

**REGULAR MEETING
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
City of Oakdale
July 15, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Environmental Management Commission (EMC) of the City of Oakdale was held on Monday, July 15, 2019 at the Oakdale Municipal Building, 1584 Hadley Avenue North, Oakdale, Minnesota. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Miller at 7:00 p.m.

CALL OF ROLL

On a call of roll, the following were present:

Present: Keith Miller, Chairperson
Bonnie Wilson
James Persoon
Caitlin Bergh

Absent: Gretel Drainville
Nick Kantola
Noah Gerding

Also Present: Susan Olson, City Council Liaison
Jen Hassebroek, Sr. Community Development Specialist

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER PERSOON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WILSON, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION (EMC) MEETING OF THE JULY 15, 2019 MINUTES, WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES:

- 1. UNDER STORMWATER EDUCATION CAMPAIGN ON THE 4TH PARAGRAPH, CHANGE THE SENTENCE TO READ, MS. HASSEBROEK SAID THE CITY" INSTEAD OF THEY CITY**
- 2. UNDER STORM WATER EDUCATION CAMPAIGN ON THE 5TH PARAGRAPH, CHANGE THE SENTENCE TO READ, LOOKS FORWARD TO THE DAY WHEN WE WILL BE A PART OF THE ADOPT A STORM DRAIN PROGRAM INSTEAD OF THE ADOPT A STORM PROGRAM.**

4 AYES.

GREENSTEP CITIES AWARD

Ms. Hassebroek announced that the City of Oakdale received an award for the Step 4 & 5 achievement in the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program at the League of Minnesota Cities annual conference on June 27.

Ms. Hassebroek noted Oakdale is one of only 13 cities in the program to achieve Step 5 this year. She congratulated the commission for their hard work on this topic.

Chairperson Miller thanked Mayor Reinke and City Council for their support and also to Ms. Hassebroek and the city staff for their part in this award.

GREENSTEP CITIES METRICS

Ms. Hassebroek stated that not all metrics data is required and/or available, but as the data base grows, the city will be able to identify long-term trends and areas of focus for the next year.

Ms. Hassebroek summarized the metrics data.

With the BRT plans moving forward, Chairperson Miller said this could be an opportunity to look at putting EV charging stations at one of the stations. Ms. Hassebroek said she is presently working on an EV study and that explores this idea.

In response to Chairperson Miller's question on the tracking of citywide GHG emissions number, Ms. Hassebroek noted there is data available back to 2007. In the future, she said they are hoping to continue to get data from the Metropolitan Council or Greenstep Cities.

In response to Commissioner Persoon's question regarding items 1.6 and 14.6 Ms. Hassebroek will verify those figures as it appears they were inverted when the data files were combined.

In response to Commissioner Bergh's question regarding item 13.4, Ms. Hassebroek said haulers do not currently offer curbside collection of organics but once they do the state will collect that data.

Chairperson Miller brought up the Energy Star Program for private buildings as a great opportunity moving forward. He also looked forward to Ms. Hassebroek's completion of the EV study, as far as the city fleet and charging stations. He also noted looking at commercial property water usage and the reason for the increase. Ms. Hassebroek stated she will look at the raw numbers again.

In response to Commissioner Wilson's question regarding whether Ms. Hassebroek has to do a presentation or is the award based on metrics, Ms. Hassebroek said it is based on the improvement of some of the bigger metrics categories. In response to Commissioner Wilson's question on how many trees are planted, Ms. Hassebroek said the city forester has those records.

Chairperson Miller noted the planned bus rapid transit line will help with increasing the numbers for alternative forms of transportation.

Commissioner Bergh commented on miles per gallon average for the gasoline fleet and why the number is so low. Ms. Hassebroek said there is a fair amount of heavier equipment that does not use diesel. She said there may be better opportunities to switch to electric for the bigger vehicles in the future.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS & COMMISSIONER UPDATES

1. RESILIENT CITIES WORKSHOP (MILLER)

Chairperson Miller gave a summary of the workshop he attended in Roseville.

2. SOLAR POWER HOUR

Ms. Hassebroek summarized the first Solar Power Hour (SPH) held in June and stated the second one is coming on August 5. She said this time the free energy bill consultations by the Citizens Utility Board (CUB) were going to be added prior to the SPH.

Chairperson Miller noted the SPH provides a great opportunity for people who are thinking about buying solar for their home and encouraged everyone to sign up for an evaluation to see if they have solar potential.

Commissioner Wilson brought up the Landscape Revival Program that was held on June 8 and was really well attended. She suggested if this event takes place next year it would be a good idea have a table set up informing people about the EMC and the programs the commission is involved in. Chairperson Miller agreed with this suggestion.

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NEXT MEETING DATE

August 19, 2019

ADJOURNMENT

**A MOTION WAS MADE COMMISSIONER BERGH, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PERSON, TO
ADJOURN THE JULY 15, 2019 REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAKDALE ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT COMMISSION AT 7:52 PM.**

Respectfully submitted by Cathy Hannigan