

# **Bar Harbor Town Council**

---

## **Vision statement**

The Bar Harbor Town Council is resolute in its commitment to promoting a sustainable and resilient community. Efficient use of public funds, good governance in accordance with the Town Charter and citizen involvement will ensure ample access to goods, services, housing and education and afford our diverse residents and visitors an outstanding quality of life.

## **2014 Five Year Goals**

*~ FY14 through FY19 ~*

### **A. Taxes and Other Revenues**

1. **Council will present to Town Meeting a Municipal Budget that will keep property tax increases to a minimum.** *~ Council ~ A Continuous Goal*
2. **Work to identify opportunities to match potential revenues to incurred expenses to minimize impact on property tax payers.** *~ Council ~ A Continuous Goal*
3. **The Town Manager will submit a General Fund Budget to Council, along with a report that shows how we might achieve a budget with no net tax rate increase.** *~ Manager ~ FY15*
4. **To insure equity among all property tax payers, complete a property tax revaluation of all commercial properties.** *~ Finance Director ~ FY16*

### **B. Environment**

1. **Reduce the operating cost and the light pollution of all new and replacement lights with dark sky compliant and aesthetically appropriate fixtures.** *~ Manager ~ A Continuous Goal*
2. **Ensure that the water quality of Frenchman Bay is preserved by working with local, state and federal agencies and committees.** *~ Marine Resources Committee ~ A Continuous Goal*

### **C. Planning for Our Future**

1. **Adopt a new land use ordinance that everyone can grudgingly accept and agree to enforce.** *~ Town Manager ~ FY18*
2. **Complete a no-cost evaluation of the Town's rooftops for the feasibility of installing photovoltaic panels to reduce the Town's energy costs.** *~ Public Works Director ~ FY15*
3. **Develop and enact a Land Use Ordinance amendment to make existing shorefront cottage rentals conforming.** *~ Code Enforcement Officer ~ FY15*

### **D. Services**

1. **Hire an assistant town manager in order to develop the management structure needed to address current deficiencies in planning and economic development.** *~ Town Manager ~ FY15*

2. **Update the website to better serve the public and staff by making it user friendly, easy to update and comprehensive.** ~ *Finance Director ~ FY14*
3. **Review the organizational structure of the Fire Department to ensure that staffing is adequate.** ~ *Council ~ FY15*

## **E. Infrastructure**

1. **Support, monitor and actively engage MDOT and our State and Federal delegations to ensure Route 3 reconstruction is completed.** ~ *Route Three Task Force ~ A Continuous Goal*
2. **Support, monitor, and actively engage Federal, State and Canadian officials, as well as other interested parties, to ensure that the ferry terminal remains a maritime facility for cruise ship berths and to ensure that any potential future ferry service has a publicly owned place to land in Bar Harbor.** ~ *Council ~ A Continuous Goal*
3. **Encourage and assist the Maine Port Authority to acquire the ferry terminal.** ~ *Council ~ A Continuous Goal*
4. **Sustain and grow cruise ship visitation within limits set by the Town Council on a yearly basis, to ensure that the income stream from cruise visitation continues to make Maine Port Authority acquisition of the ferry terminal viable.** ~ *Council ~ A Continuous Goal*
5. **Investigate options for construction of a parking garage, including the use of a public/private partnership.** ~ *Town Manager ~ FY14*
6. **Replace the Town Pier Railings.** ~ *Public Works Director ~ FY14*
7. **Sell the old Water Company garage.** ~ *Finance Director ~ FY14*
8. **Build a consolidated Public Works facility at the Hulls Cove site, which includes a new Town Garage.** ~ *Public Works Director ~ FY14*
9. **Complete a master plan for the transfer station.** ~ *Public Work Director ~ FY14*
10. **Design, fund and rebuild Harborview Park, including visitor information, an expanded deck and boardwalk, dinghy space, a float and kayak lockers.** ~ *Public Works Director ~ FY16*
11. **Explore the feasibility of construction of a sidewalk from the Town Hill Playground to the Knox Road.** ~ *Public Works Director ~ FY15*
12. **Partner with the Bar Harbor Chamber of Commerce to support implementation of the Downtown signage plan and placement of the signs.** ~ *Town Manager ~ FY15*
13. **Determine the issues involved in creating bicycle lanes on the Crooked Road.** ~ *Planning Director ~ FY16*

## **F. Governance**

1. **Explore possible adoption of a Code of Conduct.** ~ *Council Chair ~ FY14*