



ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 19, 2024 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

1. Roll Call

Committee Attendees: Chair Lauren Lindelof, Dr. Edmund Chute, KC Chermak, David Ferri, Polly Anderson, Meaghan Yorro, and Ava McNanley.

Wayzata City Staff Member: Nick Kieser, Parks and Environment Planner.

2. Approve Agenda

Motion to approve agenda, first by Chute, seconded by Yorro. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Approve January 30, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve minutes as shown, first by Chermak and seconded by Lindelof. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Municipal Solar Update

Staff provided an update that the complications with the solar installations at City Hall, Library, and Fire Station have been resolved in a way that keeps the original scope. The rework keeps the original number of solar panels. Mint Roofing, Blue Horizon and the City will generally each pay a third of the change order cost. The change order was approved by the City Council. Xcel has recently commissioned the Muni installation. The Committee requests data from staff on savings from all sources (rebates, incentives, etc.) going forward. There will be a possible ribbon cutting ceremony planned at the Muni in coming months.

5. City Council 2023 Annual Report/2024 Work Plan Workshop Update

City Council reviewed the 2023 accomplishments and 2024 work plan at a previous workshop meeting. Council noted their high priority items based on the list of 2024 work plan items. Generally, the Council noted that the Committee should stay away from changing/adding Ordinances and concentrate on city operations and management.

6. Earth Day Event Discussion

The Earth Day event is scheduled for Saturday, April 27 from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm in Panoway. At least two speakers planned (pollinator gardens and native grasses/no mow). A rain barrel and compost bin drawing will be included in the event which will help gauge interest from the community on a future discounted rain barrel/compost bin opportunity.

7. Chicken Discussion

City Council is revisiting the prospect of allowing chickens to be kept on private property and has asked for input. Committee reviewed four options; 1. Keeping the chicken ban, 2. A less restrictive option, 3. A more restrictive option, and 4. A hybrid of 2. and 3. Staff recommends Option 4 to allow the keeping of chickens. The Committee's feedback on Option 4 was to increase the proposed maximum size of both the chicken run and coop as the proposed maximums are too small. In addition, require a roof on the coops and runs so chickens cannot escape and not allow keeping chickens in apartment buildings/complexes.

8. Local Climate Action Grant Discussion

Staff reviewed a possible grant opportunity with the MPCA that could provide an opportunity to conduct a Climate Action Plan/Resiliency Plan. There could also be an opportunity to conduct a Vulnerability Assessment or Greenhouse Gas Inventory. Staff noted that the Council could support a grant application that is directly associated with city operations and management to improve resiliency. The grant application is due on April 30 so staff will discuss the options with a consulting firm, LHB, to determine if Wayzata should apply for this grant.

9. HERC Closure Discussion

No material update. Closing the Hennepin County Recovery Center (HERC) could affect garbage hauling rates, recycling, etc. so staff will keep the Committee updated on this closure. Staff also provided a summary of the impacts of the HERC closure for the Committee to review if interested.

10. Next Meeting – Tuesday, April 16

11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 6:35 pm. Motion passed unanimously.