



City of Northfield

City Hall
801 Washington Street
Northfield, MN 55057
northfieldmn.gov

Meeting Minutes - Final Environmental Quality Commission

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

6:00 PM - REGULAR AGENDA CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Jones called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: 8 - Chair Daniel Jones, Vice Chair Michael Provancha, Commissioner Bruce Anderson, Commissioner Janet Petri, Commissioner Susannah Shmurak, Commissioner George Kinney, Commissioner Michelle Mattson, and Commissioner Ava Podracky

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Jael Conde

Also present: Davin Sokup, Council Member (Non-Voting Ex Officio Member); Risi Karim, Assistant to the City Administrator; Sean Simonson, Engineering Manager; James McDermott, Water Quality Specialist; Matt Bailey, Meeting Associate

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Mattson, seconded by Commissioner Shmurak, to approve the agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Chair Daniel Jones, Vice Chair Michael Provancha, Commissioner Bruce Anderson, Commissioner Janet Petri, Commissioner Susannah Shmurak, Commissioner George Kinney, Commissioner Michelle Mattson, and Commissioner Ava Podracky

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [24-563](#) August 21, 2024 EQC Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [1 - August 21, 2024 EQC Meeting Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Petri, seconded by Commissioner Shmurak, to approve the August 21, 2024 EQC Meeting Minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Chair Daniel Jones, Vice Chair Michael Provancha, Commissioner Bruce Anderson, Commissioner Janet Petri, Commissioner Susannah Shmurak, Commissioner George Kinney, Commissioner Michelle Mattson, and Commissioner Ava Podracky

PRESENTATIONS

2. [24-564](#) Waste Load Allocation Implementation Plan

Attachments: [1 - Northfield WLA Implementation Plan presentation for EQC and City Council meetings](#)

City of Northfield Engineering Manager Sean Simonson introduced Greg Wilson, Senior Water Resources Engineer at Barr Engineering, who delivered a presentation on the Waste Load Allocation Implementation Plan. Wilson, Simonson, and City of Northfield Water Quality Specialist James McDermott responded to questions and comments from the members of the EQC.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

REGULAR AGENDA

3. [24-565](#) 2024 Work Plan Update

Attachments: [1- 2024 WorkPlan Update September](#)

The members of the EQC provided updates on progress made on 2024 EQC Work Plan:

- Zero Waste Plan Implementation: The Communications Department redesigned the Zero Waste Guide and updated the City webpage accordingly.*
- Inflation Reduction Act Workshop Series: Commissioner Petri reported that tabling efforts at the Riverwalk Market Fair and other events have been successful. Those working on this initiative are keeping a close eye on developments at the Federal level that will allow for grants and rebates and considering ways of informing the public and local businesses when opportunities become available.*
- Active Living: Walk and Bike Campaign: Commissioner Anderson proposes a campaign of surveying and promoting walking and bus-riding for school students, possibly in collaboration with the EQC's Youth Representatives.*
- Food Education Campaign: This initiative was completed in May.*
- Native Planting Promoting: Tree Planting & Vegetation: No new updates.*

STAFF UPDATES

4. [24-566](#) Staff Update.

Assistant to the City Administrator Risi Karim presented updates from City staff. Karim responded to questions and comments from the EQC.

BOARD MEMBER AND COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- Commissioner Provanča asked how to propose items for next year's Work Plan. Assistant to the City Administrator Risi Karim responded that the process will begin next month. Provanča also commented on the article in the Northfield News about leaf litter and ways to deal with it.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Kinney, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Chair Daniel Jones, Vice Chair Michael Provancha, Commissioner Bruce Anderson, Commissioner Janet Petri, Commissioner Susannah Shmurak, Commissioner George Kinney, Commissioner Michelle Mattson, and Commissioner Ava Podracky