

**Village of Roberts & Town of Warren
Joint Comprehensive Plan Meeting
February 15, 2023
Page 1 OF 3**

The Village of Roberts/Town of Warren Joint Comprehensive Plan committee met in person and remotely on Wednesday February 15, 2023, at the Village of Roberts, 107 E Maple Street, Roberts. Co-Chair Katy Kapaun called the properly posted meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Members in attendance: Katy Kapaun, Grace Hoyer, Geno Hanson and Michele Aho; absent were Steve Melby, Patty Johnson, Cheryl Johnson, Warren Tracy, Henry Nechville, Stephanie Lamia

****This meeting was not an official meeting as we did not have a quorum of members****

Discussion/approval presentation from Susan Badtke and Chris Straight from West Central Regional Planning regarding updating our Joint Comprehensive Plan.

Chris Straight and Susan Badtke from West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning were online to discuss a proposal they put together for the Village of Roberts and the Town of Warren in assisting with updating/rewriting the Joint Comprehensive Plan. The Village of Roberts had listened to this proposal before but there could be changes.

Regional Planning Commission were created under statute in 1971. Serve as coordinating organization, assist units of government at regional level and provide technical assistance. Nine planning commissions in the state and Badtke is part of region nine.

Four primary service areas. Community development services including comprehensive planning. Economic development, transportation service, and conservation and mapping services.

Badtke gave a refresher on comprehensive planning in Wisconsin.

- What is important and what is your vision for the future in 20 years.
- Developing the guide to get you there.
- Consider existing conditions and trends.
- Decide what is important.

Straight added that there was a FAQ in 2014 and realized that this needs to be updated again. Zoning ordinances need to be consistent with Comp Plan. Conditional Use permits don't need to be consistent with the comprehensive plan. There are nine elements of the comp plan. State statute does not require you to adopt specific requirements pertaining to the above elements. The conditions and recommendations are at the discretion of the community.

Discussed the joint comp planning effort:

Several things have changed in the last twenty years that encourage you to update the plan every 10 years. This includes growth development, transportation changes/needs.

Kapaun said the last several meetings have been spent in getting familiar with the plan, subject matter experts for transportation, Angi Goodwin and John Bond discussed sewer capacity, growth management plan that the Village has adopted, St. Croix County Highway Commissioner discussed updates around our community, St Croix County EDC and his staff talking about demographic changes. Last meeting was on the mapping and land use and what has changed. Each municipality has also been looking at the plan for changes that were made

Village of Roberts & Town of Warren
Joint Comprehensive Plan Meeting
February 15, 2023
Page 2 OF 3

pertaining to our own area that need updating. Straight asked that when we went thru the review and presentation, did anything surprise you or stand out that will significantly affect this update? Kapaun said the transportation and 80th Street being made a county road.

Sewer/water capacity is a big issue, tiptoeing around Twin Lakes issue. Hanson said the 94/65 interchange and the development will change this. We will continue to be looked at for the growth and need to be mindful of the development that will affect our communities. A lot of this comes down to a few sections but there is a lot of work that will need to be done. Trying to find the right fit to move forward. There has been growth coming to the community which include Kwik Trip coming in to help a community that does not have a grocery store. 1880 has been a good builder to the neighborhood that have keep up to their expectations.

Key issues that came up in correspondents with Kapaun and the proposals and conversations with the Village when Badtke met with us. Land use and growth management. Plan will identify land use type but not look at specific proposals. WCRP will provide recommendations for ordinance updates when going thru the updates. Twin Lakes water management and discussed current or potential issues. Will work with the engineers to discuss capacity of infrastructure as far as water management. Might identify potential strategies to consider. Additionally, transportation connectivity will be analyzed and reviewed. Hanson wanted to note that in the last year we are finally getting broadband internet out in the Township.

Part of the process is looking at land use policies and what good development looks like. This can include examples of what is a good way to do things that can be incorporated. Can get into a second phase and help with the ordinances to make sure they are updated and support the plan. If this is something that the Village and Town want to do, each municipality would need to approach West Central Planning for assistance in updating them. The reason for the RFP was to make sure that both are looked at when updating and to make sure they are not conflicting with each other.

Discussed the planning process and what that means. It would be seven to nine meetings with Joint Comp Committee. Community survey for both the Township and Village. Visioning workshop with the community and an open house on what the draft Comp Plan looks like. Public participation is required and the minimum is open meeting with public hearing.

If we move forward, we will begin in late 2023 with draft plan completed by the end of 2024. The Township is fine with this and expected this. Kapaun asked when we could start, and Badtke thinks the kickoff would be later this year. There is homework that can be started now so that it is ready for when we start. Kapaun also asked about the survey and if this is commissioned thru another area. In prior planning they have used Survey Resource Center at UWRF. We would have to reach out to see if they are available later this year. If they don't have capacity Badtke can take this on in-house and we can discuss what the approach should be. The advantage for using UWRF, is if you wanted a statistical survey that was not going to every household they are stronger on this than West Central Planning. They can do hard copies and webservices, etc. but they are more experts on this. The cost estimate is \$60,000 to \$65,000 without engineering and legal fees.

Other comments or questions:

Village of Roberts & Town of Warren
Joint Comprehensive Plan Meeting
February 15, 2023
Page 3 OF 3

Hanson asked to take a note, it looks like it is all agriculture but there is several 100 acres of wildlife, public lands, etc. and believes that in the next several years we will see more of this. Have more than other towns. St. Croix County is currently going thru their comp update as well and getting maps of some of this and if West Central reaches out the County will supply this to them.

Dan Funk thinks this is informed dialogue. Concern is driven by sewer capacity and Twin Lakes being above its capacity. Four homes flooded additional homes at risk. Cannot grow until you have a solution to the sewer capacity but the Clearas system discharges into Twin Lakes which is more important. Funk asked how you would address the key issue which is how do you grow and solve the sewer issue. How is this money well spent if you are not solving the key issue and preventing growth. There are several areas of the plan that are beyond the need for update. Kapaun acknowledges that Funk's point is taken but not always taken the same way. Hanson stated that we are legally obligated to update this even if we do not put up another house. Tharp agrees with Funk. If they are going to make suggestions and be involved in a process if there is a total lack of solution the other work is a side issue than. Hoyer asked what towns or villages in the area have you done a regional plan for? Somerset Township, Town of Cady, New Auburn, Chippewa Falls, and Stanley.

Next meeting will be in April.

Megan Dull
Village Clerk