



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Wednesday, November 20, 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 THE 09-18-24 MEETING

A. Minutes of 09-18-24 Meeting

B. No Minutes for 10-16-24 Meeting (canceled for lack of quorum)

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Prioritization of issues for Commission focus

B. Committee assignments

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of 2025 Meeting Schedule

7. CITIZEN COMMENTS

(3-Minute Limit)

8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

9. NEXT MEETING AT 6:00PM ON WEDNESDAY, 01-15-25 (NOT YET APPROVED)

10. ADJOURNMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION 09-18-24 MEETING
MINUTES (PREPARED 10-04-24)
PAGE 1 OF 4

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

II. Roll Call

Present: *Commissioner Kelli Kazmier (Chair)*
Commissioner Kelsey Heck Wood
Commissioner Andrew Johnson
Commissioner Samantha Kloos

Absent: *Commissioner Jane Flores*

Also Present: *Freddie Dancy, Ward 2 Councilmember*

Staff: *Jeffrey D. Crow, City of Jackson Engineering*

III. Adoption of the Agenda

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

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

Motion made by Commissioner Heck Wood and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve the minutes for the 08-21-24 meeting as presented approved unanimously.

V. Old Business

i. Prioritization of issues for Commission focus

Commissioner Kazmier requested input on which issues to prioritize with the following discussed as action priorities:

- a) Feasibility of Jackson becoming a Tree City USA community*
- b) Research on electric vehicles for refuse collection*
- c) Research on health consequences to solid waste dumping*

- d) *Feasibility of Jackson becoming a single hauler refuse community*
- e) *Feasibility of implementing electric vehicle charging stations in public spaces*
- f) *Feasibility of obtaining "LEED for Cities" certification for Jackson*

Discussion on each of these six items proceeded as follows:

- a) *Commissioner Kloos asked the commissioners whether the City of Jackson is a Tree City USA community.*

Commissioner Kazmier responded in the negative, then suggested that the path to becoming a Tree City USA community could be achievable after the City begins their upcoming forestry project.

Mr. Crow mentioned that Engineering is issuing and managing the upcoming forestry project, which includes inventorying the City's nursery stock, generating a nursery stock management plan, performing infill tree plantings, and removing stumps as well as hazardous, diseased, and invasive trees.

Commissioner Kazmier suggested and Mr. Crow agreed that Mr. Crow can research how the upcoming forestry project could help facilitate the City's path to becoming a Tree City USA community.

- b) *Commissioner Johnson provided an update on his research into electric refuse collection vehicles (eRCV). He mentioned that eRCV's cost around \$600,000—double the price of diesel alternatives—and have a limited range of 80 miles per charge due to battery weight. He added that hydrogen-powered vehicles offer greater range but are currently more expensive due to early-stage development. However, a proposed hydrogen storage plant in Michigan could accelerate hydrogen-powered technology and reduce the future cost of hydrogen-powered vehicles.*

Commissioner Kazmier suggested and Commissioner Johnson agreed that Commissioner Johnson can further research the issue and bring findings to the Commission.

- c) *Commissioner Johnson provided an update on his research into health consequences related to solid waste dumping. He mentioned the National Institute of Health has published online about the adverse health effects of solid waste dumping.*

Commissioner Kazmier suggested and Commissioner Johnson agreed that Commissioner Johnson can further research the issue and bring findings to the Commission.

- d) *Commissioner Kazmier and Commissioner Heck Wood expressed mutual interest in giving a brief presentation at Ward meetings about the benefits of becoming a single hauler refuse community.*

Councilmember Dancy suggested that it's premature to have such discussions and recommended completing research before asking councilmembers to address the topic at Ward meetings.

Commissioner Kazmier and Commissioner Heck Wood responded in the affirmative.

- e) *Commissioner Johnson inquired about the feasibility of installing EV charging stations in public spaces across the City of Jackson.*

Commissioner Kazmier suggested and Commissioner Johnson agreed that Commissioner Johnson can research the issue and bring findings to the Commission.

- f) *Commissioner Kazmier expressed interest in researching the feasibility of obtaining "LEED for Cities" certification for Jackson. She mentioned that she will research the issue and bring findings to the Commission.*

ii. *Committee assignments*

Commissioner Kazmier requested input on which issues to assign with the following discussed as assignments to be completed before the 10-16-24 meeting:

- a) Feasibility of Jackson becoming a Tree City USA community – Commissioner Kazmier*
- b) Research on electric vehicles for refuse collection – Commissioner Johnson*
- c) Research on health consequences to solid waste dumping – Commissioner Johnson*
- d) Feasibility of Jackson becoming a single hauler refuse community – Commissioner Johnson*
- e) Feasibility of implementing EV charging stations in public spaces – Commissioner Johnson*
- f) Feasibility of obtaining "LEED for Cities" certification for Jackson – Commissioner Kazmier*

Commissioner Kloos and Commissioner Heck Wood both mentioned they need additional time to consider what initiatives each should focus on.

Commissioner Kazmier responded in the affirmative.

VI. New Business

None.

VII. Citizen Comments

Christy Davis (Candidate for City Council Ward 5) mentioned that she previously discussed with Commissioner Kloos the idea of Jackson becoming a single hauler refuse community. She also mentioned she is reviewing a slideshow presentation provided by Commissioner Kloos.

Danielle Mackey (Community Engagement Manager, Consumers Energy) recommended that Commissioner Johnson contact Mindy Bradish-Orta (Community Affairs Manager, Consumers Energy) for the data needed to complete his assignments. She also mentioned that Ms. Bradish-Orta is on the MLK Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA) board and will be a good resource for case studies related to green energy infrastructure.

Marty Billman (City resident) expressed her support for the idea of Jackson becoming a single hauler refuse community.

VIII. Commissioner Comments

None.

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

X. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Heck Wood and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to adjourn approved unanimously. Meeting ended at 7:03 pm.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION 10-16-24 MEETING MINUTES

PAGE 1 OF 1

The Environmental Commission meeting scheduled for 6:00 pm on Wednesday, October 16, 2024 was cancelled due to a lack of quorum.

CITY OF JACKSON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

2025 MEETING SCHEDULE (NOT APPROVED) 11-20-24

PAGE 1 OF 1

Meetings of the Environmental Commission will be conducted on the 10th floor of City Hall at 161 W Michigan Avenue. Meetings will commence at 6:00pm on the following dates:

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Wednesday, June 18, 2025

Wednesday, August 13, 2025

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

Wednesday, November 12, 2025