

Minutes
Sustainability & Natural Resources
Committee Meeting
March 11, 2024

Members Present: Mike Flaherty, Carolyn Clow, Angela Freedman, Nina Schultz, Judy Taber

Members Absent: Kitty Brussock, Bruce Fischer

Staff Present: Sayer Larson, Kong Thao, Phil McDade, Andrew Bremer, Lee Igl

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. Motion to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2024, Sustainability & Natural Resources Committee meeting.

Freedman motioned to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2024, Sustainability & Natural Resource Committee meeting. Seconded by Schultz. Motion carried 5-0.

4. BUSINESS.

- a. Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding the final Urban Forestry Management plan.

Larson provided an introduction on the agenda item, previous actions taken, and scope of the plan. Larson introduced Steve Lane, the Principal Director of Forestry Operations, who presented high level summary of the plan. Lane's summary included plan definitions, tree benefits, purpose of the plan, goals, diversity for future plantings, and projected budgets. Clow commented praise for budget details. Taber asked about Village incentive for property owners to plant more trees on their property. Larson commented that the Village does not have an incentive program. Larson stated it would be looked into and brought forward to a future committee meeting. Before voting, Larson commented that there were some minor revisions and edits to be included in the final draft presented to the Villag Board.

Freedman motioned to recommend approval to the Village Board regarding the final draft of the Urban Forestry Management Plan as presented. Taber seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

- b. Discussion and action to submit the Village of McFarland's 2023 Green Tier Annual Report to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Thao provided summary on the agenda item, highlighting several key points of accomplishment from the report. Thao commented that the due date of the report will be at the end of March and will be submitted following the final missing data.

Schultz motioned to approve submittal of the Village of McFarland's 2023 Green Tier Annual Report to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Freedman seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

- c. Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding approval of bid documents for the Public Safety Center Battery and Microgrid project.

Bremer provided summary on the agenda item, addressing details of the bid documents. Alex Harris, HGA Project Manager, attended the meeting virtually and discussed the function of battery use. Discussion from the Committee and Harris included the installation process of the proposed project, battery size, battery location, and generator usage, opportunity for battery expansion, and savings.

Taber motioned to recommend Village Board approval of bid documents for the Public Safety Center Battery and Microgrid project contingent on review by the Village Attorney. Schultz seconded the motion. Motioned carried 5-0.

- d. Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding approval of an IRS 179D Energy Tax Deduction Allocation for Services Agreement with HGA for the Public Safety Center.

Bremer provided a summary on the agenda item and explained the details of the agreement, identifying Village benefits and HGA benefits. Further clarifying questions were asked by the Committee and answered by Bremer.

Freedman motioned to recommend the Village Board approve an IRS 179D Energy Tax Deduction Allocation for Services Agreement with HGA for the Public Safety Center.

5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE.

- a. Monday, April 8, 2024, at 6:00 PM

6. ADJOURNMENT.

Freedman motioned to adjourn; Seconded by Schultz. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.