

RES #080211-1

**A RESOLUTION ENDORSING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, ESTABLISHING GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND CREATING A SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, sustainable development is defined as development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs; and

WHEREAS, sustainable development strives to achieve economic vitality and well-being for the community through responsible planning and management of interdependent social, environmental and economic factors; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Menasha acknowledges and considers the impact of its decisions and actions beyond its boundaries by supporting many of the principles that create a sustainable community; and

WHEREAS, the Town recognizes that growth and opportunity cannot be conducted at the expense of environmental protection and that managed growth and environmental stewardship are closely related; and

WHEREAS, the Town acknowledges that promoting sustainable development will help to ensure that all citizens will have opportunity to live in an environment that can support and sustain them; and

WHEREAS, the Town believes the implementation of an environmental ethic need not interfere with economic development and the practice of such an environmental ethic can be expected to enhance economic development; and

WHEREAS, the Town is committed to increasing the awareness and public profile of sustainability and fostering a sense of belonging and community; and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to develop a shared vision and culture of sustainability by building consensus through open and meaningful public involvement; and

WHEREAS, the Town will continue to strive toward creating an environment where citizens are committed to local and regional cooperation and a personal philosophy of stewardship; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Menasha is pledging to further educate itself about sustainable activities and to continue to develop initiatives in support of sustainable practices; and

WHEREAS, the Town concurs with the following four guidelines which were developed by the American Planning Association to help communities implement sustainable practices:

- Reduce dependence upon fossil fuels
- Reduce dependence on chemicals and other manufactured substances that can accumulate in Nature
- Reduce dependence on activities that harm life-sustaining ecosystems
- Meet the hierarchy of present and future human needs fairly and efficiently

WHEREAS, the creation of a committee is desirable to assist the Board in the development and implementation of a sustainability plan of actions and principles.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Town of Menasha Board of Supervisors, that the Town of Menasha endorse the principles of sustainability as outlined above and that the Town of Menasha will endeavor to apply these principles to its decision-making, planning, policy making and municipal practices and the Town Chairman and Town Board Members challenge the citizens of the Town of Menasha as well as private sector businesses to promote and embrace the philosophy and principles of sustainability.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes the creation of a Sustainability Committee as specified under Chapter 1.03 (5) of the Town of Menasha ordinances to assist in the implementation of specific actions and principles discussed above.

Adopted this 11<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2008

*Requested by: Kate McQuillan, Supervisor #1*

*Submitted by: Arden Tews, Town Chairman*

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Arden Tews, Town Chairman

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Attest: Karen Backman, Town Clerk

## City Sustainability Policy **DRAFT**

It is the intent of the City of Menasha to be a sustainable community – one which meets its current needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. In adopting this policy, the Town of Menasha accepts its responsibility, through its operations, programs and services, to:

### **Economy:**

Maintain a healthy, thriving and well-balanced economy comprising a blend of large and small businesses, which encourages the development of independent businesses and is resilient to the economic changes common to Wisconsin's economy.

### **Social Equity:**

Continuously improve the quality of life for the City of Menasha community members without adversely affecting others.

### **Environment:**

Enhance the quality of the air, water, land and other natural resources by minimizing human impacts on local, regional, and global ecosystems through greater conservation, reduced pollution, increased efficiency, and increased protection of native vegetation, fish and wildlife habitat and other ecosystems.

In working toward these goals, the City of Menasha will, when appropriate, align and partner with community groups, businesses, non-profits and neighboring communities.

**Review the resolution!! Incorporate any items.**

Healthy sustainability business development

More environmental responsible choices

Shared prosperity/ecological intelligence knowledge

### Areas of special focus and/or interest:

Responsible Energy Consumption

Waste reduction

Brownfield Development & Utilization

Agriculture/food systems

Green building

Water/storm water