonders how capital outlay could have doubled. Keith answers that the town bought gravel.

Tom Nelson wants assurance that the town is not paying for police on the Ferries.

Keith Sowl displays a map presenting gravel and repairs going on around the Island.

Tom Nelson questions what is being spent on sustainability and how is it displayed in the budget? Burke Henry answers that it all comes from grants so far and is handled by the Designated Fund Process.

Discussion back to Keith's map: Some 12,300 tons of gravel have been laid with about 30,000 tons remaining.

Keith Sowl reads letter which recommends that the town people add \$25,000 to the budget for sidewalks – that this would actually save money.

Greg Nelson agrees that cost of maintenance and repair do increase rapidly when deterioration sets in.

Keith Sowl, Town Foreman, lists his priorities for sidewalks. 1) Museum to School 2) Le Seur Street 3) Rice Street to Capser Trail 4) Main Street 5) Lakeview to Recreation Center.

Discussion of non-binding motions and budget suggestions – Tom Nelson would like to make some. Tom also volunteers to host a generating tower, and to cooperate in any way with the Alternative Energy Committee.

Mike Anderson moves to adjourn – motion fails.

Tom Nelson suggests that a good cost saving measure would be to cut the Town Plan Commission by two sevenths, and that it would be more economical to make the clerk a $\frac{3}{4}$ time position that to hire the clerk to do other work.

Mike Anderson moves to adjourn – Tom Nelson seconds – Motion Carries 16 aye