

Minutes
Sustainability & Natural Resources
Committee Meeting
November 13, 2023

Members Present: Mike Flaherty, Kitty Brussock, Bruce Fischer, Angela Freedman, Nina Schultz, Judy Taber (6:15 p.m.)

Members Absent: Carolyn Clow

Staff Present: Sayer Larson, Parks Superintendent; Andrew Bremer, Community and Economic Development Director; Kong Thao, associate planner; Phil McDade, utility clerk.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Flaherty called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

2. PUBLIC APPEARANCES.

No public appearances.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

- a. Fischer motioned to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2023, Sustainability & Natural Resources Committee meeting. Seconded by Brussock. Motion carried 5-0.

4. BUSINESS.

- a. **Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board to accept updates to the mounds policy for Preservation and Maintenance.**

The policy was reviewed extensively by the committee at its September 2023 meeting. The updated policy incorporates recommendations from the Ho-Chunk Nation's Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Bill Quackenbush. Brussock motioned to recommend to the Village Board to accept updates to the mounds policy for preservation and maintenance. Freedman seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

- b. **Presentation and discussion of the draft Urban Forestry Management Plan.**

Steve Lane of Great Lakes Urban Forestry Management provided the committee an update on the village's urban forestry management plan. Overall, Lane reported that McFarland has a healthy village-owned tree population with good mix of trees, and should continue to diversify tree plantings.

- c. **Discussion and action to recommend the Village Board accept the Village of McFarland Community Center Net Zero Energy Predesign Report.** The committee reviewed the village's Net Zero Energy Predesign Report with HGA, consultants hired by the village to develop energy planning services. Discussion focused on the feasibility of converting the current village municipal center into a net energy zero building as it is remodeled and expanded into a village community center. Fischer motioned to recommend the Village Board accept the Community Center Net Zero Energy Predesign Report. Taber seconded. The motion carried 6-0.
- d. **Discussion and action to recommend the Village Board accept the Comprehensive Energy Plan Report.** The committee discussed the report, which is a detailed analysis of the village's buildings, fleet and property to determine the village's existing carbon footprint and a path to achieving 100 percent net zero carbon emissions. Brussock motioned that the committee recommend the Village Board accept the Comprehensive Energy Plan Report. Fischer seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE.

- a. The committee discussed not meeting in December and meeting next in January 2024.

6. ADJOURNMENT.

Fischer motioned to adjourn; Schultz seconded. Motion carried 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.