

MINUTES of a regular meeting of the Mayor and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Skokie, Cook County, Illinois held in the Council Chambers at 5127 Oakton Street at 7:30 p.m. on Monday November 14, 2022



Skokie Village Board Special Meeting

Pledge of Allegiance led by the Deputy Village Clerk Sylvia Luke
Mayor Van Dusen called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the Roll. Those present were Trustees Sutker, Robinson, Khoeun, Johnson, Pure Slovin, Klein and Mayor Van Dusen.

Opening statement by the Mayor.

This meeting is intended for the sole purpose of having the Sustainability Commission report to the Village Board the findings and recommendations for an 8 year Sustainability Plan. He acknowledged and thanked the committee that researched plans across the country and was instrumental in bringing a consultant forward to develop a detailed and profession plan. A thirty plus member group worked to develop this plan. The team was made up of Sustainability Commissioners, community members, business representatives, representatives of the Village Boards and Commission, intergovernmental representatives and extensive staff. On behalf of the Board and residents of the Village he thanked the committee for the impressive and comprehensive report and the Village's staff and consultant for their many contributions.

Presentation of the Village's next Sustainability Plan:

A. Introduction by Max Slankard, Public Works Director.

Public Works Director commended and thanked the 8 months of hard work of the Committee.

B. Skokie's next Environmental Sustainability Plan by Ted Redmond, PaleBluedot, LLC.

Ted Redmond, from PaleBluedot gave background information which included Planning Strategies, Carbon Reduction Goals, GHG emission, climate risks, waste management, Transportation & Mobility, Land use & housing, Buildings & Energy, Water & Waste water, Local Food & Agriculture, Green space & trees, Health & Safety, Economy Implementation- Cross cutting actions, Plan Impacts, Potential fund approach and Grants. He answered questions from the Board and residents which included comments on : Solar panels on Public Buildings, Community wide goals-Public Library, Park District, Management of the process, possibility of Electric buses, time frame of plan, apartment recycling, community composting and program for homeowner to change to renewable energy.

C. Sustainable Environmental Advisory Commission's (SEAC) Waste Committee Recommendations by Jim McNelis, Vice Chair of SEAC.

SEAC recommends that the Village Board prioritize exploring changes in refuse management in the following areas:

- a. Village-Wide Curbside Food scrap composting
- b. Reduce refuse pick-up from twice weekly to once weekly
- c. Education and communications about ways to reduce waste, proper recycling guidelines, etc.
- d. Explore the hiring a sustainability coordinator.

D. Food scrap composting update by Max Slankard, Director of Public Works.

Options drop off /container, curbside, opt-in, or all in and potential cost.. He answered questions from the Board.

E. Results of Refuse Toter Usage and Capacity, Recycling Study and

Communications Update by Liz Zimmerman, Assistant to Public Works Director.

She presented background to gain better understanding of household Toter capacity usage per week (over two collections). This included Toter Capacity Study and Refuse waste audit. The summary of findings were that the vast majority of households have adequate Toter capacity to transition to once-a-week collection.

F. Community Development Initial Implementation Opportunities including Existing and Future Buildings by Johanna Nyden, Community Development Director.

The Community Development Department has identified opportunities in the Village’s proposed Environmental Sustainability plan that can be implemented and incorporated into existing Department work. They include-Promoting programs and activities to reduce energy consumption, Promotion of on-site renewable energy sources, Coordinate and promote existing energy efficient assessments and Investment and engagements in Long Term Planning.

G. Municipal Fleet Inventory and Electric Vehicle Transition including Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure by Max Slankard, Public Works Director.

One of the Quick Start actions identified in the Sustainability Plan is to become an “EV Ready Community” through the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus program. An additional Phase 1 goal in the plan is to conduct a Municipal Fleet Inventory and EV transition Implementation Plan.

Next Steps.

November 21, 2022 Village Board Meeting Discussion on Sustainability.

The Village Board will take up the report and deliberate its finding at the next regularly scheduled meeting , Monday November 21, 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be devoted to discussion, questions and answers, approving the plan, and voting on the elements of the public policy. During the session, the public at each section of the of the report participated by asking questions. Answers were provided by each speaker.

One Public Comment sent by email Maggie Vandermeer supporting the Sustainability Plan.

Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn at 9:15 p.m.

Moved: Trustee Sutker

Seconded: Trustee Klein

Ayes: Sutker, Robinson, Khoeun , Johnson, Pure Slovin, Klein and Mayor Van Dusen

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED

Sylvia Luke, Deputy Village Clerk

Approved:

Mayor Van Dusen

Items marked with an asterisk (*) indicate they are part of the Consent Agenda that contains routine items or items which have already been discussed by the Mayor and Board at a previous public meeting and require a second reading. Items on the Consent Agenda are passed in one vote at the beginning of the Board Meeting. Prior to the vote on the Consent Agenda, the Mayor will inquire if there is any matter which anyone wishes to remove from the Consent Agenda. If there is an item on the Consent Agenda which you wish to address, please inform the Mayor at that time you wish to remove it from the Consent Agenda.

