

**CITY OF BREWER
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
MARCH 25, 2013**

Chairman Campbell called the meeting to order at the Brewer City Hall Council Chambers at 8:05 a.m.

The following were in attendance:

Kevin Birch	Present
Allen Campbell	Present
Jim Donnelly	Absent
Michael Fitzpatrick	Present
Nicole Gogan	Present
Kevin Gresser	Present
David Hanna	Present
Frank Higgins	Present
Linda Johns	Present
D'arcy Main-Boyington	Present
Janet McIntosh	Absent
Daniel O'Connell	Absent
Bev Uhlenhake	Present
Andrew Varisco	Present

Consultant Rich Rothe Present

Also in attendance was Ken Locke (Director of Environmental Services).

Minutes of the March 11, 2013 Committee meeting were unanimously approved.

Linda noted that the Brewer City Council appointed Bev Uhlenhake to the Comprehensive Plan Committee at their March 18th meeting.

Historic Goals, Policies, and Strategies. Rich commented that only minor changes were made as discussed at the last meeting:

- Goal #2 – shortened by deleting phrase “...as well as educational resources of historic significance”;
- HRAC changed to HRAB;
- Strategy #5A – amended by adding phrase “as well as the link to the Brewer Historical Society.”;
- Strategy #5B – “display cases” changed to “displays”, and “school” changed to “schools”.

Recreation Goals, Policies, and Strategies. The Committee reviewed the 1995 Comp Plan goals, policies, and strategies along with the State rules. The Committee made the following comments:

- Strategy #3C – “Contain” should be changed to “Continue”;
- Strategy #3E – Add regional trails, working with other towns and land trusts;
- Strategy #4C – Should also include: utilize volunteers, rely on them, and formally recognize them.

Water Inventory. Rich noted that the draft inventory was prepared after talking with the department superintendent. The Committee made the following comments:

- The water supply lines have a depreciation schedule on iron pipes;
- New pipes are sized for future potential development;
- Page 1, 3rd paragraph – remove “million” as is included in “MGD”;
- Brewer’s water system is linked to Bangor’s water system in Eddington;
- Backflow devices were mandated to be installed per State requirements.

Sewer/Storm Water/Environmental Inventory. Rich noted that the draft inventory was prepared after talking with the department director and a tour of the wastewater treatment facility. The Committee made the following comments:

- Wastewater education is important. “Flushable” wipes should not be flushed as they clog the system;
- Hypodermic needles used to be a problem, but not much recently;
- Stormwater education is ongoing. Storm drains are stenciled with the assistance of volunteers;
- The annual streamside cleanup event has been very successful. The May 2013 event is the ninth yearly event with many donations of supplies and money as well as many volunteers to pick up trash;
- Pet waste stations have been placed in many parks as part of the stormwater program;
- Sludge is trucked to the town of Plymouth for recycling;
- Stormwater detention ponds are needed for both stormwater quality and quantity. Also cools water temperature; it can cost \$2,500 – 3,000 to remove silt from a single pond;
- Post-Construction Stormwater Ordinance written and adopted a few years ago, which applies to both residential and commercial sites when thresholds are met;
- Need to highlight the CSO separation project. Brewer’s is completed and many municipalities have not;
- Bangor Area Stormwater Group is “DIMS” (Does it Make Sense?). They’ve been looking at sustainable funding for stormwater management;
- Brewer should avoid the “Urban Impaired Streams” at all costs so a stormwater fee does not have to be imposed.

Sewer/Stormwater/Environmental Goals, Policies, and Strategies. The Committee reviewed the 1995 Comp Plan goals, policies, and strategies along with the State rules. The Committee made the following comments:

- Many of the 1995 goals/policies/strategies have been met and exceeded;
- Should create a new page for Stormwater/Environmental goals, policies and strategies;

- Continue to maintain stormwater detention ponds if City responsible (silt removed every few years, mowing);
- Continue to have methods in place to ensure private detention ponds are maintained;
- Continue to monitor how other municipalities handle stormwater such as Bangor and their “Sustainable Funding Mechanism” fee which will take several years to implement;
- Continue to monitor fee structures of other municipalities;
- Continue to nurture volunteers on stream cleanup;
- Continue with public education;
- Keep Land Use Code updated with current storm water techniques (ie. catch basin filters);
- The main electrical entrance to the wastewater treatment plant needs to be updated (estimate of \$10,000);
- Need concrete work repairs on tanks;
- Upgrade to aeration system \$985,000;
- Continue to explore power generation options such as turbines in the effluent and to produce own methane;
- Continue to keep wastewater treatment plant as efficient as possible including potential downstream costs. (Automation of the facility may not be best total outcome.);
- Staffing levels – currently understaffed with 7 operators (used to have 13). Sampling and testing performed daily;
- Continue to operate septic treatment station. Currently open 24/7 which produces \$250,000 revenue to the City;

Water Goals, Policies, and Strategies. The Committee reviewed the 1995 Comp Plan goals, policies, and strategies along with the State rules. The Committee made the following comments:

- The Committee asked Rich and Linda to work with the Water Dept Superintendent to prepare draft goals, policies, and strategies.
- The Committee asked if the Water Dept Superintendent could attend the next Committee meeting as it is helpful to have the dept represented at the meeting for discussions.

Public Safety Inventory. Rich noted that the draft inventory was prepared after talking with the department director and a tour of the Public Safety building. The Committee made the following comments:

- The Committee asked if the Public Safety Director could attend the next Committee meeting as it is helpful to have the dept represented at the meeting for discussions;
- In discussions with the dept, the biggest challenge is staffing;
- Need electrical repairs on fire truck and a cold storage building for larger items such as bicycles;
- Page 2, last item under “Challenges” – “Fire” range should be “Firing” range;
- City is getting updated ISO ratings.

Public Safety Goals, Policies, and Strategies. The Committee reviewed the 1995 Comp Plan goals, policies, and strategies along with the State rules. The Committee made the following comments:

- Address the challenges listed in the inventory;

- Continue utilizing regional cooperation and shared training;
- There has been on-and-off discussion on a regional department. Emphasis should be on regional coordination and collaboration.;
- Include facility maintenance as well as dept staffing;

Rich and Linda will prepare updated copies of the revised documents as discussed at this meeting.

The date of the April 22nd Committee meeting has been changed to April 29th.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.