

1 **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
2 **Wednesday, October 20, 2021 – 5:00 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 5:00 P.M. Aldermen  
8 Jim Preschlack and Eileen Weber were present.

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10 Staff in attendance included Mike Strong, Assistant City Manager; Cathy  
11 Czerniak, Director of Community Development; Michael Thomas, Director of  
12 Public Works; Chuck Myers, Superintendent of Parks and Forestry; Jim Lockefefer,  
13 Assistant to the Director of Public Works; and Layla Werner, Management Analyst

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15 There were approximately 6 members of the public that attended the meeting  
16 remotely.

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18 Chairman Rummel made the following statement as required by the Open  
19 Meetings Act. In accordance with state statute, Chairman Rummel has made a  
20 determination that it was not practical or prudent to schedule an in-person  
21 Committee meeting because of the COVID-19 pandemic, which is why this  
22 October 20, 2021, Environmental Sustainability Committee meeting is being held  
23 remotely.

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25 **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

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27 **I. UPDATE ON LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE BUCKTHORN CAMPAIGN –**  
28 **Brandon Hayes, Bold Bison Communications & Consulting**

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30 Assistant City Manager, Mike Strong introduced Brandon Hayes, Bold Bison  
31 Communications & Consulting to provide an overview of the Lake County  
32 Forest Preserve buckthorn campaign currently in process. Mr. Hayes  
33 presented background including details of the campaign, specifically  
34 targeting the Middlefork area. Additionally, he provided information  
35 regarding the County's work with home and landowners, outside of the  
36 focus of the campaign, however, Mr. Hayes emphasized what they are  
37 currently working to accomplish with the campaign.

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39 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any additional comments from the  
40 Committee.

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42 The Committee asked clarifying questions regarding the timeline of the  
43 campaign, and the target areas.

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45 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any additional questions or  
46 comments from the Committee or members of the public.

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48 Seeing none, she moved to the next agenda item.

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**II. RECAP OF SUMMER CURBSIDE RECYCLING AUDITS – Dan Martin,**  
Superintendent of Public Works

Superintendent of Public Works, Dan Martin provided an update to the Committee regarding the summer recycling audit that was conducted by two interns. Mr. Martin provided further details regarding the platforms used to notify residents of the ongoing audit, and the educational tools used in various pop-up locations and summer camps. Additionally, he displayed data stating 1,300 audits were completed with an 18% contamination rate. Although initial goals were not met, Mr. Martin explained the increase of single use items during COVID-19 and how that has impacted the audits.

Chairman Rummel asked if there were any additional comments from the Committee.

The Committee thanked Mr. Martin for his detailed presentation and tactics to encourage residents to change recycling habits.

Chairman Rummel asked if there were any additional questions or comments from the Committee or members of the public.

Judy Kernahan provided comments to the Committee regarding the previous agenda item.

Chairman Rummel asked if there were any additional questions or comments from the Committee or members of the public.

Seeing none, she moved to the next agenda item.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**I. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 18, 2021 MEETING MINUTES**

Alderman Weber moved to approve the August 18, 2021, Environmental Sustainability Committee meeting minutes. Alderman Preschlack seconded the motion. The following voted "Aye": Chairman Rummel, Aldermen Preschlack and Weber. The following voted "Nay": None. 3-Ayes, 0 Nays, motion carried.

**II. REVIEW AND RECOMMEND APPROVAL TO CITY COUNCIL SUSTAINABILITY ENHANCEMENTS TO CIP PROJECTS FOR FY2023 – Introduced by Mike Strong, Assistant City Manager**

Assistant City Manager, Mike Strong, provided a brief background regarding the City's capital project funding process, noting the similarities from previous City Council capital budget workshops. He further explained the process staff conducted to identify projects that could

97 include sustainable elements, and the change in cost that would be  
98 impacted.

99  
100 The projects that were discussed included the purchase of a hybrid  
101 vehicle for the Fire Department and Ravine design updates.

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103 The Committee asked clarifying questions regarding the enhancements in  
104 the Seminary Ravine design project.

105  
106 Additional projects that were discussed were parking lot improvements,  
107 including water quality structures being placed in new or updated  
108 parking lots, and the addition of a new electric vehicle charging station.

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110 The Committee asked for further information and data regarding the  
111 usage of electric vehicle charging stations.

112  
113 There were further presentations regarding projects including, Forest Park  
114 bluff stabilization, native planting at Forest Park beach and Waveland  
115 Park resurfacing.

116  
117 Following further discussion, Mr. Strong provided potential next steps for  
118 the Committee to move forward with a recommendation to City Council

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120 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any questions or comments from  
121 the public.

122  
123 Yuh Schabacker-Koppel offered comments to the Committee

124  
125 Chairman Rummel asked the Committee if there were any addition  
126 questions

127  
128 Seeing none, she asked for a motion.

129  
130 Alderman Preschlack made a motion to recommend sustainability  
131 enhancements to CIP projects for FY2023, Alderman Weber seconded the  
132 motion. The following voted "Aye": Chairman Rummel, Aldermen  
133 Preschlack and Weber. The following voted "Nay": None. 3-Ayes, 0 Nays,  
134 motion carried.

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136 **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

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138 **I. UPDATES ON SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES & PRIORITIES – Mike Strong,**  
139 **Assistant City Manager**

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141 Assistant City Manager, Mike Strong updated the Committee regarding  
142 reestablishing the communications and marketing plan. He provided a  
143 potential outline for a schedule the last quarter of 2021. In addition to the  
144 social media communications campaign, Mr. Strong discussed new

145 signage that would be designed to place near sustainable projects,  
146 explaining the background and benefits, and the investigation of solar  
147 panels to supply electricity to City accounts.  
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149 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any additional questions or  
150 comments from the Committee.  
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152 Seeing none, she moved to the next agenda item.  
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154 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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156 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any public comments on any non-  
157 agenda items.  
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159 Wiebke Droege provided comments to the Committee regarding the proposed  
160 athletic field improvements at Deerpath Community Park.  
161

162 Yuh Schabacker-Koppel provided comments to the Committee regarding the  
163 proposed athletic field improvements at Deerpath Community Park.  
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165 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any additional public comments. Seeing  
166 none, Chairman Rummel moved to the next agenda item.  
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168 **NEXT MEETING DATE(S)**

169  
170 Assistant City Manager, Mike Strong stated that the next meeting would be held  
171 on November 17, 2021, if that meeting date worked for the Committee. They  
172 discussed potentially shifting the date if necessary.  
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174 **ADJOURNMENT**

175  
176 Alderman Weber moved to adjourn the meeting of the Environmental  
177 Sustainability Committee at 6:46 P.M. seconded by Preschlack. The motion  
178 carried unanimously by voice vote.  
179

180 Respectfully Submitted,

181  
182 Layla Werner  
183 Management Analyst  
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185 Reviewed by,

186  
187 Mike Strong  
188 Assistant City Manager