



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Wednesday, November 12, 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. 10-15-25 Meeting Minutes

5. OLD BUSINESS

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

B. Research on LEED for Cities and Communities

C. Discussion on Invasive Tree Species and Pest Insects

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of the 2026 Meeting Schedule

7. CITIZEN COMMENTS (3 MINUTE LIMIT)

8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

9. NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY, 01-14-26 AT 6:00PM (NOT YET APPROVED)

10. ADJOURNMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION 10-15-25
MEETING MINUTES (PREPARED 10-29-25)
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Date: Wednesday, 10-15-25

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 6:10 pm.*

II. Roll Call

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

Absent: *Commissioner Kelsey Heck Wood*

Staff: *Jeffrey Crow, City of Jackson Engineering*

III. Adoption of the Agenda

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

IV. Approval of the minutes for the 09-17-25 meeting

Motion made by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Kloos to approve the minutes for the 09-17-25 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 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 is expected to submit their report on 11-03-25. It is likely that Consumers Energy will return for another presentation about their Renewable Energy Program, and council may have the opportunity to approve a contract to enroll into the program, but nothing has been scheduled. There are no new updates on the Municipal Waste Study. The addition of statutory ex-officio members to the Commission is not expected to move forward this year.

Commissioner Kazmier requested that Mr. Crow send the draft Tree Inventory & Management Plan to the Commissioners for review prior to the next Environmental Commission meeting, to which Mr. Crow responded in the affirmative.

ii. Research on LEED for Cities and Communities

None.

VI. New Business

Commissioner Kloos raised concerns about an invasive tree species identified as “Tree of Heaven” that she observed along her private fence line, along with the presence of spotted lanternflies, which she demonstrated by bringing captured flies to the meeting. She also mentioned that she briefly spoke with Ms. Hoover from the Department of Parks and Recreation about whether there is a specific standard operating procedure for invasive trees in city parks, to which only the state and county guidelines were identified.

Commissioner Johnson briefly reviewed the relevant City Ordinance, Sec. 26-75 linked below, regarding the responsibilities of owners and occupants for managing invasive tree species on private property.
https://library.municode.com/mi/jackson/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIICOOR_CH26VE_ARTII_IREGRNOWESHTRPROWPR_S26-75CUREGRNOWERAVETRDUOWOC

Commissioner Kloos and Commissioner Kazmier discussed the tree species “Tree of Heaven,” mentioning that it can regrow after being cut and releases chemicals that suppress the growth of nearby plants.

Commissioner Kazmier mentioned that programs to eradicate invasive species are costly and may need grant funding. She suggested that an interim program may include implementing a training program for Department of Public Works staff to help identify and monitor invasive tree species on City-owned property. She also suggested implementing a pesticide treatment program to help control the spread of invasive species.

Commissioner Kloos requested that Mr. Crow notify the City Forestry Department of her observations regarding “Tree of Heaven” and spotted lanternflies, to which Mr. Crow responded in the affirmative.

Commissioner Kazmier requested that Commissioner Kloos report her observations to the appropriate state board, to which Commissioner Kloos responded in the affirmative.

VII. Citizen Comments

Ms. Mara Mackay of 312 Douglas Street expressed interest in converting City-owned vacant lots too small for residential use into designated pocket pollinator gardens. To support this idea, she prepared three draft documents: a brochure defining pocket parks, a Memorandum of Understanding outlining the program's purpose, and a project overview document describing goals, benefits, partnerships, site criteria, design standards, and a schedule to implement a pilot program. She asked the commissioners to provide feedback on the draft documents at the next meeting, to which Commissioner Kazmier, Commissioner Kloos, and Commissioner Johnson responded in the affirmative.

VIII. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Kloos discussed the importance of conducting annual environmental initiatives, including "No Mow May" and the City's Arbor Day proclamation, to which Commissioner Kazmier and Commissioner Johnson responded in the affirmative.

IX. Next Meeting – Wednesday, 11-12-25 at 6:00pm

X. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Kloos to adjourn approved unanimously. Meeting ended at 7:16 pm.

CITY OF JACKSON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
2026 MEETING SCHEDULE (NOT APPROVED)
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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 14, 2026

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

Wednesday, May 13, 2026

Wednesday, June 17, 2026

Wednesday, August 12, 2026

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

Wednesday, October 14, 2026

Wednesday, November 18, 2026