

CITY OF COUNTRYSIDE

*803 Joliet Road
Countryside, IL 60525
www.countryside-il.org*



Meeting Minutes SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Monday, January 29, 2024

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

Committee Members

Chairman Musillami

Alderman Finn

Alderman Mikolyzk

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Sustainability Committee meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Chairman Musillami, Alderman Finn, Alderman Mikolyzk

Also Present: Alderman Frohlich, City Administrator Paul, and Deputy Clerk Saucedo.

3. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC.

None.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 13, 2023 SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING.

4.a. The minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 13, 2023 were previously distributed to the members of the Sustainability Committee.

Alderman Finn made a motion to approve the minutes of the Sustainability Committee meeting of September 13, 2023. The motion was seconded by Alderman Mikolyzk and carried unanimously.

5. BUSINESS FROM THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE FOR DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND IF SO DETERMINED, ACTION UPON:**5.a. Review of the Annual Report of Sustainable Accomplishments and Goals for 2024.**

City Administrator Paul stated that the Sustainability Plan includes an annual review of Sustainable accomplishments and initiatives for the following eighteen months. The annual accomplishments for 2023 are:

- * We partnered with other local governments to achieve sustainability by coordinating our efforts with Ideal School and Flagg Creek Golf Course in 2022 and 2023 for the installation and maintenance of the pollinator gardens.

- * Educated the community about recycling and composting practices with an article the Winter Newsletter.

- * Educated and encouraged the community to reduce waste by consuming less and reusing items. The article was appeared in the Winter Newsletter.

* Reviewed prairie, wetlands, forest, and other important ecosystems to assess restoration efforts. No projects were identified by staff.

* Informed the community about the Air Quality Index. This article was in the Spring Newsletter.

* Conduct an energy audit. An energy audit of the Pump House, ESDA Building, and Flagg Creek Clubhouse was conducted through the ComEd Energy Efficiency program. The City received \$44,000 of incentives from ComEd towards the cost of the improvements, which included LED light fixtures, lighting controls, and HVAC upgrades.

* Utilize energy management expertise. The City worked with Maxson Heating and Air Conditioning and Quiet Light Solutions through the ComEd Energy Efficiency program. These vendors estimated the City would save almost \$9,000 in energy annually.

The initiatives for 2024 were reviewed and discussed. The initiatives are broken down into 3 tiers. Tier 1 initiatives are scheduled to be completed in 6 months; Tier 2 – 12 months; and Tier 3 – 18 months. These initiatives have been spread among the departments.

5.b. Discussion on No Mow 'Til Mother's Day.

Deputy Clerk Cordova stated that this program began last year and it invites residents to avoid mowing their lawn or a portion of their lawn until the first week in May. The program is designed to help support the local ecology, the habitats of pollinators and area wildlife. We had seventy-four resident's sign up for the program last year.

The property owners/occupants are able to sign up on the City's website to participate in the program. The program is advertised three ways, on Facebook, the City Newsletter, and through eblast news. The Clerk's Office will accept applications through April 1, 2024. Once approved the Department of Public Works will deliver and install the yard signs on private property at no cost to the resident. The signs will help Code Enforcement to recognize program participants and not issue citations for long grass and weeds. Regular Code Enforcement would continue one week after Mother's Day.

The Committee agreed to implement the No Mow 'Til Mother's Day program again for 2024.

6. OTHER COMMITTEE BUSINESS

None.

7. ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Mikolyzk asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Finn, seconded by Alderman Finn and carried unanimously.

Chairman Musillami declared the meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

APPROVED:

Respectfully Submitted,

Chairman, Scott Musillami

/km