

1 **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING**

2 **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2020 – 6:30 P.M.**

3 **REMOTE ACCESS MEETING**

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5 **ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER**

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

9
10 Staff in attendance included Mike Strong, Assistant City Manager; Dan Martin,
11 Superintendent of Public Works; Chuck Myers, Superintendent of Parks, Forestry
12 and Special Facilities; Jim Lockfeer, Management Analyst; Joe Gabanski,
13 Assistant Director of IT; Michael Thomas, Director of Public Works and Layla
14 Werner, Administrative Intern.

15
16 Also in attendance was Marcus Norman, Consultant and Mike Stopka,
17 Consultant.

18
19 There were approximately 35 members of the public that attended the meeting
20 remotely.

21
22 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

23 Chairman Melanie Rummel welcomed everyone to the inaugural meeting of the
24 Environmental Sustainability Committee meeting. She thanked everyone who
25 was in attendance, and stated the commitment that Lake Forest has to
26 environmental sustainability. Alderman Morris and Alderman Preschlack
27 introduced themselves to the Committee.

28 Chairman Rummel gave a brief overview, explaining how Committee meetings
29 would be structured, and discussed the agenda.

30 **ACTION ITEMS**

31 **I. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE CHARTER**

32 Chairman Rummel stated that there were areas of the Charter that were
33 still under review by the Committee and offered time for the Committee
34 to discuss any adjustments.

35
36 The Committee discussed that the first three paragraphs of the charter
37 were redundant and the language could be shortened. Also they
38 discussed adding goals, tasking Mike Strong with presenting the revisions
39 at the next meeting.

40
41 Assistant City Manager, Mike Strong stated that he had received
42 comments from Committee members and that those suggestions would

43 be incorporated into the document and brought back to the Committee
44 at a later date.

45
46 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any questions or comments from
47 the public.

48
49 Grant Huebner offered his comments to the Committee in regards to the
50 charter document being edited.

51
52 The Committee recommended sending the Charter back for revisions and
53 approving the document at the next Committee meeting.

54 **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

55 **I. UPDATE ON CITY'S SUSTAINABILITY PLAN – CHUCK MYERS & JIM LOCKEFEER**

56 Assistant City Manager, Mike Strong introduced Chuck Meyers and Jim
57 Lockefer to give a brief overview of the City's Sustainability Plan.
58 Superintendent of Parks, Forestry and Special Projects, Chuck Myers
59 provided background on the adoption of the Sustainability Plan stating
60 that input from multiple parties was taken into consideration before being
61 recommended to the Plan Commission by the Lake Forest Collaborative
62 for Environmental Leadership (LFCEL), and then eventually being sent to
63 City Council, which was adopted with an ordinance. He stated that the
64 approvals were completed and that the plan was adopted.

65
66 Management Analyst, Jim Lockefer provided a brief overview of the five
67 major plan components and the implementation plan. He stated that the
68 group developed an implementation schedule in order to track
69 accomplishments and milestones that would be reached. Mr. Lockefer
70 added that these action steps were developed at community
71 engagement forums conducted by the City. He also discussed the annual
72 report submitted to Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) that tracks municipal
73 environmental impacts.

74
75 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any questions or comments from
76 the committee members.

77
78 The Committee had discussion on the Sustainability Plan and members
79 stated their appreciation for the plan and for the accomplishments made
80 so far.

81
82 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any questions or comments from
83 the public.

84

85 Casey Murray offered his comments to the Committee in regards to
86 stormwater quality and the usage of salt on the roads.

87
88 Director of Public Works, Michael Thomas stated that the City is required to
89 submit a plan as part of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
90 (NPDES) for projects that impact water quality and its impacts on creeks
91 and ravines. He added that there are standards that need to be met in
92 order to be permitted for this type of work. He also discussed the usage of
93 Beet Heat instead of traditional road salt as well as the fact that only
94 major roadways and intersections are salted after the winter holidays.

95
96 Resident Schabacker-Koppel offered her comments to the Committee in
97 regards to revisions to the City's Sustainability Plan.

98
99 **II. PRESENTATION ON RECYCLING PROGRAM, COSTS AND MARKETING**
100 **CAMPAIGN – DAN MARTIN & MARCUS NORMAN**

101 Assistant City Manager, Mike Strong introduced Superintendent of Public
102 Works, Dan Martin and consultant, Marcus Norman. Superintendent Martin
103 provided a brief update on the curbside recycling program and how it
104 has evolved since its creation. He also provided a brief update, showing
105 the new sticker that outlined what can and cannot be picked up for
106 curbside recycling. He explained the various refuse disposal and recycling
107 processing costs and revenues due to having to filter and clean items that
108 cannot be recycled. He stated that the City still receives some recycling
109 revenue, from Recycling material, scrap metal and electronics.
110 Superintendent Martin explained that 25% of recyclables were
111 contaminated which increases the cost of processing for the City.

