City of Franklin

109 3rd Ave S
Franklin, TN 37064
(615) 791-3217

HISTORIC FRANKLIN TENNESSEE

Meeting Agenda

Sustainability Commission

Friday, November 10, 2023	8:00 AM	Development Services Room

CALL TO ORDER

CITIZEN COMMENTS (Open for citizens to be heard on any issue or concern, including those related to items on the agenda. Please submit a Speaker Card at the beginning of the meeting if you would like to address the Commission. If you would like to speak on an agenda item, the Chair will hold your comment until the public comment period associated with the item. As provided by law, the Commission shall make no decisions or consideration of action of citizen comments for items not on the agenda, except to refer the matter to the Planning Director/Staff for administrative consideration, or to a schedule the matter for consideration at a later date. Those addressing the Commission are requested to come to the microphone and identify themselves by name and address for the official record. The Chair may restrict the period for public comment, including the length of the public comment period, the number of individuals who can speak and the length of time each individual may speak. When time allows, the standard individual public comment time is two minutes.)

Comments on agenda items may be made in person at city hall or by emailing planningintake@franklintn.gov before noon on the day of the meeting. Emailed comments will be provided to the Commission and included in the minutes, but not read aloud in their entirety during the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Consideration Of Approval Of Minutes

NEW BUSINESS

2. Announcements

3. (8:05 AM to 8:40 AM) Ultium Battery Plant Presentation

4. (8:40 AM to 8:55 AM) Future Options for 200 kW Solar Project

5. (8:55 AM to 9:00 AM) Approve 2024 Meeting Schedule

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURN

Anyone needing accommodations due to disabilities please contact the ADA Coordinator at 615-791-3277 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

City of Franklin

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DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Sustainability Commission

Friday, October 13, 2023 | **8:00 AM** | **Development Services Room**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mike Cassity called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.

Members Present: Mike Cassity, Keith Gordon, Christina Christiansen, Alderman Beverly Burger, Eric McElroy, Al Pramuk, Brian Stone, John Brevard, Alderman Burger

Members Absent: Anna Timme

Staff Present: Andrew Orr, Eric Conner, Teresa Anderson, Paige Cruse, Brad Wilson

Visitors Present: Ned Dannenberg

CITIZEN COMMENTS (Open for citizens to be heard on any issue or concern, including those related to items on the agenda. Please submit a Speaker Card at the beginning of the meeting if you would like to address the Commission. If you would like to speak on an agenda item, the Chair will hold your comment until the public comment period associated with the item. As provided by law, the Commission shall make no decisions or consideration of action of citizen comments for items not on the agenda, except to refer the matter to the Planning Director/Staff for administrative consideration, or to a schedule the matter for consideration at a later date. Those addressing the Commission are requested to come to the microphone and identify themselves by name and address for the official record. The Chair may restrict the period for public comment, including the length of the public comment period, the number of individuals who can speak and the length of time each individual may speak. When time allows, the standard individual public comment time is two minutes.)

None

Comments on agenda items may be made in person at city hall or by emailing planningintake@franklintn.gov before noon on the day of the meeting. Emailed comments will be provided to the Commission and included in the minutes, but not read aloud in their entirety during the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **Consideration Of Approval Of Minutes**

   Sponsors:

   A motion was made by Chair Cassity, seconded by John Brevard to the Minutes from the August 11, 2023 meeting. The motion carried with all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

2. **Announcements**
   -Envision Franklin Public Draft
   -BOMA Update on 9/26

   Sponsors:

Chair Cassity asked for an update on the Envision Franklin Public Draft and the September 28th BOMA Meeting.

Envision Franklin: Andrew shared that the public draft for Envision Franklin was released one month ago on the city's website and at public meetings. The Planning Department has continued meeting with property owners and BOMA. Further discussions will be held at the upcoming Joint Conceptual Workshop on Thursday, October 26th 2023 to review and make final adjustments to the plan. Envision Franklin is linked to the Franklin Urban Growth Boundary update. The Coordinating Committee will make a vote on the plan by early December, then each jurisdiction in Williamson County will need to ratify the agreement within 120 days.

Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BOMA): Teresa gave a presentation to BOMA about the Sustainability Commission's work over the past year and plans going forward. She provided updates regarding the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) and litter pickup. She received a lot of positive feedback from BOMA. Alderman Burger also noted BOMA's overall appreciation and support of the Sustainability Commission.

