

Minutes of the

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 14, 2020

Committee Members Present:

Peter Lindstrom, Chair; Wendy Wulff, Vice Chair; Kris Fredson; Phillip Sterner; Susan Vento; Raymond Zeran

Committee Members Absent:

None

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Lindstrom called the regular meeting of the Council's Environment Committee to order at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14, 2020 with the following roll call:

Aye: 6 Lindstrom, Wulff, Fredson, Vento, Sterner, Zeran
Nay: 0
Absent: 0

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Sterner, seconded by Wulff to approve the agenda.

Aye: 6 Lindstrom, Wulff, Fredson, Vento, Sterner, Zeran
Nay: 0
Absent: 0

Motion carried.

It was moved by Vento, seconded by Wulff to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2020, regular meeting of the Environment Committee.

Aye: 6 Lindstrom, Wulff, Fredson, Vento, Sterner, Zeran
Nay: 0
Absent: 0

Motion carried.

CONSENT BUSINESS

Approval of the Consent Agenda (Items 2020-86 JT, 2020-91 JT, 2020-93 JT, and 2020-96 JT)

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Vento to approve the consent agenda business items.

Aye: 6 Lindstrom, Wulff, Fredson, Vento, Sterner, Zeran
Nay: 0
Absent: 0

Motion carried.

1. 2020-86 JT: Wayzata 2040 Comprehensive Plan and Comprehensive Sewer Plan, Review File 22314-1

That the Metropolitan Council adopt the Advisory Comments and Review Record attached to the business item and take the following action:

Recommendations of the Environment Committee:

1. Approve the City of Wayzata's Comprehensive Sewer Plan.
2. 2020-91 JT: City of St. Anthony Village 2040 Comprehensive Plan and Comprehensive Sewer Plan, Review File 21901-1

That the Metropolitan Council adopt the Advisory Comments and Review Record attached to the business item and take the following action:

Recommendations of the Environment Committee:

1. Approve the City of St. Anthony Village's Comprehensive Sewer Plan.
2. Correct the characterization of the extent and billing reimbursement of intercommunity wastewater flow with Minneapolis.
3. 2020-93 JT: Deephaven 2040 Comprehensive Plan and Comprehensive Sewer Plan, Review File 22160-1

That the Metropolitan Council adopt the Advisory Comments and Review Record attached to the business item and take the following action:

Recommendations of the Environment Committee:

1. Approve the City of Deephaven's Comprehensive Sewer Plan.
4. 2020-96 JT: Roseville 2040 Comprehensive Plan and Comprehensive Sewer Plan, Review File 21879-1

That the Metropolitan Council adopt the Advisory Comments and Review Record attached to the business item and take the following action:

Recommendations of the Environment Committee:

1. Approve the City of Roseville's Comprehensive Sewer Plan.
2. Advise the City to implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for Wastewater.

NON-CONSENT BUSINESS

5. 2020-123: Master Utility Agreement Amendment with MnDOT for Interceptor 9004-1
It was moved by Fredson, seconded by Zeran that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute the contract amendment for Master Utility Agreement 19I037 with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for a total contract value of \$1,125,000.

Aye: 6 Lindstrom, Wulff, Fredson, Vento, Sterner, Zeran
Nay: 0
Absent: 0

Motion carried.

6. 2020-124: Ratification of Declaration of Emergency for Boiler Operator Temporary Services
It was moved by Vento, seconded by Zeran that the Metropolitan Council ratify the Emergency Declaration attached to the business item for Environmental Services Boiler Operator Temporary Services.

Aye: 6 Lindstrom, Wulff, Fredson, Vento, Sterner, Zeran
Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Motion carried.

7. 2020-125: Ratification of Declaration of Emergency for Wastewater Sludge Trucking Services
It was moved by Sterner, seconded by Fredson that the Metropolitan Council ratifies the Emergency Declaration attached to the business item for Environmental Services Wastewater Sludge Trucking Services from Eagles Point, Hastings, and St. Croix Valley Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTPs), and from East Bethel Wastewater Reclamation Facility (WRF).

Aye: 6 Lindstrom, Wulff, Fredson, Vento, Sterner, Zeran
Nay: 0
Absent: 0

Motion carried.

8. 2020-126: Ratification of Declaration of Emergency for Environmental Services Flood Preparations and Mitigation
It was moved by Fredson, seconded by Vento that the Metropolitan Council ratify the Emergency Declaration attached to the business item for Environment Services flood preparations and mitigation for wastewater conveyance and treatment facilities.

Aye: 6 Lindstrom, Wulff, Fredson, Vento, Sterner, Zeran
Nay: 0
Absent: 0

Motion carried.

INFORMATION

1. General Manager Report

On March 16, 2020 the Council activated its National Incident Management System (NIMS) and this is the first time we've established the full system at the Council and within Environmental Services. The system was designed to address a structural incident and the pandemic has a greater focus on human resources, so we have been adapting it to the situation. Illnesses and absences are the top priority along with implementing effective social distancing and protection measures to reduce exposure to COVID-19 in the workplace. We may not be able to avoid large numbers of absences, so we are also developing plans to ensure critical work continues to get done. Backups solutions have been identified many layers deep and daily check-in meetings keep staff informed about operational status and changes from the MDH and Centers for Disease Control (CDC.)

Sewer Availability Charge (SAC) determination requests have been just below our 5-year average but we don't know yet if the SAC units have dropped as we have not received that monthly report yet.

The 2021 budget is in the development process. More will be coming in May.

General Manager Thompson expressed gratitude for all the teamwork and leadership demonstrated in the past month. Every one of the Incident Command team members has put in a lot of hours to set up a new normal in a short period of time amidst a high-stress situation. Everyone is helping to follow the guidelines for social distancing and getting to work so the essential services are delivered.

If you are a Met Council Facebook follower, check out the recently posted short video of an Environmental Services staff member talking about keeping our essential services up and running.

Thank you to the Council and Committee members for the support you have provided to staff during this time

Committee Member Fredson asked how we are doing for personal protective equipment. General Manager Thompson stated we are keeping tabs on inventory and have ordered additional to cover staff that are currently required to be on site or will be returning soon to the workplace.

If Committee members have items they would like brought before this committee, please let leisa.thompson@metc.state.mn.us know.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed the meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Environment Committee Meeting of April 14, 2020.

Susan Taylor
Recording Secretary