112
113 Marcus Norman, Consultant, was recognized by Chairman Rummel. Mr.
114 Norman gave a brief introduction about himself, prior to his presentation.
115 He began his presentation to the Committee by providing background on
116 the Recycling Education Campaign and its relationship with the Lake
117 Forest Garden Club. Marcus went over the goals of the educational
118 campaign and stated how the goals established would be achieved.
119 Marcus shared a brief video of Bart the Cart and how the campaign is
120 communicating the four guidelines for recycling.

121
122 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any questions on this agenda item
123 from the Committee members.

124
125 The Committee had discussion on enrolling the school system in promoting
126 this educational campaign. Marcus Norman stated that there have been
127 discussions on how to involve the school in promoting this educational
128 tool. There was additional discussion on promoting reducing and reusing.

129 Marcus stated that they want to keep the current messaging clear and
130 concise to avoid having an excess of messaging, but discussed
131 highlighting those concepts in the future.
132

133 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any questions or comments from
134 the public.
135

136 Lisa Burton Radzley offered her comments and concerns about using the
137 term curbside recycling because there are other specific items that can
138 be recycled, just not for curbside pickup.
139

140 **III. UPDATE ON COMMUNITY SOLAR OPPORTUNITIES – MIKE STRONG**

141 Mike Strong, Assistant City Manager presented an update on the
142 community solar initiative. He gave an overview on what community solar
143 is and how it relates to the strategic plan, sustainability plan, and how the
144 City has taken advantage of this renewable energy initiative. Mr. Strong
145 stated that Lake Forest was able to subscribe to one of the first community
146 solar projects to enroll municipal accounts, launched in Elgin, Illinois. He
147 outlined the potential cost savings that the City could see from this type of
148 program and how residents may be able to benefit in the future.
149

150 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any questions on this agenda item.
151

152 The Committee discussed their interest in this agreement and seeing how
153 this renewable energy project would progress for residential use.
154

155 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any questions or comments from
156 the public.
157

158 Seeing none, she moved to the next agenda item.
159

160 **IV. COMMITTEE WORK PLANNING WITH MIST ENVIRONMENTAL – MIKE STOPKA**

161 Mike Strong, Assistant City Manager introduced Mike Stopka from MIST
162 Environmental. Mike Stopka provided the Committee with a brief
163 overview of MIST and the upcoming efforts they would be undertaking
164 with the City. Mr. Stopka gave a brief presentation explaining the steps
165 they will take to understand Lake Forest and how to move forward with
166 sustainability projects in the community including a sustainability
167 assessment, framework development for decision-making, and
168 prioritization process to help the Committee prioritize future goals and
169 initiatives.
170

171 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any questions on this agenda item.
172

173 The Committee had discussion on the timeline of the three steps and the
174 evaluation criteria on an economic scale. Mike Stopka stated that the
175 timeline goal is three months for the entire process. He stated that this
176 specific project has a small scope, so there is no cost benefit analysis
177 included.

178
179 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any questions or comments from
180 the public.

181
182 John Roesenhiem suggested the City work to involve corporations and
183 other organizations within the community.
184

185 **REVIEW OF FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS**

186 Chairman Rummel asked the committee for their feedback on the initiatives that
187 have been presented as future agenda items.

188 The Committee had discussion on how they would like to move forward with
189 these initiatives and decided to work with MIST prior to exploring future initiatives
190 to ensure they aligned with the Committee's goals. Chairman Rummel asked the
191 Committee if such discussion on the following items should be delayed until after
192 they begin their engagement with MIST. There was no objection from the
193 Committee.

194 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any questions or comments from the
195 public.

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

197 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

198 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any public comments on any non-
199 agenda items.

200 Elizabeth Guscott-Mueller offered her comments to the Committee on the
201 stormwater and wastewater evaluation grading system.

202 Laurie Rose, President of the League of Women Voters, offered comments to the
203 Committee expressing support to the Committee and the goals they are working
204 to achieve, noting they aligned with the League's goals. She also offered her
205 comments about including youth interns to gain younger support for the
206 Committee.

207 Schaback-Koppel offered her comments to the Committee about accelerated
208 solar partnerships that residents could take advantage of.

209 **NEXT MEETING DATE(S) – JULY AND AUGUST**

