

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 6, 2023
MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
VILLAGE HALL 6101 CAPULINA, MORTON GROVE, IL 60053

- 1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/ Roll Call:** Pursuant to proper notice in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, the regular meeting of the Environment and Natural Resources Commission was called to order at 6:00 PM by Teresa Hoffman Liston called the role.

Commissioners Present: Kim Moldofsky, Christine Corelli, Jan Pietron, Georgie Brunner, Andrew Hoffman

Commissioners Absent: Sarah Tag

Village Staff Present: Teresa Hoffman Liston, Kevin Lochner, Ralph Czerwinski, Michael Lukich

- 2. Approval of Minutes:** Chairperson Brunner proceeded to seek approval of the April 4, 2023 minutes. Commissioner Pietron moved to approve the minutes of April 4, 2023 Commissioner Moldofsky seconded the motion.

Minutes approved by unanimous voice vote.

- 3. Staff Reports:** Kevin Lochner presented the following report:

Water Strategies:

- Replacement of Watermain – 1600ft (Albert Avenue)- waiting on permitting
- Oakton Street Sanitary Sewer Installation – Austin to Lehigh – reviewing plans
- Annual Sewer Lining program – main portion on hold due to emergency lining being done on Lehigh and Frontage Rd.
- Annual Leak Survey is ongoing – so far 21 leaks have been found underground
- Northwest Water Commission Water Supply Main Project – seeking funding for emergency supply.
 - Main street project
 - Albert Street

Air Strategies:

- As of May 30, 2023 189 homes have had solar panels installed.
- Electric Car Charging Stations at Sawmill Station 4 installed with more to come.
- Oakton Street Pedestrian Bike Path - Construction to start Spring 2023. Working is depending on dryer weather.
- Pace new rapid transit service – Pulse on Dempster St & Austin Av. In front of Sawmill Station apartments on Dempster under construction now. 2 Relocations of Pace Shelters

Energy Strategies:

- Fire Sta. 4 is getting new LED lighting throughout the station.
- Fire Sta. 4 Generator Rpl. /Fuel Conversion to Nat. Gas. - Under contract with Electrical Contractor. Waiting for Generator.

Land Strategies:

- Tree City Certificate received
- 100 Parkway Trees being planted
- Editing Tree Canopy Map

Waste Strategies:

- Groot Annual Yard Waste/Food Scrap Subscription Program is ongoing. We have eleven homes with 95 Gallon totes and twenty-three homes with 65-gallon totes.
- Collective Resource Food Scrap Program – 55 MG homes are registered.
- Electronics Recycling Event was very successful, 565 cars participated.
- Community Clean-up Event – 51 participants

Commissioner Moldofsky made a comment to ask if the Village can track the number of electric vehicles in the Village like we track homes participating in solar programs. The Village staff said they will look into it.

4. Programs and Events

- a. **Weekly E-News Articles** – Terry Liston asked Commissioners to continue submitting articles.
- b. **Earth Month Activities-**
 - Mayor’s Water Challenge- MG is #2 in its population category.
- c. **Village Clean-up Event-**
 - Thank you to commissioner Moldofsky, Tag and Corelli for volunteering and helping with the event.
 - Reviewed the feedback from volunteers and overall positive response from the community.
- d. **Electronic Recycling Event**
 - It was a well-staffed and organized event. Thank you to Commissioners Moldofsky, Tag and Corelli for volunteering.
- e. **Tree Walk**
 - June 10, 2023
- f. **Sustainability Expo**
 - September 9, 2023
 - Village Administrator, Ralph Czerwinski, introduced the Recycling Fest to the commissioners. The concept is to have a mini recycling event at the Expo. Some possible ideas are to recycle textiles, food donation to the Niles Food Pantry, Illinois State University, and other vendors that may help with collecting.

Terry Liston, mentioned that we will also have collection sites for items the Village already collects.

Commissioners are encouraged to help find exhibitors and recruit volunteers.

Commissioner Moldofsky suggested reaching out to ABT regarding Styrofoam recycling and induction cooktop. Commissioner Corelli

mentioned she had contacted them and is awaiting on a response from them.

Commissioner Corelli talked about the exhibitors that she has contacted to participated in the expo. She is also working with SWANCC to get a video presentation set up at the expo. She would also like to create a giveaway with t-shirts or other items.

Commissioner Corelli also has ideas to get students to attend the expo and also suggested having a phone message go out to all residents informing them to attend the Expo. She is also working on creating a presentation to be looped on a monitor at the expo to be played for guests.

Commissioner Moldofsky suggested creating garage sale signs to market the Expo.

Commissioner Corelli suggesting having a space at the Expo highlighting the Public Works Department and all of their sustainability efforts.

g. Pumpkin Smash

- Date confirmed for November 4, 2023 9am-12 @ Harrer Park

h. Benchmarking Municipal Buildings

- Ralph Czerwinski talked about accomplishments over the past few years that to help reduce out carbon footprint which include changing lights in buildings and street lights. This is an ongoing project that will be spearheaded by PW Director Mike Lukich.

Other Business:

- a. Chairperson Brunner wanted to know with the new Village Hall building; if the Village will be taking steps to ensure there are sustainable efforts
- b. Terry Liston mentioned there are openings on the Commission and anyone interested in joining should contact her.
- c. Commissioner Moldofsky talked about encouraging people to create Native Gardens which have proven to have more positive effects on the environment rather than “No-Mow May” initiatives.

Commissioner Moldofsky also mentioned adding information in the Block Party Kit on how residents can make their block party’s greener.

Adjournment:

Hearing no further comments, Commissioner Hoffman moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Moldofsky.

Meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm by unanimous voice vote.

Minutes By: Saba Koya

APPROVED