

TOWN OF BRIDGE CREEK

Bridge Creek Comprehensive Planning Commission Meeting

February 25, 2020

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Fred Poss
2. **Roll call** of Commission members and alternates: Present Ricky Strauch, Gordie O'Brien, Fred Poss, Carol Peuse, Harvey Kurtz, Steve Erdman. Absent Tom Peterson. Alternates in attendance: Tom Crowe, Chuck Forseth & Christine Yellowthunder.
3. The **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited.
4. **Approval of the agenda and proper posting:** Motion by Gordie O'Brien to approve the agenda and proper posting, seconded by Ricky Strauch. All yes, motion carried. The wording on the Agenda on posting locations will be changed on future agenda to say Augusta City Hall instead of Augusta City Hall/Police Dept.
5. Motion by Steve Erdman seconded by Gordie O'Brien to **approve the minutes** for November 5, 2019, December 17, 2019 and January 14, 2020 and to correct the 9. (a.) wording from incite to insight in the November 5, 2019 meeting minutes. All Yes, motion carried.
6. **Opportunity for Public Input:** John Volbrecht voiced his concerns with the noise, air & ground pollution from sawmills. The sawmill is about a 1 /2 to 1 miles away from the Volbrecht residence. When they are in their house with the television on it sounds like a plane is going over their house. The Volbrechts have gone over to talk to them on various occasions and they said that they would try to do something about it, but nothing ever gets done. The sawmill is powered by a very large diesel engine. The engine is located outside and is not enclosed. Mr. Volbrecht stated that it is very very loud. Mr. Volbrecht further stated that in the winter months with the snow on the ground it is very easy to see how far the sawdust travels. Justin & Linse Niznik who live on County Road M are also concerned about the sawdust that is blowing into their yard from the neighboring sawmill. Their three children cannot play outside without breathing in sawdust. Linse Niznik stated that the sawdust is on their shoes on the deck of their house and the swing set. The Niznik family talked to a realtor in Osseo and they were told that their house would be valued at about \$17,000 less because of the situation with the sawmills. They are very concerns about the health issues with their family. The situations that they are dealing with have been going on for 8 years. Terry O'Donahue explained the different types of pollution. Point pollution is when you know that a factory or business is the direct cause of the pollution. Non point pollution is when pollution comes from a bordering area. An example of this would be agri-business. Trout streams in this area are being polluted by manure, pesticides, herbicides and sawdust. This is something that is real. Mr. O'Donahue wanted to go on record that it is very important to protect our streams and ground water. Carol Peuse, as secretary for the Commission will be maintaining a 3 ring binder that will be the official record of the Comprehensive Planning Commission which will include agendas, minutes, hand outs and any other information that pertains to the commission. Every effort will be made to get the minutes and agenda out to the Commission members and alternates within 3 to 5 days following the meeting. This would then be emailed or mailed to the membership, alternates and the website. The **policy for attendance** at all Commission meetings was discussed. It was decided that all members of the Commission and alternates will be required to attend all Comprehensive Planning Commission meetings because of the importance of keeping up with all of the

information. If someone cannot attend a meeting they must get in contact with Chairman Fred Poss and **it must be something of a very serious nature to be excused**. No official action has been taken for Harvey Schrock to be an alternate. It needs to be verified if he would still be interested. Chairman Fred Poss asked Christine Yellowthunder to be an alternate on the Commission which she accepted. Each member and alternate on the Commission will receive \$25.00 per meeting plus mileage. They will need to turn in W-4 tax withholding information form to Kathy Olson.

- 7. Discuss Resident Survey Return by Date Extension & Processing of Surveys:** A request was made by the Amish community to extend the due date for sending in the surveys. It has been extended to March 2, 2020. Chairman Poss clarified that the survey may be filled out by each resident of the household that is 18 years and older. Extra copies are available on the Bridge Creek website or individuals can make additional photo copies. A motion was made by Gordie O'Brien to choose William Engineering Services as the independent third party to collect the surveys and tabulate the data from the surveys seconded by Steve Erdman. All yes, motion carried. Discussion was held on a seconded survey down the road.
- 8. Review & Discuss (continue) the Housing Element:** Carol Peuse began by reading the requirements for the Housing Element as provided under Wis Stats. Sec. 66.1001 (2) (b) as a beginning guide line of what needs to be included in this element. Some of the things that stand out are the need for retirement and assisted living housing, affordable apartment condo's size of households are decreasing with some but increasing with Amish populations. The census from 2010 stated that there was 1900 people in the township. 22.4 % of the population of the township was below poverty level. The majority of the population was white. There was also information shared on the values of the housing market and some differences in values from the northern and southern parts of the township. The majority of houses in the township were built in 1939 or earlier. The average income in the township was also discussed with the differences between to northern and southern part of the township. One of the other things that needs to be taken into account is if the individual is working outside the township or is self-employed. Examples of the travel times to work was discussed. Examples of rent paid was also given. On the availability of land to build a home it was stated by a realtor that there is not much land available to build homes and the concern with this issue. Christine Yellowthunder will be also helping to work on the presentation of the Housing Element. Chairman Poss also share information that he was able to find to help with the research with this element. The final report on this element will be given at the March meeting.
- 9. Review & Discuss the Transportation Element:** Gordie O'Brien gave a detailed presented the Transportation Element as provided in Wis. Stats. Section 66.1001 (2) (c). Mr. O'Brien handed out his Transportation Element report to the membership. Discussed in this presentation was the following sections; Transportation, Existing Transportation Facilities, Commuting Patterns, Traffic Counts, Access Management & Safety, Under Additional Modes of Transportation were Transit Service, Transportation Facilities for the Disabled, Pedestrian & Bicycle Transportation, Railroad Service, Aviation Service, Trucking, Water Transportation. Under Maintenance & Improvements were Pavement Surface Evaluation & Rating, State & Regional Transportation Plans, Mr. O'Brien's report in it entirety is included as an attachment to these minutes. Chairman Poss thanked Mr. O'Brien for putting together and excellent report.

10. **Status Reports from Element Leads:** Chairman Poss review the timelines for the Nine Elements and the Commission members and alternates that are assigned to each Element. Gordie O'Brien will be assisting Carol Peuse on the Economic Development Element.
11. **Report from the Joint Extraterritorial Committee:** A meeting has been scheduled with the City of Augusta for February 27, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Augusta City Hall. Representing Bridge Creek will be Chuck Foreseth, Tom Crowe and Carol Peuse. An update will be given at the March meeting on the progress of the committee.
12. **Opportunity for Public Input:** None
13. **Review, Direct & Delegate Tasks Generated from Meeting:** A meeting may be needed to go over some of the contractual conditions with the William Engineering Services to clarify some issues of concern.
14. **Schedule Next Meeting & Review Agenda Items:** Comprehensive Plan Commission meetings will be held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be held on March 17, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.
15. **Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:10. P.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Carol Peuse
Secretary