



CITY OF MILPITAS

Energy and Environmental Sustainability Commission

MEETING MINUTES

6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 16, 2020

Virtual Meeting/Teleconference

CALL TO ORDER	Commissioner Sexton called the meetings to order at 6:03 PM. Staff Marshall called the roll.
ROLL CALL	PRESENT: Commissioners Sexton, Kong, Liu, Salian, Lingle, Badesha, Vice Mayor Nuñez, Public Works Director Ndah, and staff members Grand, and Marshall were also present. ABSENT: Commissioner Martinez, Commissioner Shreve
PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE	Commissioner Sexton led the pledge of allegiance.
ALTERNATE SEATING	Alternate Commissioner Lingle was seated.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Motion to approve the agenda for September 16, 2020 as submitted Motion/Second: Salian/Kong Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 4 NOES: 0
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Motion to approve the minutes for August 19 th as submitted. Motion/Second: Salian/Badesha Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 5 NOES: 0
PUBLIC FORUM	Lisa Oliver, a Milpitas resident, submitted the following public comment: The Plastics reduction bill, SB54 and AB1080, failed to pass by 3 votes. In parts of the Pacific Ocean, the amount of small bits of plastic exceeds the concentration of plankton and krill, food sources for birds and marine animals. Plastic clogs the digestive tracts of these animals and they starve and die. A recent UN report warns that species extinctions are accelerating at unprecedented rates. "The health of ecosystems on which we and all other species depend is deteriorating more rapidly than ever." Plastics pollution is a threat to our ocean ecosystems that we can no longer ignore. The City of Milpitas can take action now by using city ordinances. The majority of consumers do not bring their own reusable bags to the grocery store, even before the corona virus pandemic. The only effective way to reduce plastic waste is to increase the cost. Raise the plastic bag fee from 5 cents to amount that will inspire a change in consumer behavior. Increase the bottle deposit from the 5 cents and 10 cents to an amount which will significantly reduce trash to the landfill. Work with restaurants to find alternatives to single-use plastic containers such as bio-degradable products. Pass a mess kit ordinance where patrons can opt for reusable containers that are brought back to the restaurant in return for a deposit. An example is the Marie Callender's pie tin program. Challenge Milpitas Unified School District food service to eliminate plastic containers and utensils from the lunch program, reduce food waste, and provide healthy, well-prepared lunches. Search for vendors and consultants who specialize in plastics reduction, and provide the information to the public. I also urge the Milpitas Energy and Sustainability Committee to declare a climate crisis emergency. We are reaching those critical tipping points which scientists have predicted. Greenland lost a record amount of ice during an extra warm 2019. Canada lost its last ice sheet this summer. California and Oregon suffered historic heat waves

and wildfires in Aug. & Sept. We are running the engine with the garage door closed, in David Wallace Wells words in the "Uninhabitable Earth." We must take action on climate change before it's too late.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Sexton participated in the Coastal Cleanup and thanked the City for offering supplies.

BUSINESS ITEMS

a. Community Odor Monitoring Pilot Project Update

Staff Marshall provided an update on the Community Odor Monitoring Pilot Project. Staff began weekly monitoring in November 2020 and had to pause due to Shelter-In-Place Order. Staff resumed weekly monitoring in July 2020 with Covid-19 safety protocols in place; however, staff again had to temporarily pause the monitoring due to poor air quality resulting from the recent wildfires. Staff plan to resume monitoring when air quality improves. Staff are continuing to coordinate with BAAQMD who also experienced delays in their project and hope to begin their monitoring efforts in mid to late October.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions.

Commissioner Kong asked about updates on the community dashboard to view the data collected. Staff Marshall responded that the City is working on the dashboard and hopes to have preliminary data to share in the next few months.

Commissioner Sexton asked if we have any preliminary results. Staff Marshall explained that data collection is ongoing, and our consultants will be able to examine it after more sampling is complete.

Commissioner Kong asked if the study is considering how operational changes at the sources impact the odors observed. Public Works Director Ndah responded that all operational changes are noted, but due to COVID-19 it is difficult to tell what factors are impacting the odors.

b. 2021 Commission Work Plan .

Commissioners discussed ideas for the 2021 work plan. All Commission Work Plans have been tentatively scheduled for City Council approval on October 20th. Topic ideas have been incorporated into the Draft 2021 Work Plan included as Attachment 1.

Commissioner Lingle asked about increasing resilience related to backup power for resource centers during high heat days. Public Works Director Ndah clarified that the Guaranteed Energy and Water Savings project included evaluating resiliency of city facilities including solar and battery microgrid projects.

Commissioner Sexton is interested in revisiting the Energy REACH codes to further deter fossil fuel energy use in new buildings.

Commissioner Lingle would like to consider how City parks can be re-envisioned and used as community hubs based on experience during Covid and how it has changed people's life styles. Staff Marshall responded that the City's Recreation Department is working on the Parks Master Plan and in the midst of gathering community input such as what was suggested. The survey will be sent out to the Commissioners.

Staff Marshall will send out a poll for dates and times for a special meeting to consider and approve the draft workplan.

LIAISON REPORT

Oct. 6th Staff will be taking the Guaranteed Energy and Water Savings measures to the City Council for approval.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Sexton adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM.