

City of Wausau Sustainability, Energy, and Environment Committee

MINUTES May 7, 2026

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

Others Present: Carrie Edmondson

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.

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m.

2. Public comment.

No public comment was received.

3. Presentations.

Jon Schroeder provided an overview on the EPA Wasted Food Scale, food rescue, and composting.

4. Consideration of the minutes of the preceding meeting(s).

Motion/second to approve the March 5, 2026, minutes as presented.

Leitner/Remer motion to approve minutes, passed 6-0.

5. Discussion and possible action.

a. Approval of a sustainability plan template.

Dan Zinsmeister provided an overview of sustainability plans. The committee discussed the merits of incorporating a survey and/or stakeholder group. Jesse noted that the plan will help to create consensus, buy-in, and investment of time.

Motion/second to approve the Great Plains Institute template Leitner/Kearns passed 5-1.

Jesse will provide an update to Council.

b. Approval of “Wausau Works for You” newsletter content, May 15, 2026, deadline.

Motion to include information about the MREA group buy solar program, Carrie will provide the content.

Kearns/Leitner, passed 6-0.

6. Discussion

- a. UW-Extension – Update on Grow Solar and Power Hour Session, May 20, Marathon County Public Library
- b. Britnie provided a quick update of the 350 Wisconsin grant with the PSC and will provide more information at the next meeting.

7. Adjournment.

Motion/second to adjourn Remer/Kearns to adjourn, passed 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.