

Environmental Sustainability Committee Meeting

Date: Monday, July 26, 2023

Topic: Green Fleet Policy, Solar Updates, and Mission Statement

Committee members present: Alderman Barbagallo, Alderman McCann, Alderwoman Tadio

Others present: Mayor Doenges, Alderman Talbott, Alderwoman Davis, Treasurer Markowski, Kim Peters, Tyler Dahlin

Meeting was called to order at 5:31pm.

The purpose of the meeting was to finalize our Green Fleet Policy, finalize our Mission Statement, and get an update on our solar plans. Alderwoman Tadio explained the intention behind the Green Fleet Policy is to take an inventory of all city owned vehicles and equipment and then when vehicles are up for replacement, the department head or person in charge, will seriously consider more fuel efficient or electric alternatives and options.

Tyler spoke about the equipment that the Recreation Department uses and discussed the company Torro and what they offer for electric equipment. He stressed the need for the same production value if replacing mowers and weed whackers. The Recreation Department is working on a pilot program in the downtown for the city's beautification program where they will use some electric equipment because it is quieter and pollutes less. The cost for replacing equipment will come out of the line item for the equipment replacement fund.

Alderman Barbagallo suggested that grant money might be available to help the city offset some of the costs. Alderwoman Tadio stressed that this is a fact-finding mission and the first stage is gathering an inventory of vehicles so that when the time comes to replace equipment and vehicles we can make informed decisions. Once we have a record of all the city owned vehicles then when vehicles are up for replacement, city department heads can consider environmentally friendly alternatives.

Mayor Doenges gave an update on our solar plans. The city has applied for a \$4,000 Municipal Energy Resilience Program grant. We also applied for the Energy Efficiency and Block Grant and are waiting to hear back.

We finished our mission statement, which is primarily for informational purposes, and we will post this on our website so that people know what the Environmental Sustainability Committee is and what type of work we complete.

**A motion was made to adopt the Rutland City Green Fleet Policy.
Motion passed 3-0.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:07pm.