

Town of Beaver Brook
Results of Issues Identification Process
January 21, 2002

Intergovernmental Cooperation Issues

- Interaction with the DNR
- Interaction with the County Highway Department
- Interaction with the County Board and Zoning Committee

Agricultural, Cultural and Natural Resource Issues

- Beaver Brook Wildlife Area
- Washburn County Forests and their recreational use
- Highway signage
- Is it possible to control the use or maintenance of state or County areas within the Town?
- Road frontage changes (buffers to preserve “north country” image?)
- Historical buildings (Town Hall?, are there others?)
- Lakes and shorelands. Beaver Brook has few lakes. State controls shorelands through County ordinances in any case

Utilities and Community Facilities

- Power, 3 phase needed in some areas
- Cable TV
- Natural Gas
- Town Hall maintenance (siding needed soon)
- Fire, police and related services - from outside Beaver Brook
- Parks - some sentiment in favor of identifying park areas
- Highway 53 (Veterans Highway, Pete) – important to Beaver Brook
- Sanitary District

Economic Development

- Focus on areas adjacent to Spooner or Shell Lake where services are available.
- High tech light industrial development is being contemplated in a six county area. This can be done without destruction of the environment, but controls would be well advised.
- Motels, service stations and convenience stores along highway 53 are possibilities. Annexation or boundary agreements would probably be required to provide services.

- Architectural requirements to preserve our “north country” identity could be incorporated in the plan.

Transportation

- Do we want airports? There are presently strips in Shell Lake, Evergreen and Minong
- County highway K is in poor shape. There are now roughly 15 families between the cemetery and 253.
- Town roads must be a priority

Housing

- Higher density housing near services (southeast of Spooner or northeast of Shell Lake)
- Mobile homes, manufactured homes – these cannot be legislated against.

Land Use Element

- **Feed lots**, turkey farms (high intensity agricultural uses)
- Need to address **compatibility** with existing land uses
- Need to address **property owners rights**
- **Wildlife area** land uses
- The use of State or County land for recreation
- Is this specifically for Beaver Brook? YES!
- Can we influence the use of County land within the Town of Beaver Brook?
- Should we permit and, if so, how should we site gravel pits?
- Comment: The County handles many of these issues, but we could enact different restrictions. These must be at least as strict as those of the County.
- Towns should have the right to control (several similar comments)
- Can the County overrule the towns? This becomes difficult for the County if the town’s decision is consistent with an adopted comprehensive plan.
- Can towns obtain ruling authority over the County? This is possible in some areas (conditional uses) in the future.