

**MAHTOMEDI ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
MINUTES
MARCH 19, 2018**

A regular meeting of the Mahtomedi Environmental Commission was held on Monday, March 19, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at Mahtomedi City Hall.

Present were Commission Members: Chair Mike Chevalier, Christine Ahmann Maples, Kimberly Byrd, Kevin Toskey, Scott Peterson and Ray Bissonnette.

Also present were: City Council member Jeff Ledermann, Solar United Neighbors of Minnesota Representative Virginia Rutter, School District Representative Margaret Mesick, Conservation Minnesota Community Coordinator Julie Drennen, City Administrator Scott Neilson, and Office Assistant Luann Tembreull.

AGENDA

Upon motion by Commissioner Bissonnette, seconded by Commissioner Toskey, all members voting in favor, the agenda was approved as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Commissioner Ahmann-Maples, seconded by Commissioner Byrd, all members voting in favor, the February 13, 2018 minutes were approved as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

Solar United Neighbors of Minnesota – Virginia Rutter

Ms. Rutter stated that she works for this non-profit organization based out of Washington D. C. and that they provide technical assistance and support of roof-top solar installation. They would acquire quotes from at least 3 installers and that her fees are paid for by the chosen installer. She noted that the best pricing is through “Bulk Purchase”, which requires 50 – 100 neighbors interested in installing solar roof-tops. However, each installation is tailored to the individual roof.

Ms. Rutter noted that businesses can participate as well and that there are several incentives for businesses at this time.

After some discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission that a future date should be set for Solar United Neighbors of Minnesota to hold an informational presentation at a city sponsored event and that this event be promoted at the April 28th Rite of Spring.

Chair Chevalier volunteered to create a flyer once a date is set for the presentation.

OLD BUSINESS

RITE of Spring Update

After much discussion, it was reiterated that the following has been confirmed:

- Trailer outside for donation of bikes
- Bee Keeping representative
- City representative promoting paperless utility payments
- Give-a-way rain barrel
- Partners In Energy
- Dan Schoepke / Wash. Co. – make & take
- Costa Farms

It was suggested to create “RITE of Spring” face book and promote the event in the White Bear Press.

University of Minnesota Students Sustainability Class

Commissioner Byrd stated that the students have started interviews with City of Mahtomedi contacts. Administrator Neilson noted that Public Works Director, Bob Goebel, is gathering information for the class.

Climate Change Resolution – Commissioner Toskey

Commissioner Toskey handed out his revised Climate Change Resolution. (See Attachment A)

After some discussion, upon motion by Commissioner Ahmann-Maples, seconded by Commissioner Toskey, all members voting in favor, the commission recommends the City Council adopt this resolution.

Partners in Energy Update

Administrator Neilson stated that the City Council approved the implementation of the city “Buy Down” for homeowners who acquire a Home Energy Audit at a maximum of \$50 for each and that there is \$10,000 available for this program.

RFP Committee for Recycling Contract

Administrator Neilson stated that he is looking for commission volunteers to serve on a review committee. Commission members Ahmann-Maples and Toskey along with Chair Chevalier and Council member Ledermann volunteered to serve on this committee.

FUTURE COMMISSION ITEMS

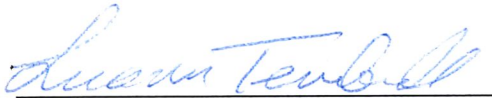
The following items will be on the next Environmental Commission agenda:

- RITE of Spring
- University of Minnesota Students Sustainability Class
- Solar United Neighbors of Minnesota

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Commissioner Ahmann-Maples, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, all members voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Luann Tembreull, Office Assistant

**CITY OF MAHTOMEDI
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
RESOLUTION NO. 2018-??**

**A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING COMMITMENT BY THE CITY OF MAHTOMEDI TO
ACHIEVE CARBON NEUTRALITY BY 2050 IN ORDER TO PROTECT FUTURE
GENERATIONS FROM THE RISKS OF CLIMATE DESTRUCTION**

WHEREAS, 195 countries, including the United States and every country that is a member of the United Nations, reached an agreement in Paris, France on December 12, 2015, that recognizes the risk to our children's and grandchildren's future from climate change;

WHEREAS, the greatest burden resulting from an inadequate response to the climate crisis will be carried by the youngest generation, and all who follow;

WHEREAS, the risks from an inadequate response are potentially devastating, and including economic disruptions many of which are already being felt such as more severe storms, longer and hotter heat waves, worsening flood and drought cycles, growing invasive species and insect problems, accelerated species extinction rates, rising sea levels, increased wildfires, and a dramatic increase in refugees from climate-impacted lands. These effects are felt globally but will also impact us a local level with changes to Mahtomedi's tree habitat, open spaces, wetlands, and lakes, including White Bear Lake;

WHEREAS, we are global citizens who fully acknowledge that Western-developed nations are most responsible for carbon pollution, but the most severe consequences of climate change will occur in the least-developed nations of the world. Because the world's poor are often the least able to respond or prepare for problems with agricultural yields, natural disasters, ecosystem degradation, and sea-level rise, continued carbon emissions will severely limit our ability to reach the global goal of eliminating poverty worldwide, and may instead lead to increases in food, water, and displacement crises, and an influx of refugees from climate-impacted lands;

WHEREAS, leading climate scientists have indicated that further delay in significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions will rapidly push humanity past the point where disastrous consequences can be avoided;

WHEREAS, numerous government and non-governmental bodies across the nation, including many municipalities in the State of Minnesota, have adopted climate action plans or taken other concrete steps to immediately and rapidly reduce greenhouse gas emissions while also stopping them entirely within 30 years;

WHEREAS, Chapter 8 of the City of Mahtomedi's 2040 Comprehensive Plan, titled "Sustainability," states that "it is important that future planning and development promote healthy living opportunities, sustainable energy infrastructure, the use of renewable resources, preservation and protection of natural resources, and resiliency practices in decision making throughout the community";

WHEREAS, the City of Mahtomedi has taken steps to address its greenhouse gas emissions by endorsing Mayor Marshall's signing of the U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement in 2006, creating an Environmental Commission in 2008, adopting a Sustainability Plan in 2011, and joining the Minnesota GreenStep Cities Program, advancing to Level 3 of that program in 2014;

WHEREAS, the City of Mahtomedi was awarded a grant by Xcel Energy to participate in its Partners in Energy Program, designed to reduce energy consumption, especially carbon-based energy, in a collaborative effort between the City of Mahtomedi, Xcel energy, local business and religious institutions, and residents of the City of Mahtomedi. As part of that program, the City of Mahtomedi and Xcel Energy adopted an Energy Action Plan with the stated goal of achieving a 30 percent reduction in energy-related greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and a 100 percent reduction (carbon neutrality) by 2050.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mahtomedi City Council is committed to a 30 percent reduction in energy-related greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and a 100 percent reduction (carbon neutrality) by 2050, and will make reduction of greenhouse gas emissions a high-priority factor, together with other relevant considerations, in daily operations and strategic planning for purchasing, transportation, land use, and other decisions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mahtomedi City Council urges the Minnesota Legislature and United States Congress to sponsor and support measures that acknowledge the serious threat posed by climate change, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in a clear, transparent, and effective way.