

MINUTES

October 2, 2025

Members Present: Jean Abreu (C), Alder Carol Lukens, Britnie Remer, Jesse Kearns, and Daniel Zinsmeister

Others Present: Carrie Edmondson, Deb Hoppe, Dale Doescher, Peter Sells, and Susan Haug

In compliance with Chapter 19, Wisconsin Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted and transmitted to the Wausau Daily Herald in the proper manner.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Abreu called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. The group went around with introductions.

2. Public Comment

Deb Hoppe, Dale Doescher, and Peter Sells expressed concerns about the proposed City solar array project. Susan Haug asked if SEEC would consider areas of improvement to their Bird City status. One additional public comment was received in writing regarding land use at 1300 Cleveland Avenue.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the September 4, 2025, Meeting

Jesse/Britnie motion/second to approve the minutes – approved 5-0.

4. Discussion and Possible Action: Work Plan reports

- Sustainability Manager – Carrie –
 - The SolSmart certification process is going very well. A support letter was submitted from the Mayor. SolSmart conducted a zoning review of the City’s Zoning Code and overall had very favorable feedback. Carrie completed the planning and zoning training, and Inspections is scheduled to complete the permitting and inspections training this month.
 - Wausau Sustainability Awards – Press release went out September 23 and applications are due October 19.

 - Media and Public Education – Christine/Jean/Carol –
 - Future radio spots (third Tuesday) –
 - October – Christine/Britnie (Wausau Sustainability Awards)
 - November – Jesse (SEEC Year in Review)
 - Newsletter – one full page in one of the newsletters (1/2 page infographic and 1-2 paragraphs).
 - November – Carrie will use the Don’t Be So Salty graphic and text for the winter newsletter

 - Elected Official Education – Jesse
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- September 23 City solar array and SEEC update went very well and was well received.
 - Working w/Departments – Carrie
 - Item completed and may transition to business engagement as determined by the work plan.
 - Policy and framework to guide decisions, etc. –
 - A plan is important to provide overarching guidance. There are a wide range of types of plans including sustainability, climate action, and resiliency. SEEC could provide guidance on whether a plan is needed, the type of plan, and funding sources. Britnie agreed to contact her networks and get more information. SEEC members will also look at other plans. This item will be brought back to a future agenda.
 - Sustainable Food Systems
 - UW Extension will coordinate a backyard gardening program. SEEC will determine the location, number of sessions and structure. The classes will start in early 2026. This will be discussed at the November meeting. Alder Lukens mentioned that the Winter Farmers Market has been successful at John Marshall Elementary being located within a neighborhood. The class will be announced at the December radio show.

5. Next meeting date: November 6, 2025, 5:00 p.m.

November will include sustainability awards, gardening class, sustainability planning, and year in review.

December may be canceled.

January will be the work plan.

6. Adjourn

Carol/Jesse motion/second - approved 5-0. Adjourned at 6:18 p.m.
