



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Wednesday, June 18, 2025 at 6:00 PM

City Hall, 10th Floor Conference Room

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. 05-14-25 meeting minutes

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Progress updates on the Tree Inventory & Management Plan, Consumers Energy Renewable Energy Program, Municipal Waste Study, and status updates for the potential pollinator gardens, Environmental Action Plan and the potential addition of statutory ex-officio members.

B. Research on LEED for Cities and Communities

6. NEW BUSINESS

7. CITIZEN COMMENTS (3 MINUTE LIMIT)

8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

9. NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY, 08-13-25 AT 6:00PM

10. ADJOURNMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION 05-14-25
MEETING MINUTES (PREPARED 05-22-25)
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Date: Wednesday, 05-14-25

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 6:03 pm.*

II. Roll Call

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

Absent: *Commissioner Jane Flores*

Staff: *Jeffrey Crow, City of Jackson Engineering*

III. Adoption of the Agenda

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

IV. Approval of the minutes for the 04-16-25 meeting

Motion made by Commissioner Heck Wood and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve the minutes for the 04-16-25 meeting as presented approved unanimously.

V. Old Business

- i. Progress updates on the Tree Inventory & Management Plan, Consumers Energy Renewable Energy Program, Municipal Waste Study, and status updates for the potential pollinator gardens, Environmental Action Plan and the potential addition of statutory ex-officio members.*

Commissioner Kazmier requested that Mr. Crow discuss the progress updates on the above-mentioned items, to which Mr. Crow responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Crow provided the following updates: the consultant performing the Tree Inventory & Management Plan mobilized on 04-21-25 with a target completion date of 10-06-25. The City is currently reviewing the Consumers Energy Renewable Energy Program in preparation for a possible presentation by a Consumers Energy representative, which may be followed by City Council action on a recommendation at the upcoming meeting on June 10, 2025. The Municipal Waste Study is substantially complete, and a mock presentation was given to the Mayor and Vice Mayor on 02-21-25, but the project is currently on hold and awaiting further direction from staff. The Parks and Recreation Department does not currently have plans to develop pollinator gardens on City-owned properties. There are no updates on the adoption of the Environmental Action Plan or the potential addition of statutory ex-officio members to the Commission since these matters were last brought to the Mayor's attention.

ii. Research on LEED for Cities and Communities

Commissioner Kazmier requested Commissioner Heck Wood to share her findings on the topics she selected at the last meeting, to which Commissioner Heck Wood responded in the affirmative.

Commissioner Heck Wood spoke on green building policy and incentives, green spaces and light pollution reduction. She mentioned that while there are up to four points available in the building policy and incentives category, earning any may be challenging if it requires City Council approval for policy changes. As for green spaces, she explained that two points are possible, but unlikely to be achieved since the City appears to have only 10 percent green space, short of the required 15 percent based on mapping data. Lastly, she mentioned that the one point available for light pollution reduction is likely attainable, given the existing lighting standards within the Code of Ordinances, accessible at the following link:

https://library.municode.com/mi/jackson/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIICOOR_CH28_ZO_ARTIVSIBUDEST_S28-109LIST

Commissioner Kazmier requested Commissioner Johnson and Commissioner Kloos to share their findings on the topics they selected at the last meeting, to which both responded in the negative and mentioned that more time is needed. She then asked Commissioner Johnson and Commissioner Kloos to discuss their findings at the next meeting, to which both responded in the affirmative.

VI. New Business

Commissioner Kloos expressed interest in repurposing City-owned vacant lots into recognized pollinator gardens. She mentioned that the vacant property at 1415 First Street could serve as a pilot site if such a program could be established.

Mr. Crow suggested and Commissioner Kloos agreed that Commissioner Kloos will continue to communicate with Community Development Department's Mr. Mays about the possibility of repurposing City-owned vacant lots into recognized pollinator gardens.

VII. Citizen Comments

Mara Mackay at 312 Douglas Street expressed her interest in repurposing the City-owned vacant lot at 1415 First Street into a recognized pollinator garden.

VIII. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Kloos expressed concern that the Environmental Action Plan, dated April 17, 2024, has not yet been presented to the City Council for potential action on a recommendation for approval.

IX. Next Meeting – Wednesday, 06-18-25 at 6:00pm

X. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Kloos and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to adjourn approved unanimously. Meeting ended at 7:08 pm.