

# Roseville Public Works, Environment and Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes

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Tuesday, June 22, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.  
City Council Chambers, 2660 Civic Center Drive  
Roseville, Minnesota 55113

*Pursuant to Minn. Stat. 13.D.021, Public Works, Environment  
and Transportation Commission members, City Staff, and members of the  
public participated in this meeting electronically due to the  
COVID-19 pandemic.*

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## 1. Introduction / Roll Call

Chair Wozniak called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. and at his request, Public Works Director Marc Culver called the roll.

**Present:** Chair Joe Wozniak; Vice Chair Bryant Ficek; and Members Michael Joyce, Jarrod Cicha, Nancy Misra, and Shane Spencer

**Absent:** Youth Member Jana Lynch (Excused)

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

## 2. Public Comments

None.

## 3. Approval of May 25, 2021 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.*

Public Work Director Marc Culver indicated there were a couple of changes sent into staff for minutes corrections which have been made.

Member Misra indicated she had a couple of corrections. The first correction was on line 406, there is a reference to "conservative nature", and she thought what she was getting at in that sentence was "conservation", the support for conservation.

She indicated the second correction was on line 409, the word should be changed from “empathetical” to “antithetical”. She noted on line 411 “base” should be changed to “waste”.

**Motion**

**Member Ficek moved, Member Joyce seconded, approval of the May 25, 2021 meeting minutes as amended.**

**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 June 22, 2021

Member Spencer asked what the delay was for the B2 project.

Mr. Freihammer explained the project has not been bid.

Vice Chair Ficek hoped the State budget passes soon but he asked Mr. Freihammer to give a broad overview of the impact a State shutdown would have on the City projects.

Mr. Freihammer indicated the only project the City has State funding type two is the pavement management project. He indicated the City does have some State Aid funds and normally the City relies on the State for testing, etc. If the State does go into shutdown the City has a consultant on board to do testing but normally the City has MnDOT do plant inspections so the City would have the consultant also do the plant inspections. The City should be able to continue with most of the work. The other big project that would impact Roseville is the 35W project.

Mr. Culver reviewed the Energy Action Plan and indicated the City Council did approve the recycling contract with the proposal the Commission recommended.

Member Misra thought Xcel Energy did a good job of recognizing Roseville’s needs and the group responded well.

Chair Wozniak thought Commissioner Misra and others did a good job of expressing and formulating those needs. He thought Mr. Culver did a good job of discussing those in the City who are challenged to pay their utility bills.

Mr. Culver explained at the last City Council meeting the Department Heads made a presentation about equity and diversity efforts and initiatives at the City. He reviewed the items discussed. He noted he highlighted the energy burden component of the Energy Action Plan and how that does and will help some of

those underrepresented areas and communities within Roseville and that will help towards those equity and diversity efforts as well. He pointed out how impressed he was how that came up organically through the process of the Energy Action Team and everything and how it spotlights and highlights how much of those items are true values of the community for that to come out of their process organically.

Chair Wozniak explained one other thing the Council discussed last night was whether or not to fill the vacancy on this Commission and the Council decided to wait until the next round of applications with the thought being that the City wants to try to get better representation among all people in the City on the Commission.

Mr. Culver thought the Council will do a formal solicitation in August with the intent of filling the vacancies in September. He indicated the City is fully anticipating that the emergency order will be ended at the next special session in July or before. There would be a need for a special session where the City anticipates the Governor will release his emergency powers and at that point the open meeting laws will go back into full effect and the Commission will have to meet in person. He noted there are some exemptions for individuals within a sixty-day window of that, which he can address offline, if needed. The expectation will be that the Commission will meet in person in the Council Chambers on Tuesday, July 27<sup>th</sup>.

#### **5. MS4 Annual Meeting**

Mr. Johnson made a presentation to the Commission on the 2020 MS4 Annual meeting. He noted the Commission is required to receive public comment and feedback regarding the City's proposed Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), and past year's report.

Member Joyce thanked Mr. Johnson for the presentation. He explained he was wondering about bacteria testing and is that something the City does or the County that monitors lakes.

Mr. Johnson explained this is not something the City does; it is something the County tests. The County has a lab that does a lot of the water quality testing. One of the things the County looks for is e coli at McCarrons, where the beach then gets shut down. That is all run through Ramsey County and the way the County runs their water quality testing lab. The City works with the County if there are questions or tests needed to be run.

Member Spencer indicated the one pond layout shown in the presentation was on Fairview, he wondered if this were to be dredged to eight feet, would the City have to do anything differently such as cordon it off and put a fence around it. He was wondering because if dredged the pond could be fairly deep and a hazard for people or is there a point where the City will not go past because then it would make for a safety concern.

