

Minutes
Village Board/Sustainability & Natural Resources
Joint Committee Meeting
February 11, 2025

Committee Members Present: Alisa Leamy, Miquel Pena, Lori Whitman, Nina Schultz, Michael Allen

Committee Members Absent: Angela Freedman

Village Board members Present: Carolyn Clow, Stephanie Brassington, Luke Fessler, Lowell Prill, Hilary Brandt (5:45 p.m.), Miguel Pena, Alisa Leamy

Staff Present: Matt Schuenke, Village Administrator; Andrew Bremer, Community and Economic Development Director; Sayer Larson, Parks Superintendent; Kong Thao, Associate Planner; Phil McDade, Utility Clerk.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Village Board President Carolyn Clow called the joint meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. PUBLIC APPEARANCES.

No public appearances.

3. BUSINESS.

a. **Discussion regarding a Styrofoam recycling program organized by Lori Whitman.**

Committee member Whitman discussed the Styrofoam recycling program she initiated shortly after her retirement. She began the program by printing up flyers, distributing them around the village, and offering to pick up Styrofoam that she takes to a Madison Styrofoam recycler. Since this fall, she has dropped off about 1,200 cubic feet of Styrofoam for recycling. Village Board member Brassington suggested reaching out to the village's Community Service Day and Family Festival organizers to help raise awareness of the recycling program.

b. **Discussion regarding amendments to the Village's Office of Energy Innovation Grant.**

Bremer discussed with the committee efforts by village staff to use the village's Office of Energy Innovation grant, previously targeted for battery storage and microgrid technology at the Public Safety Center, for use in a renovated Village Community Center. Using the grant in such a way requires review by the state Public Service Commission. Bremer said that review should be made public within a month or so.

c. Discussion regarding the Sustainability Action Plan for 2025-2026.

Thao reviewed progress on the village's sustainability initiatives including: the village achieving a SolSmart Gold designation for sustainability programs; completion of the Exchange Street project which included designated bicycle lanes and additional sidewalks; and completion of an Urban Forestry Management Plan among other accomplishments. For 2025-26, the village will continue work on its 8-acre solar farm; work with the McFarland School District on renewable energy credits; and undertake a comprehensive review of its zoning code, among other initiatives.

4. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE.

- a. Monday, March 10, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

5. ADJOURNMENT.

Leamy motioned to adjourn; Schultz seconded. Motion carried by unanimous consent. Meeting adjourned at 6:23 PM.