

**Roseville Public Works, Environment and  
Transportation Commission**

**Agenda Item**

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**Date:** February 28, 2023

**Item No:** 3

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**Item Description:** Approval of the January 24, 2023 Public Works Commission Minutes

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Attached are the minutes from the January 24, 2023 meeting.

**Recommended Action:**

Motion approving the minutes of January 24, 2023, subject to any necessary corrections or revision.

Move: \_\_\_\_\_

Second: \_\_\_\_\_

Ayes: \_\_\_\_\_

Nays: \_\_\_\_\_

**Roseville Public Works, Environment  
and Transportation Commission  
Meeting Minutes**

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Tuesday, January 24, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.  
City Council Chambers, 2660 Civic Center Drive  
Roseville, Minnesota 55113

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1       **1. Introduction / Roll Call**

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

4  
5       **Present:**       Chair Bryant Ficek; and Members Michael Joyce, Jarrod Cicha,  
6       Nancy Misra, Mike Collins, and Edwin Hodder

7  
8       **Absent:**       Member Allison Luongo (Excused)

9  
10       **Staff Present:**   Public Works Director Jesse Freihammer; Environmental  
11       Manager Ryan Johnson and Sustainability Intern Noelle  
12       Bakken

13  
14       **2. Public Comments**

15       None.

16  
17       **3. Approval of November 22, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

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

21  
22       **Motion**

23       **Member Hodder moved, Member Collins seconded, approval of the**  
24       **November 22, 2022 meeting minutes as presented.**

25  
26       **Ayes: 6**

27       **Nays: 0**

28       **Motion carried.**

29  
30       **4. Communication Items**

31       Public Works Director Jesse Freihammer provided a brief review and update on  
32       projects and maintenance activities listed in the staff report dated January 24, 2023.

34 Chair Ficek asked with the above average snow there are a lot of piles building up  
35 by the corners and he wondered how that affects sight distances. He was not sure if  
36 there is a plan for this or if there should be because there is a lot of accumulation  
37 occurring.

38  
39 Mr. Freihammer explained staff has, in most areas, tried to bench back, plowing  
40 over the curb to create more storage space for the next event and in most cases that  
41 does help to clear up sight visibility. If there are complaints staff does go and blow  
42 snow to open things up. He indicated he has not heard much regarding sight  
43 visibility on any particular corner.

44  
45 Chair Ficek thought all of the plow drivers are doing excellent work. He noted he  
46 has been happy with it but does see it on some of the corners, but he thought that  
47 might be on County roads.

48  
49 Chair Ficek asked on the Dale Street project if there is a layout because he is  
50 particularly interested in some of the areas of Roseville where there is not a whole  
51 lot of access.

52  
53 Mr. Freihammer indicated there is a layout. The last layout he saw there is a center  
54 lane left turn running the length of the project.

55  
56 Mr. Freihammer indicated he will provide the Commission with an Envision  
57 Roseville update at the next meeting.

58

##### 59 **5. Green Team Update**

60 Environmental Manager Ryan Johnson and Sustainability Intern Noelle Bakken  
61 provided the annual Green Team update to the Commission.

62  
63 Member Misra asked how the 2040 Comp Plan energy goals graph will change  
64 once the project goes through in Washington County.

65  
66 Mr. Johnson explained that the graph, the fifty-eight percent produced in 2021 will  
67 jump up at least to three million. That will jump up almost ninety percent renewable  
68 just for City operations. This is really only looking at City Hall Campus and where  
69 the big draw is for electricity all of the time.

70  
71 Mr. Johnson continued with his presentation on EV charging and Less Mow May.

72  
73 Chair Ficek asked if there are going to be signs that people can pick up for Less  
74 Mow May.

75  
76 Mr. Johnson indicated there will be signs available at City Hall and will be a limited  
77 number for residents.

78  
79

80 **6. 2023 Sustainability Update**

81 Ms. Noelle Bakken made a presentation on sustainability program  
82 accomplishments that the City has worked on over the year.

83  
84 Member Misra loved the list of goals for 2023 and all topics being talked about.  
85 One topic she was curious about was a presentation the Commission received a few  
86 years ago about sod and irrigation and changes in lawn management to diminish  
87 water use and she wondered if that was anything staff talked about in terms of a  
88 goal to have residents look at their irrigation practices and look at maybe different  
89 types of sod that might be more sustainable.

