

MINUTES

July 11, 2024

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

Others Present: Andrew Lynch

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 5:00 pm

2. Public Comment

n/a

3. Approval of the Minutes of the May 2 and June 6 Meeting

Lukens/Coldwell motion/second to approve. All vote in favor.

4. Discussion and Possible Action: Report to City Council

Lynch discussed the draft included in the packet of the various activities the committee has undertaken in the last year and future goals as well. Abreu suggested adding the vision of creating a Sustainability Manager position. Lukens reported that she has reached out to Council president about a presentation at Council in September or October. Kearns suggested dividing out the items in to past, current, and future categories. Kluz wants the Council to know that the committee can be a resource on these issues and help look forward long term on these issues. Lynch noted that he can pull together some of the energy data graphs to include. Coldwell and Abreu feel that a report on future temperature change would be a good opportunity for education. Kluz noted that Wausau is part of the world. Lynch also noted that the Sustainability section of the City website has been created and now available with several resources. Any suggestions would be helpful. Kluz suggested it may be a good opportunity to offer alders the opportunity for input on the committee workplan. Lynch will bring back a draft in August and aim for September presentation.

5. Discussion and Possible Action: Sustainability Manager position creation

Lynch noted that at the previous meeting the topic of a Sustainability Manager position had come up while discussing challenges. Using the WLGCC as a resource there are several position descriptions in the packet, from Racine, Sun Prairie, and Madison. Considerations on job function should be made by this committee to the HR committee. The salary and department home would be decided in either HR or Finance committees. The position may also change for example to include a split for grant writing as was suggested by the Mayor. Kearns suggested reaching out to current Sus Mgrs to elicit feedback. Lynch noted that all the position descriptions required that grant funding or cost reductions to help pay for the position. There

may be creative solutions for the future that involve housing the position at another institution but that could take some time to figure work out.

6. Discussion and Possible Action: GHG discussions with Department directors

Lynch reported that no meetings scheduled as of yet. Due to the Director of Community Development leaving, that interview will likely not happen immediately. Summer schedules have complicated finding times as well. Suggested ways to break up the Public Works group into more manageable portions is, Streets and Fleets, Engineering and Waterworks, Police and Fire, Finance, Parks. Most of the discussion across the department may be focused on the Fleet vehicles. Lynch will continue to work with the committee to schedule separate meetings or appearances at the committee meetings.

7. Update: EECBG status

The City has received notice that their application for the EECBG has been accepted. Currently waiting on a vendor to be assigned to begin working with the City in development of the Climate Action Plan.

8. Next meeting date: Aug 1 or Aug 8

The committee suggested August 8.

9. Adjourn

Motion/Second by Abreu/Coldwell. Approved unanimously. Adjourned at 6:28 pm
