



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY & ENERGY COMMISSION MEETING

October 8, 2024

7:00 PM

Fridley Civic Campus, 7071 University Ave N.E.

MINUTES

Call to Order

Chair Klemz called the Environmental Quality and Energy Commission to order at 7:12 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Aaron Klemz

Sam Stoxen

Amy Dritz

Mark Hansen

Absent: Heidi Ferris

Avonna Starck

Justin Foell

Others Present: Rachel Workin, Environmental Planner

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Hansen to approve the meeting agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Dritz. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. Approval of September 10, 2024 Environmental Quality and Energy Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Dritz to approve the September 10, 2024 meeting minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Stoxen. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

2. Floodplain Ordinance Update

Ms. Workin shared proposed revisions to the Floodplain ordinance occurring as part of the recodification process. Commission members asked why the optional provision of requiring nonconforming structures experiencing repetitive losses to be built to the Regulatory Floodplain Elevation (RFPE) wasn't recommended. Ms. Workin shared that it is difficult to track repetitive losses and it may cause a significant impact to the homeowner in proportion to two losses of 25% of the structure

value. Ms. Workin shared that there was required regulation that nonconforming structures experiencing a one-time loss of 50% of the structure value must be rebuilt to the RFPE. Commissioner Hansen recommended changing the RFPE for new construction to be equal to the base flood elevation (BFE) plus two feet instead of one. The commission discussed the advantages of this approach being additional protection of property in the face of increasing storm intensity; however, there are disadvantages of increased floodplain fill, cost, as well as potential difficulty in achieving the standard on small lots. Motion by Commissioner Hansen to approve the proposed floodplain ordinance with additional staff review on the feasibility of changing the RFPE to be the BFE plus two feet instead of one. Seconded by Commissioner Stoxen. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Critical Area Ordinance Update

Ms. Workin shared proposed revisions to the Critical Area ordinance. Motion by Commissioner Stoxen to approve the proposed Critical Area ordinance. Seconded by Commissioner Hansen. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Shoreland Ordinance Update

Ms. Workin shared proposed updates to the City's shoreland ordinance for discussion. Motion by Commissioner Dritz to approve the proposed Shoreland Ordinance Update. Seconded by Commissioner Stoxen. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

5. Energy Action Plan updates

Ms. Workin shared that the City submitted its grant application for a solar array on the Moore Lake building. She will be providing an update at the next meeting on potential applications for Round 2.

6. Grant Updates

Ms. Workin shared that the Anoka Conservation District had received funding for its Pollinator Pathways grant application. The City will have an AmeriCorps intern starting on October 21 to assist with trees and native plant projects. The City also received support from Coon Creek Watershed District for dog waste stations in Craig Park, Riverview Heights Park, and along Riverview Terrace.

7. Outreach and Event updates

Ms. Workin shared that the City is collecting baby gear items in October.

Other Items

8. Informal Status Reports

No informal status reports were shared.

Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Stoxen to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Hansen. The Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Workin

Environmental Planner