



## ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

### Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 26, 2022

5:00 – 6:30 PM

#### 1. Roll Call

Committee attendees included: Polly Andersen, Dr. Edmund Chute, Lauren Lindelof, KC Chermak, and Amy Steiner.

Wayzata city staff member: Nick Kieser, Parks Planner

Councilmember: Councilmember, Jeff Buchanan

#### 2. Approve Agenda

The Committee approved the agenda as shown with the addition of a discussion item regarding No Mow May. Motion passed 5-0.

#### 3. Approve February 10, 2022 Minutes

The Committee approved the draft meeting minutes as shown. Motion passed 5-0.

#### 4. Appoint Vice Chair and Approve Secretary Roles

The Committee nominated Amy Steiner as Vice Chair and approve the proposed rotating role list for the secretary role for 2022. Motion made by Andersen, seconded by Chute, passed 5-0.

#### 5. Discuss Municipal Solar Proposals

The Committee discussed the goal to bring forward a recommendation for municipal rooftop solar to a Council workshop. The Committee also discussed the three proposals received by the City from solar installation companies and discussed which company to move forward with to the Council workshop.

Motion made by Steiner, seconded by Chute, to move forward with the Blue Horizon Energy proposal. Motion passed 5-0. Staff will let Blue Horizon know of the vote and also let Cedar Creek and All Energy know of the Committee's decision.

Committee then discussed the priorities for the city – what are they? Could priorities include a goal to maximize reducing greenhouse gas emissions? Right now, the primary focus is on cost savings. More we do now, more we save. Electric energy means energy savings immediately. Discussed the benefits today

and the residual benefits. A solar survey was also completed, but these results will only be used to inform the Committee's future plans for 2023.

#### **6. Update on Residential Strategy**

The contract with the Center for Energy and Environment for 50% buy downs on Home Energy Squad visits has been executed and will be promoted through City channels.

#### **7. Update on Business Energy Savings Campaign**

The business blitz that occurred with Energy Smart totaled approximately 25 businesses to sign up for an audit. Discussed next steps – which businesses did the recommendations? How do we reach out to them for Sustainable Champion logo awards? Discussion on effort to meet with Energy Smart and include Sustainability Champion logo.

#### **8. Update on Multi-Family Strategy**

The Committee discussed the potential for further media engagement for multi-family residents, but no decision was made. Andersen and Lindelof plan to reach back out to multi-family buildings for whole building audits. They hope to do this over the summer months.

All 300 Xcel Energy Lighting kits were used by Wayzata's multifamily buildings. The average household saves approximately \$225 per year with LED lighting. If we say that an average apartment uses all LED lighting from the kit, we can estimate at least \$100 per year – or \$50,000 per year. Staff will work with Xcel Energy to get more of the LED rental kits.

#### **9. Update on Municipal Strategy**

Staff noted that the EV Fleet Study began April 1, 2022. The report and end results are expected in July or August and will include a transition plan "ranking" on how efficient and cost-reducing it would be for each vehicle in the city-owned fleet. The report will also include EV charging station information. The results will help determine future conversations about what to include in the City's CIP.

Staff updated the Committee that the inclusion of LED lighting for municipal buildings will be proposed in the 2023 CIP budget. The Public Works building has been updated with all free LED lighting. There are further opportunities, but they need to be budgeted for and planned.

The Committee discussed the opportunity to remove large streetlights that are placed at the end of streets where there is no intersection. Discussion on light "noise." What about removing the one utility light at the end of Chicago Ave. N where all the development is going on?

#### **10. Discuss Extending Energy Action Plan**

The Committee noted that the EAP expires at the end of June. The questions proposed to the Committee is, do we want to extend the Partners in Energy program into December? This extension could include work with the schools and churches. Discussed the energy workshop geared toward residents in the fall. Discussed the topic of volunteer hours and the ability of the Committee to meet current obligations with multifamily, businesses, and workshop items. Decided to table this until next meeting.

#### **11. Update on City Tree Inventory**

Staff updated that the City tree inventory was completed with a County grant. City discovered Emerald Ash Borer in many trees inventoried. Many are in Klapprich, Shaver, Big Woods, and Nature Center parks. The City is creating a plan to remove the EAB trees so the disease does not spread as quickly. Some trees are being treated, some are being removed based on the current health of the tree.

#### **12. Tree Event**

Staff noted the tree event that was held in April was successful and the remaining trees are now at the Public Works gravel bed nursery to be planted within the City in the future.

#### **13. Parks Rezoning**

Staff stated that the Parks Rezoning effort will be on the May 17 City Council meeting agenda for discussion.

#### **14. Additional Updates on Energy Action Plan**

No additional updates were noted by the Committee.

#### **15. Additional updates on Lectures, Workshop, Webinars.**

No additional updates were noted by the Committee

#### **16. No Mow May**

The Committee discussed the idea of No Mow May and the possibility of bringing this idea forward in 2023.

#### **16. Next meeting May 24, 2022.**

#### **17. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 6:31 pm.