

Roseville Public Works, Environment and Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 28, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.
City Council Chambers, 2660 Civic Center Drive
Roseville, Minnesota 55113

1. Introduction / Roll Call

Chair Ficek called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. and at his request, Public Works Director Jesse Freihammer called the roll.

Present: Chair Bryant Ficek; Vice Chair Des Mueller; and Members Jarrod Cicha, Daniel Fergus, Edwin Hodder and Allison Luongo

Absent: Member Sarah Rudolf (Excused)

Staff Present: Public Works Director Jesse Freihammer; Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer Jennifer Lowry, and Environmental Manager Ryan Johnson

2. Public Comments

3. Approval of October 24, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Comments and corrections to draft minutes had been submitted by PWETC commissioners prior to tonight's meeting and those revisions incorporated into the draft presented in meeting materials.

Member Luongo indicated at the last meeting she arrived five minutes late. The minutes also showed the recess as being half an hour when it was five minutes.

Vice Chair Mueller noted the minutes showed for staff present Civil Engineer Stephanie Smith when it was Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer Jennifer Lowry who was present at the meeting.

Motion

Member Hodder moved, Member Cicha seconded, approval of the October 24, 2023 meeting minutes as amended.

Ayes:5

Nays: 0

Abstain: 1
Motion carried.

4. Communication Items

Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer Lowry provided a brief review and update on projects and maintenance activities listed in the staff report dated November 28, 2023.

5. Recycling RFP Discussion

Environmental Manager Ryan Johnson made a presentation on the 2024 Recycling RFP.

Chair Ficek indicated the City's current contract has a one or two-year extension and he wondered if that has been ruled out.

Environmental Manager Johnson explained the City would not want to extend this contract because the City is looking at getting the savings out of getting the carts out. Staff is not ruling out for certain, if there is a big push to extend then the City will do that.

Member Fergus explained the information states there is an approximate fifty-thousand-dollar maintenance cost for the carts and if the carts were to get stolen or destroyed, the Voss memo mentioned RFID tags, which he assumed has an additional cost, but he suspected someone is looking at the cost of RFID tags versus what is saved.

Environmental Manager Johnson explained they have actually gone away with the RFID tags. Residents thought this was very big brotherish that they knew the carts were actually there and residents thought by reading the RFID tag that people would be found to have not put out recyclables of things like that. What the contractors are doing now is using cameras that are rolling the entire time to protect the driver and City and even a resident from missed pickups, damage, etc.

Member Fergus explained the pickup in the park, Environmental Manager Johnson was talking about the amount picked up and from his own observations it did not seem like recycling in the park was not well separated which he would assume is then adding more contamination so he wondered if there was any discussion or thought given to whether the park bins are adding more contamination to the whole stream and maybe not a good thing to do.

Environmental Manager Johnson explained that always comes up and Park staff actually does a very nice job with keying in on the recycling areas that are problematic and actually help staff out a lot by going to the cart and pulling out some of the materials to clean it up.

Vice Chair Mueller indicated she was looking at the costs and units of the 2024 RFP and she was trying to remember what the fees are for residents and how much it increased as well as what is expected this next round potentially. She was trying to anticipate how this rolls out to residents.

Environmental Manager Johnson explained the rate right now is \$14.05 a quarter for the recycling fee on the utility bill. That fee has all of the curbside recycling in it and obviously the parks is part of it, but it also includes cleanup day, shredding day, and staff. It covers everything and obviously the big driver in this case is the collection cost. Staff has already been talking about the next round and he did not think there is a big increase.

Vice Chair Mueller asked how a multi-unit fee schedule compares to a single-family household.

Environmental Manager Johnson explained every apartment in a multi-family unit is \$14.05.

Public Works Director Freihammer noted the proposed 2024 cost is \$14.50 a unit which is about a 3.2 percent increase. This is mainly increased costs due to the contract and general overall staff costs. There are not any major overall changes.

Chair Ficek thanked Environmental Manager Johnson for the presentation. He thought there was a lot of good information in there and looked forward to more information in the first quarter of 2024.

6. City Campus Solar Update

Environmental Manager Ryan Johnson updated the Commission on the City Campus Solar plan.

Chair Ficek thought this plan was a success.

Member Hodder asked when staff was doing the feasibility analysis for the solar was the City seeing what the consultant showed for a savings.

Environmental Manager Johnson explained the City is close. The City is producing close to what the consultant said the City would produce but are a little bit under versus what was shown.

Member Fergus asked if Roseville's goal is to have one hundred percent energy produced onsite. He indicated he was confused by the two graphs that are shown in the packet.

Environmental Manager Johnson explained the graph on the left is City operations to be one percent renewable and the graph on the right is twenty-five percent of City operations would be produced onsite. Twenty-five percent of all of the energy

needed at City Hall and the skate center should be produced right in Roseville on a City rooftop or park or carport and then the other on is using the City's solar rooftop and then filling that seventy-five percent gap with community solar and things produced offsite.

Member Hodder reviewed with the Commission the City solar plan and expected savings once the loan is paid off.

Chair Ficek asked if the City is actively looking at adding more solar to the City grid.

Environmental Manager Johnson indicated staff is always looking at adding more solar, such as the top of the skating center.

Chair Ficek thanked Environmental Manager Johnson for the presentation.

7. 2024 Public Works Plan

Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer Jennifer Lowry reviewed the 2024 public works plan with the Commission.

Chair Ficek asked how roads are selected for replacement.

Public Works Director Freihammer explained how public works decides which roads need to be repaved.

Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer Lowry indicated the public works plan will be presented to the City Council at the beginning of 2024.

Chair Ficek thanked staff for the review of the plan.

8. Future Agenda Items

Discussion ensued regarding the January 23, 2024 PWETC agenda:

- Sustainability Super Meeting
- Presentation by MPCA regarding Green Step City's/ Gold Leaf
- Green Team update and roles and responsibilities

9. Adjourn

Motion

Member Cicha moved, Member Fergus seconded, adjournment of the meeting at approximately 8:41 p.m.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Motion carried.