

# Roseville Public Works, Environment and Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes

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Tuesday, May 24, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.  
City Council Chambers, 2660 Civic Center Drive  
Roseville, Minnesota 55113

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## 1. Introduction / Roll Call

Chair Ficek called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. and at his request, City Engineer/Assistant Public Works Director Jesse Freihammer called the roll.

**Present:** Chair Bryant Ficek; Vice Chair Michael Joyce; and Members Jarrod Cicha, Nancy Misra, Mike Collins, and Edwin Hodder

**Absent:** Member Shane Spencer (Excused)

**Staff Present:** City Engineer/Assistant Public Works Director Jesse Freihammer; and Environmental Specialist Ryan Johnson

## 2. Public Comments

Chair Ficek reminded the public of upcoming events in the City in June.

## 3. Approval of April 26, 2022 Meeting Minutes

*Comments and corrections to draft minutes had been submitted by PWETC commissioners prior to tonight's meeting and those revisions incorporated into the draft presented in meeting materials.*

### **Motion**

**Member Joyce moved, Member Hodder seconded, approval of the April 26, 2022 meeting minutes as presented.**

**Ayes: 6**

**Nays: 0**

**Motion carried.**

## 4. Communication Items

City Engineer Jesse Freihammer provided a brief review and update on projects and maintenance activities listed in the staff report dated May 24, 2022.

Environmental Specialist Ryan Johnson updated the Commission on sustainability.

Chair Ficek asked for more information on the B2/Lexington project.

Mr. Freihammer reviewed the project with the Commission.

Chair Ficek asked what the reluctance was of the businesses when asked for their comments.

Mr. Johnson explained the biggest thing the City ran into was the businesses were mainly tenants. Staff was going door to door and the businesses that were leasing space had some interest and would try to work with the property owner. There was interest at the local level but the business could not make the improvements or did not want to make the improvements because the tenant would not see the actual benefit in the end. He indicated Roseville has a lot of those types of buildings where the businesses are leasing.

Member Joyce asked if there is a building code on the wind source and is it residentially feasible to do that.

Mr. Johnson explained what they would be signing up for wind source is to buy into a wind farm that the utility company built. A resident could buy a certain number of blocks that would reduce the energy use from the fossil fuel side.

Member Joyce indicated he has seen some turbines in St. Paul and wondered if Roseville has any restrictions on them.

Mr. Johnson thought the City did have some building codes that would make putting up the turbines a little more difficult. He indicated staff made the whole solar permitting side as easily as they could through SolaSmart but he did not know if the City has ever been approached for actually doing any kind of windmill on any of the properties in the City.

Member Misra wondered if there was any way to leverage the success on those businesses to draw more people in and use those businesses as examples.

Mr. Johnson explained staff will be getting the final numbers in from Xcel and will report back to staff about the audit results. Once staff gets that information then it will be promoted to all the businesses.

Member Hodder thought the City newspaper, the City news, there is a business section in there that might be a good place to highlight those successes as well. He thought that was a good source of information City wide.

Member Hodder asked how the solar gardens were working and if it was similar to wind source that is done.

Mr. Johnson explained the solar source is like the wind source in the fact that it is a subscription-based program.

Chair Ficek asked if a business that does the energy audit ever become references for the City so another business could call that business and hear the information from them rather than from a City official.

Mr. Johnson explained everyone that has done the audit the City has received contact information for that purpose and as long as the business is willing to be a reference the City will provide it.

#### **5. Annual MS4 Stormwater Public meeting**

Environmental Specialist Ryan Johnson made a presentation to the Commission on the Annual MS4 Stormwater report.

Member Misra asked if staff has ever found things that are of concern when testing ponds for contamination.

Mr. Johnson explained there really has not been anything other than a car being pulled out of a pond. He explained the pollutants that are tested for, nothing surprises him at that point. It is the new emerging components that worry him more because at this point there is no known way to get rid of them.

Mr. Johnson continued with his presentation. He answered Commission questions regarding clean up and the process the City takes to keep ponds and lakes clean.

Chair Ficek asked if the clean up is making a difference and is the City seeing an improvement.

Mr. Johnson indicated it is and the City is seeing improvements in the ponds and lakes. He indicated things have plateaued and things are not getting worse. The City is starting to see a slower decline and making headway in meeting some of the waste load allocations. He indicated things are going in the right direction.

#### **6. Update on Stormwater Projects**

Environmental Specialist Ryan Johnson updated the Commission on stormwater projects in the City.

Chair Ficek thanked Mr. Johnson for the update.

#### **7. Items for Next Meeting – June 28, 2022**

Discussion ensued regarding the June PWETC agenda:

- City Council Joint Meeting on July 11, 2022.
- Commission name change with City Council
- Metro Transit Roseville update

**8. Adjourn**

**Motion**

**Member Misra moved, Member Cicha seconded, adjournment of the meeting at approximately 8:22 p.m.**

**Ayes: 6**

**Nays: 0**

**Motion carried.**