

## **Chapter IV**

# **UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This element provides information on existing utilities and community facilities within the Town of Byron.

## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

### **Town Buildings**

The Byron Town Hall is located at N3097 Highway 175. The site includes the town hall, town garage, a salt shed and the Veterans Memorial.

### **Boards and Commissions**

The Town of Byron has a three member town board, a plan commission, and a zoning board of appeals. The plan commission advises the town board on land use decisions. The board of appeals hears and decides appeals where it is alleged there is an error in any requirement, decision, or determination in the enforcement of the zoning ordinance.

## **POLICE, FIRE, and EMS SERVICES**

### **Police Services**

The Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Department provides 24-hour service to the residents of the Town of Byron. The Sheriff's Department provides protection for people and property, enforcement of laws and ordinances, accident and crime investigation, community services programs, DARE programs, neighborhood watch, school liaison, search and rescue, security for major events, and incarceration of adult and juvenile offenders. The Sheriff's Department dispatches, officers, emergency medical services, and fire departments.

### **Fire and EMS Services**

The Town of Byron is served by the Brownsville Fire Company and Eden, Lomira, and Oakfield fire departments for fire protection and EMS services. Map 9 in Appendix A shows which areas each department provides services to in the town.

## **PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES**

The Town of Byron does not have any public schools within its boundaries. It is served by the school districts of Campbellsport, Fond du Lac, Lomira, and Oakfield ( Appendix A, Map 10).

### **Campbellsport School District**

The Campbellsport School District operates Eden Elementary School, Campbellsport Elementary School, Campbellsport Junior High School, and Campbellsport High School. In 2003-2004, total enrollment was 700 in kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade, 400 in 7<sup>th</sup>

through 9<sup>th</sup> grade, and 445 in 10<sup>th</sup> through 12 grade for a total enrollment of 1,545 students. The school district encompasses 214 square miles and in 2003-2004 school buses logged nearly 120,000 miles. School administration sees opportunity for school district growth with new subdivision developments in Campbellsport.

### **Fond du Lac School District**

Fond du Lac School District is the 17<sup>th</sup> largest school district in the state. The district operates nine elementary schools, three junior high schools, and a high school. Total district enrollment in 2003-2004 was 7,245. Elementary school enrollment numbered 3,680, junior high enrollment was 1,791, and high school enrollment was 1,691.

### **Lomira School District**

The Lomira School District operates Lomira Elementary and Theresa Elementary, Lomira Junior High School, and Lomira High School. The district serves a 65 square mile area that includes the Villages of Lomira, Brownsville, and Theresa, and portions of the towns of Lomira, Theresa, Leroy, Byron, Eden, Ashford, and Wayne. Total enrollment in 2003-2004 was 1,074. Of this total, 490 were in elementary schools, 169 at the middle school, 405 at the high school and 10 special education students.

### **Oakfield School District**

The Oakfield School District contains Belle Reynolds Elementary, Oakfield Middle School, and Oakfield High School. In 2003-2004, the district had 597 students, with 205 enrolled in elementary school, 160 students enrolled in middle school, and 232 students in high school. School district administration is concerned about maintaining and increasing student numbers and expressed interest in seeing new residential development in the Town of Byron.

## **OTHER FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

### **Churches**

- Sons of Zebedee Catholic Church, St. John Site
- Bethel Church

### **Cemeteries**

- Geiger Bethel Cemetery (Section 12)
- Byron Cemetery (Section 27)
- Genesee Cemetery (Section 19)
- St. Johns Cemetery (Section 22)

### **Libraries**

The Town of Byron does not operate a library. The majority of town residents use the Fond du Lac Public Library located at 32 Sheboygan Street. The Fond du Lac Library has 222,138 books, 7,503 audio materials, 7,646 video materials, and 416 serial subscriptions.

### **Post Office**

Byron does not currently have a post office. The nearest post offices are in the Village of Lomira and City of Fond du Lac.

### **Parks, Recreation, and Open Space**

The town does not operate any parks. The largest park in the town is Hobbs Woods. It is a 59 acre county park located on Hickory Road. The Fond du Lac KOA Campground on Cearn Drive is a private facility that offers cabin sites, tent sites, and RV sites. The campground is open from April 1<sup>st</sup> until October 31<sup>st</sup> each year. The Methodist Church also operates a 42 acre conference retreat facility on County Highway F within the town.

## **SOLID WASTE, COMMUNICATION, POWER, AND WASTEWATER FACILITIES**

### **Solid Waste Management and Recycling**

The Town of Byron contracts with Waste Management for solid waste and recycling services. The town is a designated unit for recycling.

### **Communications and Power Facilities**

SBC and Verizon provide telephone services to the town. Alliant Energy provides natural gas and some electric service to town residents. The largest electric provider in the town is WE energies. They operate two wind turbines on U.S. Highway 41 within the town. A larger scale wind turbine farm is scheduled to be developed in the southwestern portion of the Town of Byron (Appendix A, Map 11).

### **Sanitary Sewer Service**

The Town of Byron does not provide sanitary sewer services to their citizens. The town also does not have any current sanitary districts.

### **Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (POWTS)**

POWTS are systems that receive domestic water and either retain it in a holding tank, or treat it and discharge it into the soil beneath the ground. The Wisconsin POWTS program protects public health and the waters of the state by regulating onsite wastewater treatment and recycling systems, and by promoting the use of the best available technology to provide onsite sewage treatment system solutions for rural property owners. The Wisconsin Department of Commerce administers Comm 83 for regulation of POWTS systems. This code came into effect in 2000. The Wisconsin Fund Grants is a program that provides grants to homeowners and small commercial businesses to help offset a portion of the cost for the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of existing failing POWTS. More information about this grant is at <http://commerce.wi.gov/SB/SB-WisconsinFundProgram.html>

## **WATER SUPPLY AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT**

### **Water Supply**

The Town of Byron does not operate a public water supply system. Residents rely upon private wells for their water. However, the City of Fond du Lac operates two high Water capacity groundwater wells (Well #24 and Well#25) within the Town of Byron on River Road. Over 214 million gallons of water were pumped by the City of Fond du Lac from well number 24 and over 211 million gallons from well number 25 in 2003. This amounts to an average of almost 1.15 million gallons of water per day.

