JACKSON
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ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at 6:00 PM

City Hall, 10th Floor Conference Room

AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **ROLL CALL**

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR 08-21-24 MEETING.**

   A. Minutes of 08-21-24 meeting.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

   A. Prioritization of issues for Commission focus

   B. Committee Assignments

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

7. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**
   (3-Minute Limit)

8. **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

9. **NEXT MEETING AT 6:00PM ON WEDNESDAY, 10-16-24**

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

09-18-24 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

PREPARED 09-03-24

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Date: Wednesday, 09-18-24

Time: 6:00 pm

Place: Conference Room on 10th floor of City Hall, 161 W Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Adoption of the Agenda

IV. Approval of the minutes for the 08-21-24 meeting

V. Old Business

   i. Prioritization of issues for Commission focus

   ii. Committee assignments

VI. New Business

VII. Citizen Comments (3 minute limit)

VIII. Commissioner Comments

IX. Next Meeting – Wednesday, 10-16-24 at 6:00pm

X. Adjournment

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION 08-21-24 MEETING

MINUTES (PREPARED 08-30-24)

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Date: Wednesday, 08-21-24

Time: 6:00 pm

Place: Conference Room on 10th floor of City Hall, 161 W Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan

I. **Call to Order** *Chairperson Kazmier called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.*

II. Roll Call

Present: *Commissioner Jane Flores*
Commissioner Kelsey Heck Wood
Commissioner Andrew Johnson
Commissioner Kelli Kazmier
Commissioner Samantha Kloos

Absent: *None*

Also Present: *Freddie Dancy, Ward 2 Councilmember*
Inali Hathaway (appointed 05-28-24 but has not yet taken oath of office)

Staff: *Troy R White, City of Jackson Engineering*
Jeff D Crow, City of Jackson Engineering

III. Adoption of the Agenda

Motion made by Commissioner Heck Wood and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve the agenda as presented approved unanimously.

IV. Approval of the minutes for the 06-12-24 meeting

Motion made by Commissioner Heck Wood and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve the minutes for the 06-12-24 meeting with the Roll Call corrected to show that Commissioner Heck Wood was not present. Motion was approved unanimously.

V. Old Business

i. Appointment of a City Councilmember to the Environmental Commission

Mr. White related that the issue has been raised with the Mayor and appointments are the prerogative of the Mayor.

ii. Pollinator Gardens

Mr. White related that pollinator gardens are to be constructed in Ella Sharp Park and Loomis Park by DWP and Parks staff in fall 2024 so that they can come up in spring 2025. Commissioner Kazmier inquired about the seed that will be used and if input can be offered. Mr. White asked Ms. Kazmier to email him suggestions for the seed mix and where to purchase it and that info will be provided to the DPW and Parks staff.

iii. Master Plan Development

Mr. White related that the Master Plan will not be revisited until 2028.

iv. EAP to City Council

Mr. White related that the EAP has been provided to the Mayor for consideration and placement on a City Council meeting agenda.

v. Urban Forestry Grant

Mr. White gave an update the progress of the Urban Forestry Grant funded project.

VI. New Business

i. Solid Waste Collection

Councilmember Dancy related that he has asked staff to investigate the feasibility and process for moving towards a City-staff executed solid waste collection system. He asked for study, fact finding and research into implementing such a program.

ii. Commission Focus

Commissioner Kazmier suggested this is a good time to consider what initiatives are the Commission's focus and then asked for input.

Commissioner Kazmier gave a short summary of the EV ordinance that was presented by previous Mayor Dobies. She related that the proposed ordinance requires EV charging infrastructure for new developments and redevelopments.

Commissioner Kazmier suggested another option would be to focus efforts on recommendations for the 2028 Master Plan revisions.

Commissioner Johnson suggested that the Commissioner focus on the issue of solid waste collection.

Commissioner Kazmier related that solid waste collection was included in the EAP with the recommendation to move toward municipal service.

Commissioner Johnson inquired with the issue was addressed from an environmental standpoint.

Commissioner Kazmier provided a summary of the Commission's 2022 work on the solid waste collection issue and the resulting presentation that was made to City Council.

Commissioner Johnson suggested the issue be researched as a public health concern. Commissioner Kazmier suggested and Commissioner Johnson agreed that Commissioner Johnson can research the issue and bring findings to the Commission.

Commissioner Koos inquired if there is an opportunity to coordinate the transition to municipal solid waste collection with a transition to an EV or hydrogen fueled DPW fleet.

Commissioner Kazmier replied that there might be an opportunity to research the issue and possible grant opportunities.

Commissioner Hathaway suggested that public use of the bus system could be increased if benches were provided. There was then discussion on the dynamic between City and JATA.

Commissioner Kazmier proposed 1) Commissioners review the EAP and determine if there is an issue that warrants prioritization, 2) the Commission make the EV ordinance a priority, 3) the Commission begin work on Master Plan input, 4) make suggestion to JATA for benches and 5) pursue Tree City USA designation.

Commissioner Kazmier suggested that at the next Commission meeting, items for action be prioritized, committed to and assigned to Committees.

Commissioner Kazmier asked Mr. White to distribute the latest version of the EAP and the slides from the solid waste presentation.

VII. Citizen Comments

None.

VIII. Commissioner Comments

None.

IX. Next Meeting – Wednesday, 09-18-24 at 6:00pm

X. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Heck Wood and seconded by Commissioner Flores to adjourn approved unanimously. Meeting ended at 7:17 pm.