90  
91 Ms. Bakken thought Less Mow May would be a great opportunity to bring that in.  
92 She thought it would be an interesting engagement to have the U of M  
93 representatives come on site for some education to talk to people about different  
94 water-friendly lawn care practices as well as having some pollinator plant  
95 information alongside that as well.

96  
97 Mr. Dale Howey, 911 Parker Avenue, explained he has a native lawn in their front  
98 yard and did not have to water it at all this past year. He also noted this brings in  
99 the pollinators and wildlife as well. He explained there are about six pollinator  
100 yards on Parker Avenue between Victoria and Lexington. It might be interesting  
101 to take a field trip to see what is going on.

102  
103 Ms. Bakken explained that is kind of the point of the City's sustainable steward  
104 program. It recognizes these people who are doing these kinds of things and the  
105 ultimate goal with that is to create a little community map of where all of these  
106 resources are so if people wanted to go out and see an example of a pollinator yard  
107 or rain garden or solar on the roof or something like that, people can walk around  
108 and see them.

109  
110 Member Collins asked regarding stormwater runoff near gas stations and filling  
111 stations, there is an excessive amount of fuel and spillage running right into the  
112 gutter and he wondered if there has ever been a study done upstream and  
113 downstream of that and if there has ever been any correlation between the business  
114 and the City.

115  
116 Ms. Bakken did not think there has actually been a study done as far as specifically  
117 runoff from gas stations but she did know there are water quality checks that are  
118 done regularly.

119  
120 Mr. Johnson indicated at some point in time there would have been some report  
121 done from the PCA or somebody similar. He knew that the City has not done  
122 anything specific.

123  
124 Member Hodder indicated he did not hear anything in the report about geothermal  
125 and he wondered if the City tracks how their geothermal facilities are doing. He

126 also would be really curious to see if the City is getting what was promised, as far  
127 as savings, on the solar campus and how this can be expanded. He thought it would  
128 also be nice for residents to get some education on financing of solar.

129  
130 Ms. Bakken thought those are some good suggestions for staff.

131  
132 Member Cicha explained he was curious if the City or Green Team has done any  
133 research on the mono-pollution or mono-road wear that would be prevented by  
134 switching to organized trash collection. He would really appreciate a pursuit of  
135 that.

136  
137 Ms. Bakken knew there was a lot of support in the community so staff will do more  
138 digging on that this year.

139  
140 Ms. Carol Marshall, 2976 High Court, indicated she was making a plug for the  
141 Urban Forestry topic, and she hoped Roseville will pay attention to some of the low  
142 income areas in the City that lack trees and actually support tree canopy growth,  
143 perhaps with grant money.

144  
145 Chair Ficek explained he was excited to see how staff is going to get the information  
146 out to the residents. He thanked staff for the update.

147  
148 **7. Items for Next Meeting – February 2023**

149 Discussion ensued regarding the February PWETC agenda:

- 150 ■ Deeper dive into a sustainability item
- 151 ■ Utility service: water and sewer services

152  
153 Mr. Freihammer noted Jennifer Lowry is going to be the City's new City Engineer.  
154 He reviewed her background with the Commission. He would like to move the  
155 update on speed limits to March in order for the new City Engineer to be at the  
156 meeting and get her perspective on that.

157  
158 Member Hodder thought the Commission might want to look further at the  
159 sustainability in the City.

160  
161 Member Joyce thought maybe have information on the Metro Transit ridership  
162 routes.

163  
164 Mr. Freihammer thought that might be a good topic to try to get someone from  
165 Metro Transit to come in and make a presentation to the Commission.

166  
167 Chair Ficek thought another thing to talk about regarding sustainability is how to  
168 get information out to residents and businesses for the inflation reduction act and  
169 how it translates down to individuals.

170  
171 Member Joyce thought food containers could also be discussed.

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Mr. Freihammer noted the food container topic will be going to the City Council at a future meeting for a recommendation.

**8. Adjourn**

**Motion**

**Member Cicha moved, Member Hodder seconded, adjournment of the meeting at approximately 8:23 p.m.**

**Ayes: 6**

**Nays: 0**

**Motion carried.**

DRAFT