

MINUTES

April 4, 2024

Members Present: John Kroll, Jay Coldwell, Jean Abreu, Carol Lukens, Mary Kluz, Jesse Kearns

Others Present: Andrew Lynch, Brad Lenz, Christine Daniels, Dan Barth, Cathy Barth, Erin Fetting, Blaine Haupt, Elise Haupt, Maxwell Johnson

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

Meeting started at 5:00pm

2. Public Comment

n/a

3. Approve minutes of February 1, 2024 meeting

Motion/second by Coldwell/Abreu to approve minutes. Passed unanimously.

4. Presentation: Blaine Haupt & Elsie Fetting

Elementary school students gave an energetic presentation on the benefits of recycling and reducing climate change.

5. Discussion and Possible Action: Earth Day Tree Planting – Dan Barth

Dan Barth invited the Sustainability committee to the Earth Day Tree Planting to plant a tree. April 27 at 10am at Brockmeyer Park. Kroll asked staff to send out a notice of possible quorum.

6. Discussion and Possible Action: Stevens Point Sustainability Committee Creation

Maxwell Johnson from Stevens Point joined the committee to learn more about the Sustainability cmte to form one in Stevens Point. Maxwell would like to reach out to committee members individually to talk about ideas and best practices. Kroll recounted the recent history of forming the GHG resolution and the process through the various committees and Council. Coldwell noted that issues beyond greenhouse gas and energy should be considered.

7. Updates:

Lynch mentioned briefly that the Village of Rib Mountain had installed solar panels on the roof of their Village Hall. Also the City's Dept of Public Works has an ARPA application to install more LED lights in their buildings.

8. Discussion: Slow Your Mow

Lukens and Abreu had developed an article for the city newsletter that explained the Slow Your Mow initiative. Kluz asked how the links would be handled. Lynch would check on the draft for a shortened link. More materials such as a poster and images would be forthcoming. There will be no suspension of the mowing ordinance.

9. Discussion and Possible Action: Report on Local Foods

This item was moved to a future agenda.

10. Discussion and Possible Action: Green Tier Legacy Community Scorecard

Lenz has been working on the Green Tier scorecard. This involved gathering information from multiple departments and submitting this to the DNR. Included is a list of supporting actions that could be done to support the scorecard. These actions are broadly written for all sizes of communities. Kluz asked if this project informed discussion with department heads and Lenz noted that they were involved in gathering the information. Kluz suggested noting on the scorecard which department controlled the information. Lenz said this would be valuable in tracking our performance year to year and comparing against other cities.

11. Discussion and Possible Action: GHG Baseline and Grant

Lynch reported that the EECBG grant from the Dept of Energy has a deadline of April 30 to complete the paperwork that would state how the City would use the funds. Lynch had just completed a webinar on the application. He has also talked with Chris Holman the Deputy Admin from Marathon County to see if there is the possibility of collaboration. MC plans to do building audits and upgrades.

12. Discussion: Vision or obstacles for Department Directors re:GHG resolution

Kroll suggested taking items from the GTLC to focus on when talking with the department heads. Kluz said she wanted to talk broadly with the department heads and finding out what they need for support. Lynch suggested having some prepared questions or elements for the department heads so they can be ready to answer. Kluz proposed a smaller workgroup of committee members to develop questions.

13. Next meeting date: May 2

14. Adjourn

Motion/Second by Kluz/Coldwell. Approved unanimously. Adjourned at 6:30 pm