

## **CITY OF WAUSAU SUSTAINABILITY, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

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**Time and Date:** The Sustainability, Energy and Environment Committee met on Thursday, July 14, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. in the Board Room of Wausau City Hall  
**Members Present:** John Kroll (C), Jay Coldwell, Mary Kluz, Carol Lukens  
**Others Present:** Andrew Lynch, Brad Lenz

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. Welcome and Introductions**

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Chair Kroll called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Introductions were made.

### **2. Elect a committee chairperson and vice-chairperson**

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Chair – John Kroll was nominated by Kluz, seconded by Carol and the motion carried unanimously.  
Vice Chair – Mary Kluz was nominated by Lukens, seconded by Coldwell, and the motion carried unanimously.

### **3. Public Comment**

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No public comment.

### **4. Approval of Minutes from previous meetings**

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Kluz made a motion to approve the minutes of April 13, 2022. Kroll seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

### **5. Discussion and possible action on sustainability awards**

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The committee had previously developed an application for the award. Aspirus was awarded but no nominations since then. The frequency of the award was every 6 months but it could be changed. Kluz suggested always accepting nominations and not setting a rigid timeline. Coldwell suggested that an award go to a smaller organization or individual since it may be difficult to match a large company like Aspirus. Committee was encouraged to gather information on potential awardees. City staff will work on updating the nomination form which can be found on the city website.

### **6. Recap of No Mow May**

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Lenz reported that this year was a different approach. Registration was not required, the ordinance for cutting lawns was not enforced for May. Additional yard signs were available, about 50 were distributed. No major issues were reported. Next year the ordinance holiday will have to be reauthorized by Council. The committee discussed methods of measuring participation or impact.

### **7. Discuss possible resolution and presentation on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions**

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Kroll discusses and reviews a presentation for City Council on the GHG reduction resolution. Committee provided feedback. Also presenting to the Marathon County Board was discussed. Kroll would like to present to Council in September or later in the year.

## **8. Updates and information**

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- Green Tier Legacy Communities scorecard
  - City is working with DNR to test their new scorecard. Currently waiting on DNR for information and new scoresheet.
- Climate driven migration webinar
  - Webinar from DNR presented a few weeks previous. Report noted northern WI and MN will face minimal change due to climate change and could see influx of climate refugees. This may take many years to see effects of and allows communities to prepare.
- Grow Solar Central Wisconsin
  - Grow Solar reached out to City for municipal partners in promoting solar seminars to create group buys and lower the cost of home solar. City will continue to promote events to residents.
- Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition
  - No update.
- Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program
  - A program from the BIL administered by the Dept of Energy would provide funding for planning documents much like is suggested by the GHG Resolution proposal. Also available are efficiency upgrades, program creation, bike lanes, traffic signals, zoning changes. Funding notice is available in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2022.

## **9. Next meeting date**

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Time changed to 5pm on a Thursday to provide opportunities for better committee attendance.  
August 25, 2022 at 5pm

## **10. Adjourn**

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