

Minutes
Sustainability & Natural Resources Committee Meeting
October 16, 2025

Committee Members Present: Miguel Pena, Alisa Leamy, Lori Whitman, Kaci Coconate, Christine Mania, Michael Allen (5:50 p.m.)

Committee Members Absent: Nathan Berg,

Staff Present: Lee Igl, Public Works Director; Andrew Bremer, Community and Economic Development Director; Kong Thao, Associate Planner; Sayer Larson, Parks Superintendent; Phil McDade, Utility Clerk

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chairman Miguel Pena called the joint meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. PUBLIC APPEARANCES.

No public appearances.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Motion to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2025 Sustainability & Natural Resources Committee meeting.

Motion by Pena, second by Leamy, to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2025, Sustainability & Natural Resources Committee meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

4. BUSINESS

a. Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding the award of contract for installation of a photovoltaic system for Lift Station #2.

Igl presented information on a contract to be bid for installation of a solar power system on the roof of a newly constructed lift station near Fox Run and the Grandview Conservancy in the village. The project's budget was \$55,000, and the lone bid for the project came in at \$45,206.45. Installation of the solar panels should be completed by spring 2026. Leamy motioned, Whitman seconded, to recommend to the Village Board awarding the contract to Arch Solar for installation of a photovoltaic system at Lift Station #2 for \$45,206.45. Motion approved 5-0.

b. Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding award of contract for installation of a battery energy storage system at the Public Safety Center.

Bremer discussed a contract for a proposed battery energy storage system for the Public Safety Center. The proposed storage system is smaller than initially planned due to costs of a larger battery storage system exceeding the budgeted amount for the project. Bremer added that the smaller battery storage system will also need approval from the state Public Service Commission (PSC). The storage system cost will be offset in part due to a \$250,000 grant from the state PSC's Office of Energy and Innovation, which finances energy conservation projects statewide. Motion by Pena, seconded by Leamy, to recommend to the Village Board awarding of the contract to All Energy Solar for installation of a battery energy storage system at the Public Safety Center for \$366,929, conditioned on pre-approval by the Public Service Commission that the proposed products will meet the ARRA by American requirements, and battery size requirements, of the Village's project grant. Motion approved 6-0.

c. Discussion on Seed Library.

Thao led the committee in a discussion of seed libraries in the area, including those associated with the Madison Public Library system and the Oregon Public Library. McFarland's E.D. Locke Public Library ran a seed library from 2015-18 which terminated due to staffing and seed reliability issues. The committee discussed partnering with the McFarland Community Garden for collecting and storing seeds. Village staff will discuss with McFarland library staff whether equipment and supplies used for the terminated seed program are still available. Committee member Mania said she would reach out via community Facebook pages to gauge interest in community volunteers helping with a seed library program.

5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE.

- a. Monday, November 10, 2025 at 6 p.m.

6. ADJOURNMENT.

Pena motioned to adjourn; Leamy seconded. Motion carried by unanimous consent. Meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

