

**ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY BOARD  
CITY OF RAMSEY  
ANOKA COUNTY  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

On Monday, September 16, 2019, the Environmental Policy Board (EPB) met in the Council Chambers at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive N.W., Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present:     Chairperson Michael Valentine  
                          Board Member Reid Bernard  
                          Board Member Melissa Fetterley  
                          Board Member Michael Hiatt

Members Absent:     Board Member Jane Covart  
                          Board Member Laura Moore

Also Present:         City Planner Chris Anderson  
                          City Council Liaison Debra Musgrove

**1.     CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Valentine called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**2.     CITIZEN INPUT**

None.

**3.     APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Board Member Hiatt and seconded by Board Member Fetterley to approve the agenda as submitted.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Valentine, Board Member Hiatt, Fetterley, and Bernard.  
Voting No: None. Absent: Board Member Covart and Moore.

**4.     APPROVE MINUTES**

**4.01:   Approve Meeting Minutes Dated August 19, 2019**

Motion by Board Member Fetterley and seconded by Board Member Bernard to approve the regular meeting minutes dated August 19, 2019.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Valentine, Board Member Fetterley, Bernard, and Hiatt.  
Voting No: None. Absent: Board Member Covart and Moore.

**5.     POLICY BOARD BUSINESS**

**5.01:   Review Draft EPB Work Plan**

City Planner Anderson presented the staff report. He stated that the purpose of this case is to continue discussion on items for inclusion in a new Environmental Policy Board (EPB) Work Plan. The EPB's current Work Plan runs through the end of 2019. The EPB did briefly discuss potential topics for inclusion at its April 15, 2019 meeting. The Action Plan from the City's current Strategic Plan was included in the case to provide some insight into the City Council's priorities over the next year.

Chairperson Valentine asked the Board if there are additional priority items. He commented that the three main items identified seem to be good foundation items to move forward with.

Board Member Bernard agreed that the three items should continue to roll over. He suggested adding a youth engagement piece, noting the recent creation of an environmental group at the High School and possible interaction between the Board and that group.

City Planner Anderson stated that youth engagement does match up with strategic action items developed by the City Council. He noted that he has also had involvement with the elementary schools related to recycling in the past.

Board Member Fetterley also agreed that the three listed items should remain as well as the inclusion of youth engagement.

Board Member Hiatt commented that it would be nice to find ways to work with the different school groups with a focus on the three items listed in the plan, particularly water conservation. He stated that perhaps there are projects that can be embedded with the different youth age groups that could help to accomplish the different work plan categories.

Councilmember Musgrove stated that the Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization website has a lot of information for residents. She commented that the LRRWMO recently partnered with Anoka Conservation District/Anoka County related to education and outreach and noted that perhaps it would be helpful for that representative to provide a presentation to the Board related to her youth education efforts. She asked if Public Works is involved in recycling and whether there is overlap in that area.

City Planner Anderson stated that historically there were other City Council committees similar to the Public Works Committee. He stated that perhaps the link to the Public Works Committee would be the impact that garbage and recycling trucks have on public streets. He confirmed that the Board is comfortable with the three items shown on the draft plan and noted that he will review to determine how youth engagement could fit within the existing items or whether that should be its own item.

Chairperson Valentine commented that it could be helpful to coordinate with other community education entities as it would not make sense to duplicate existing efforts.

Board Member Hiatt stated that if these are the three major areas of focus, perhaps the Board should identify best practices in terms of water conservation and smart technologies. He stated that perhaps there are models available from other communities that can be duplicated.

## 6. BOARD / STAFF INPUT

- **Other**

City Planner noted that a resident dropped off materials related to an educational event taking place on September 17<sup>th</sup> at the UCC Congregational Church of Anoka related to climate change and water quality of the upper Mississippi River. He noted that Board Members are invited to attend.

Board Member Hiatt noted that perhaps there could be an opportunity to partner with the Anoka Area Climate Action group.

- **Fall Recycling Day Event**

City Planner Anderson reported that the third and final recycling event of the year is coming up on September 28<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to noon at the Public Works Campus.

## 7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Board Member Hiatt and seconded by Board Member Fetterley to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Chris Anderson  
City Planner

ATTEST:

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JoAnn Shaw  
Community Development Secretary

Drafted by Amanda Staple  
*TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*