Mr. Johnson explained the pond in the presentation already has a fence around it. Under a lot of circumstances, it is not so much the wetland side, but lakes are a lot deeper so if there is a pond and it does end up getting deeper because the City dredges it, they do not typically go past six to eight feet because a lot of the designs historically have been to dig the pond out to six feet in order for mixing to occur.

Member Spencer explained on the water heat map, under the bridge at Fairview there is a problem and can become a huge problem during rain events. With the construction that might happen at the mall, is there any consideration of going into that area and doing some work to mitigate the water pooling there or something to get the water away from that area faster.

Mr. Johnson explained with that model, the City tries to be as proactive as possible. With anything that does happen at Rosedale, they will have to do some sort of stormwater project anyway, there are already six stormwater projects already installed on the property, which does have a big benefit for the City because it is slowing that water down and some of the water from the Fairview/36 corridor can move through there a little faster and not be as impeded as it is now.

Member Cicha asked if the City is working toward a certain goal for this entire system to be able to handle a twenty year or twenty-five-year storm.

Mr. Johnson explained the current design standards for storm sewers are the ten-year events. The new storm sewer that goes in will try to meet that.

Member Misra asked regarding the issues that pertain to the residential contributions, such as grass clippings, she wondered what the primary ways of dealing with them and how effective those ways were.

Mr. Johnson indicated primarily it is a lot of education and outreach. Staff tries to have communications do the seasonal letters to residents about grass clippings and fertilizers as well as leaves and trying to keep the storm drains clear. The City does have a couple of ordinances that staff can use as well.

Chair Wozniak asked if there are requirements that private owners of stormwater facilities maintain them.

Mr. Johnson explained the privately owned stormwater systems are what the City has been targeting over the last few years. Staff has been trying to get information in front of them about what the residents need to do and how to do it. The City has a whole private BMP maintenance program going on with a webpage set up for it.

Chair Wozniak asked if the City has considered any effort to try and post signs in parks or provide pet waste bags for park users to try and encourage cleaning up pet waste.

Mr. Johnson explained that is actually a good point and the City is working on that this year. He reviewed what staff is trying to do in the parks this summer in order to come up with a plan to implement in 2022.

Chair Wozniak asked in regard to salt use, he knew that Roseville has been looking at alternatives to granular salt to try and control icing in terms of using alternatives like beef brine and other applications and saw staff is tracking how much is used but is there any concern that there may be a restriction on how much salt can be applied given the effect it is starting to have on water quality.

Mr. Johnson did not think it would actually get to the point of putting a restriction on how much can be used because it will end up coming down to safety and the municipalities and the other road authorities are going to use what they have to use given the conditions to make a safe driving surface. The PCA is pushing for education and making sure that the applicators are trained.

### **Public Comment**

Chair Wozniak offered an opportunity for public comment with no one coming forward.

Chair Wozniak thanked Mr. Johnson for his presentation.

#### **6. City Council Joint Meeting Preparation**

Mr. Culver explained the PWETC is scheduled to meet with the City Council for its annual joint meeting which is scheduled for July 19, 2021. He asked the Commission to make a list of topics to discuss with the City Council and staff will include them in the July 19<sup>th</sup> Council packet.

The Commission discussed possible topics and came up with the following for the joint meeting discussion:

Activities and accomplishments:

- Partners in Energy
- Energy Action Plan
- City achieving GreenStep five and sustainability
- Greenhouse Gas reduction in the Comp. Plan as well as encouraging solar and alternative forms of energy
- Campus solar program
- Current efforts to benchmark energy, Will Ristow and his work
- Organic drop off
- Commission work on the utility rates, water tiering
- Recycling contract and the RFP
- MS4 Annual meeting
- Sustainability Super meetings
- Progress on the Pathways Plan

Work Plan items for the upcoming year:

- Communications piece with residents and business members
- Engagement with under-represented communities and how can the Commission accomplish this
- New pavement management techniques
- Transit and transportation
  - Electric vehicles and charging stations
  - Trends in transit, discussion with Metro Transit
- Civic Campus Master Plan
- Crosswalk Policy and Bikeway Network Plan

Questions or Concerns for the City Council:

- Should environment be split off from the Commission
- How will the Partners in Energy activities going forward going to be interfacing with the Commission or with the City Council
- Redevelopment Traffic Study and guideline review

#### **7. Items for Next Meeting – July 27, 2021**

Discussion ensued regarding the July PWETC agenda:

- Review of Joint Meeting with City Council
- Pathway Master Plan Proposed Amendments and Receive Public Input
- Set up preliminary work plan through June 2022

#### **8. Adjourn**

**Motion**

**Member Misra moved, Member Spencer seconded, adjournment of the meeting at approximately 8:42 p.m.**

**Ayes: 6**

**Nays: 0**

**Motion carried.**