

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, October 10, 2023 – 5:15 P.M.
Lake Forest City Hall, 220 E Deerpath

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chairman Eileen Weber called the meeting to order at 5:15 P.M. Aldermen John Powers and Nancy Novit were present.

Staff in attendance included George Issakoo, Assistant City Manager, Jim Lockefer, Assistant Director of Public Works.

II. ACTION ITEMS

a. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 17, 2023, MEETING MINUTES

Alderman Novit moved to approve the July 17, 2023, meeting minutes. Alderman Powers seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

b. RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE FISCAL YEAR 2025 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Jim Lockefer, Public Works provided an update on the CIP sustainability enhancement and recommended sustainability elements to include in the budget. This update was for three separate budgets that included requests for additional funds for added projects.

The first fund is Public Works with a base budget of \$575,000 and a sustainability component incremental cost increase of \$60,000. The base budget to resurface the existing deteriorating Elawa parking lot as well as a potential expansion to the north to increase parking space capacity. Additional funding requested to install a bioswale located adjacent/downstream of the parking lot to improve stormwater runoff quality prior to entering the Middlefork Watershed & an electrical vehicle charging station.

The second fund is Recreation Center with a Base Budget of \$475,000 and a sustainability component incremental cost increase of \$140,000. The base budget to resurface the existing deteriorating recreation center parking lot. Additional funding requested to install two water quality storm structures & two electrical vehicle charging stations.

The third fund is the Sheridan and Deerpath Ravine outfall repair project with base budgets of \$550,000 for the Sheridan Road Ravine Outfall Repair and \$800,000 for the Deerpath Ravine Outfall Repair. With a request of a sustainability component incremental cost increase of \$50,000. The base

design will address failing City storm sewer outfalls that convey roadway stormwater to ravines and native plant material for project construction / slope stabilization and stormwater flow dissipation. Additional funding requested to add additional stone in the ravine beds of these two project areas (\$25,000 for each project).

After an in-depth discussion regarding the electrical vehicle charging stations as well as the additional stone in the ravine beds, Chairman Weber asked for a motion to approve the three items. Alderman Powers moved to approve. Alderman Novit seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

III. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

a. LAKE FOREST COMMUNITY GARDEN UPDATE

Chairman Weber introduced Elaine Madansky and Marion Cartwright to discuss the Lake Forest community gardens update. The project is currently under bid to design the space. The expected timeline is between now and January and then hopefully we have a bid after January for construction in the spring. Discussion ensued.

b. CURBSIDE COMPOSITING INITIATIVE

There have been 150 sign ups. Sherridan Elementary School is currently doing a lunchroom pilot program and Lake Forest Country Day School and Deerpath Middle School are in talks to start a program. CROYA has opted in as well. Looking to have the Deerpath Golf Course and Forest Park Beach to be added. There is discussion to have composting at the community garden as well. Alderman Novit request that we discuss with local businesses to use recycling materials for take away.

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. NEW SUSTAINABILITY FUND AND BUDGETARY PROCESS

Chairman Weber introduced the new sustainability fund. With the power supply agreement, the city receives a \$90,000 grant for sustainability initiatives and there has been a discussion to establish a fund to be able to allocate and prioritize projects to be funded by the sustainability fund. There is one more year of the grant, therefore, the ESC will meet and begin prioritizing projects in the January meeting.

V. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

There was additional discussion about the need for expansion of recycling opportunities and availability at City events and spaces, with the possibility

for the City to provide recycling containers and signage that provide greater instruction on proper recycling.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Weber asked if there were any public comments on any non-agenda items.

Several comments were made by members of the public present. Included in the comments were talk about the study of the north branch of the Chicago river watershed and the Lake Michigan watershed and best practices.

The Committee agreed that the study was important and would look into the study further.

Seeing no further comments, Chairman Weber moved to the next agenda item.

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE(S) – JANUARY 22, 2024

The Committee confirmed the next meeting date for January 22, 2024, at 5:15 P.M. located at Lake Forest City Hall.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Weber moved to adjourn the meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Committee at 5:59 P.M. seconded by Alderman Powers. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nina McCullough