### **Stormwater Management**

The Town of Byron does not have a storm sewer system. Open ditches and driveway culverts are the primary methods for stormwater management.

## **HEALTH CARE AND DAY CARE FACILITIES**

### **Health Care Facilities**

There are no health care facilities within the Town of Byron. The closest hospital is St. Agnes Hospital in Fond du Lac. Larger regional medical centers are available in Madison and Milwaukee.

### **Commercial Day Care**

No commercial daycare facilities operate in the Town of Byron. Quad Graphics, just south of Byron in the Town of Lomira provides onsite childcare for their employees. A child care teacher must be at least 18 years old and have high school education or equivalent or certificate, credentials, or diploma from a post-secondary early childhood training program approved by the department. In addition, a child care teacher must have 120 days half-time or 80 days full-time experience in direct care; or certification by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction as a nursery school teacher or as an exceptional education needs teacher (or be able to show evidence of meeting the qualifications for certification); and 2 years documented credit in an institution of higher education with at least 3 credits equivalent to early childhood education or satisfactory completion of 80 hours of approved training in early childhood education, CDA credentials, or satisfactory completion of another department-approved competency program. Commercial child care centers are regulated by the Division of Children & Family Services Bureau of Regulation and Licensing.

## **EVALUATION OF FUTURE NEEDS and TIMETABLE FOR EXPANSION OR MAINTENANCE OF UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

Wisconsin comprehensive planning statutes require that the future needs of utilities and community facilities be assessed. The following utilities and community facilities are assessed using a short-term( 1 to 5 years) and long-term (6 to 25 years) timetable.

### **Local Government Facilities**

Budget adequate funds in both the short-term and long-term for proper maintenance of existing town hall, town garage, and salt storage shed.

### **Police Services**

No recommendations for the short-term. A long-term recommendation is to study the need for a police department and the feasibility of cooperatively sharing services with neighboring communities.

### **Fire Protection**

In both the short-term and long-term, continue to negotiate agreements with Brownville Fire Company, and Lomira, Oakfield, and Eden Fire Departments.

**Libraries**

Continue to support the Fond du Lac Library System in both the short-term and long-term.

**Cemeteries**

Make certain that responsible parties maintain cemeteries within the town and that they have adequate space for expansion in both the short-term and long-term.

**Parks and Recreation**

No short-term recommendations. In the long-term, keep abreast of any parcels of land that may become available for a possible future town park site.

**Solid Waste and Recycling**

Maintain the current program in both the short-term and long-term.

**Sanitary Sewer Service**

No recommendations for the short term. For the long-term, study the need for a sanitary district, especially if issues with wastewater treatment arise or if higher density developments occur.

**Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems**

In both the short-term and long-term, make certain that requirements to maintain these systems are enforced.

**Water Supply**

Continue regular testing of private wells in both the short-term and long-term. In the long-term study the feasibility of buying water from the City of Fond du Lac to serve higher density developments.

**Stormwater Management**

Continue to support rural conventional and conservation subdivisions with open drainage ditches in the short-term. In the long-term, study the need for a stormwater management district.

**Health Care and Child Care Facilities**

Encourage small scale home-based health care for the elderly and the development of smaller scale child care facilities within the town for both the short-term and long-term.

**Local Roads**

Increase the use of the PASER system and other evaluation systems for road maintenance and capital budgeting in both the short-term and long-term.

In the long-term, develop access and road connectivity standards for the town road network.

In the short-term and long-term make certain that the town has adequate equipment for snow plowing and removal.

### **Additional Programs and Services**

In the short-term the town should encourage the budgeting of funds for a planning professional to provide staff support to the plan commission. In the long-term, the town should cooperate with surrounding towns to study the feasibility of hiring a joint town administrator.

## **UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES GOAL AND OBJECTIVES**

### **Goal**

Provide efficient community services to the citizens of the Town of Byron

### **Objectives**

1. Utilize planning so public facilities and services keep up with population growth.
2. Encourage coordination with neighboring jurisdictions to provide the most efficient needs analysis and expansion of utilities.
3. Increase communication with local school districts in order to allow them to incorporate the comprehensive plan element information into their future facility plans.
4. Collaborate with Fond du Lac County, the State of Wisconsin and other communities in order to provide efficient recreational opportunities
5. Support efforts for proper disposal of wastewater in order to protect both surface and groundwater quality.
6. Consider the impacts on community facilities, services and stormwater runoff when reviewing development proposals.

## **UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES POLICIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Policies**

1. Stormwater runoff shall be reviewed for all development proposals in order to measure the impacts of runoff on adjacent land uses.
2. The town should create a parkland dedication fee from developers to provide resources for parkland purchases and recreational trail development.
3. The town should work with the City of Fond du Lac, Town of Fond du Lac, and Village of Lomira to better cooperate and plan for coordination of utilities to meet growth needs

### **Recommendations**

1. The town should develop a stormwater management plan.
2. The town shall continue to negotiate agreements for fire protection and EMS with surrounding fire departments.

3. Update the subdivision ordinance and incorporate parkland dedication fee language into the ordinance.
4. The Town should educate citizens about well and POWTS maintenance and require testing of private wells