

1 **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING**
2 **Tuesday, July 7, 2020 – 6:30 P.M.**
3 **REMOTE ACCESS MEETING**

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5 **ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER**

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7 Chairman Melanie Rummel called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Aldermen
8 Jed Morris and Jim Preschlack were present.

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10 Staff in attendance included Mike Strong, Assistant City Manager; Chuck Myers,
11 Superintendent of Parks, Forestry and Special Facilities; Robert Ells,
12 Superintendent of Engineering; Jim Shaw, Director of Innovation and Technology
13 and Layla Werner, Administrative Intern.

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15 Also in attendance was Mike Stopka, Consultant and Crystal Egelkamp,
16 Consultant.

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18 There were approximately 18 members of the public that attended the meeting
19 remotely.

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21 Chairman Rummel made a statement in regards to COVID-19 and why the
22 meeting is being held remotely, in concurrence with the Open Meetings Act
23 update from the state of Illinois.

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25 **ACTION ITEMS**

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27 **I. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF JUNE 10, 2020 MEETING MINUTES**

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29 Alderman Morris moved to approve the June 10, 2020 Environmental
30 Sustainability Committee meeting minutes subject to the corrections
31 shared with Mike Strong. Alderman Preschlack seconded the motion.
32 The following voted "Aye": Chairman Rummel, Alderman Morris and
33 Preschlack. The following voted "Nay": None. 3-Ayes, 0 Nays, motion
34 carried.

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36 **II. APPROVAL TO PARTICIPATE IN THE METROPOLITAN MAYORS CAUCUS**
37 **CS2 COMMUNITY SOLAR CLEARINGHOUSE PROGRAM**

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39 Assistant City Manager Mike Strong gave a brief update on a
40 municipal sponsored community solar program. He gave an
41 explanation on what community solar is, and how businesses are able
42 to subscribe a portion of their ComEd bill with community solar credits.
43 He stated that the City was able to include eligible residential
44 accounts, which will be on a first come first serve basis. He further
45 stated that an eligible subscriber must be on a ComEd fixed. This allows
46 residents to receive a 20% net discount on their electricity bill.
47 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any questions on this agenda
48 item.

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The Committee had discussion on comments from the City Attorney and if there were any agreements that needed to be discussed further. Mike Strong explained that the City is not a partner in this, and there was no necessary agreements that needed to be executed.

The Committee had additional discussion on the potential cost savings for City buildings that are subscribed to this program. Mr. Strong explained that the value of subscription offers a higher benefit for residents for potential savings, and stated that this is more about promoting renewable energy, not focusing only on cost savings. Additionally, Committee members inquired on how residents knew they were eligible for this program. Mr. Strong stated that official letters would be sent out by the metropolitan mayor's caucus to all eligible customers, pending approval of this agreement from City Council.

Alderman Rummel asked if there were any questions or comments from the public.

Emily Watts offered her comments on Crystal Point being able to participate in community solar.

Alderman Preschlack moved to recommend approval to City Council to participate in the Metropolitan Mayor Caucus CS2 Community Solar Clearinghouse Program subject to City Attorney review of the Resolution, seconded by Alderman Morris. The following voted "Aye": Chairman Rummel, Alderman Morris and Preschlack. The following voted "Nay": None. 3-Ayes, 0 Nays, motion carried.

Seeing no additional comments Chairman Rummel moved to the next agenda item

DISCUSSION ITEMS

I. SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT PRESENTATION – MIKE STOPKA

Assistant City Manager Mike Strong introduced Consultant Mike Stopka, representing MIST Environment. He gave a brief presentation about the sustainability initiatives that Lake Forest has conducted, and how MIST is helping the City achieve additional goals. He summarized the project scope and the three phases that are included in their strategic planning process. He discussed the stakeholder meetings they facilitated, as well as the survey results that were collected and analyzed. After this information was collected, MIST conducted a peer assessment including Highland Park and Winnetka. Mr. Stopka offered his recommendations to the committee on how to successfully accomplish strategic goals related to sustainability.

97 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any questions on this agenda
98 item.
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100 The Committee thanked MIST environment for the work they have
101 done in helping the City.
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103 The Committee had additional discussion on how the peer
104 assessments were conducted, and how the communities were
105 chosen. Mike Stopka provided comments on how Staff and the
106 consulting firm came to these decisions.
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108 Mr. Stopka stated that the City is excelling in specific areas in the
109 assessment that was conducted, and offered additional
110 recommendations for the City to accomplish sustainability goals.
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112 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any additional comments from
113 the Committee, seeing none she asked if there were any questions or
114 comments from the public.
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116 Mary Beth Nawor offered her comments to the Committee about
117 measuring greenhouse gases and the usage of water from the water
118 plant.
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120 **REVIEW OF FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS**

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122 Chairman Rummel asked if any members of the Committee had any suggestions
123 on items they wanted to discuss at future meetings.
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125 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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127 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any public comments on any non-
128 agenda items.
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130 Seeing none, she moved to the next agenda item.
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132 **NEXT MEETING DATE(S) – AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER**

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134 There was concurrence among the Committee members to meet in the month
135 of August. Assistant City Manager, Mike Strong, stated that he would send out a
136 poll to gauge the availability of the Committee members prior to setting the
137 August meeting date.
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139 **ADJOURNMENT**

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141 Alderman Morris moved to adjourn the meeting of the Environmental
142 Sustainability Committee at 7:54 P.M. seconded by Alderman Preschlack. The
143 motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
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Environmental Sustainability Committee Minutes
July, 7 2020

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Respectfully Submitted,

Layla Werner
Administrative Intern

Reviewed by,

Mike Strong
Assistant City Manager