3. Discussion and Consideration of EECBG Project Options

Sponsors:

Chair Cassity asked to begin the discussion of EECBG.

Eric Conner provided an overview of EECBG to the commission. The application for using the $146,000 grant fund must be submitted by the end of January 2024. Staff is seeking guidance for the best use of the grant money and have narrowed down their options as follows:

1. Add the funds to a pool for new sports field lighting which would convert current lights to LED. While this project exceeds the grant money available, adding it to a pool would allow costs to be covered.
2. Installing new electric vehicle (EV) chargers in various parks throughout the city. A detailed presentation will show where the projects are located and how the money will be used. Eric Conner wanted to know which direction the commission preferred and asked for someone to make a motion.

Chair Cassity asked for clarification on the lighting retrofit using up all available grant money. Eric Conner confirmed the lighting project would use all available funds. Chair Cassity asked if there is enough funding to complete the entire EV project or if there would be a surplus. Eric Conner responded that it depends on the type and amount of electric chargers purchased. If any money did remain, it could go towards the lighting project.

Paige started a presentation on the proposed lighting project. The lighting project would be for Libery Park on the existing Musco lighting across three baseball fields. There is no warranty remaining on the current lights and due to outdated technology, the lights sometimes must be shut off for fifteen minutes to cool off, leaving families in the dark. The project would involve replacing light poles and fixtures and reconfiguring the electrical panels. Paige did a general overview of the existing and new Musco lighting. There are about 540 children this fall who will utilize the site for sports tournaments, making this project increase revenue and recreation for the city. The project is estimated to cost $500,000. A commission member asked how new, brighter lights affect surrounding homes. Paige discussed the highly wooded area to block light and that new LEDs would have no shadowing. Paige then discussed the EV project. Some project location ideas included Aspen Grove, Jim Warren Park, Liberty Park, and Pinkerton Park. Aspen Grove is highly popular due to sports and its close location to restaurants. Paige then discussed the details of where the EV charges would be placed in each park based on areas with the most popularity and traffic. A commission member asked if the Aspend Grove EV location would be used more than the actual park entrance. Paige responded yes, that is why the specific location was chosen due to more visibility. A commission member asked if the EV charger in Pinkerton Park gets used often. Paige did not have information available at the time. A commission member then asked if a combination of both projects could be done. Eric responded that he would prefer to stick with one or the other. However, beyond a complicated application process, doing some of both projects could be done. A commission member asked if EV charger installation could be a potential revenue stream for the park. Eric responded that the EV chargers are intended to be free for users to avoid complicated tracking and monitoring. EV chargers will not be premium, which are more expensive and need more infrastructure. Paige mentioned Southeast apartments near Liberty Park will also have an EV charger but waited to point out their close location.

Christina member asked if there was a qualified installer with experience. Pagie answered yes, we can not only buy off contract for materials but also purchase the installer through Sourcewell. Estimated $75,000 savings on the materials side. Musco will also pay a percentage to Sourcewell. Christina mentioned she frequently goes to Pinkerton Park and has never seen anyone hook up to the EV charger. She asked if there would be any legal issues regarding free chargers and potential fire hazards the chargers may cause. Chair Cassity responded that there are chargers in the parking garage near City Hall and he wants them moved due to potential accidents. The Fire Department is looking into purchasing blankets that would kill fire caused by EV chargers. Chair Cassity mentioned a fire caused by an EV in Scottsdale, Arizona that burned for two days before being extinguished. He mentioned it might be beneficial to have signs around park chargers that state 'Charging and plugging in is at your own risk.' Chair Cassity has an upcoming meeting with Nissan about EV's and will be addressing fire issues. Christina again mentioned the difficulty of EV fires. Keith then stated there seems to be a big difference in lifespan between LED lights and EV chargers. This should be considered when making a final decision. Paige discussed how Musco is always trying to improve. If something goes wrong with their lights, they immediately receive feedback and try to prevent it from happening again. Musco also uses a software called Control Link which allows for easily controlling and monitoring lights from an App.

Paige then discussed how the world is moving toward Hybrid cars and EV's but there are still concerns about safety due to fires. She questioned how often EV chargers in parks would be used. Alderman Burger wanted to know how effective it would be to put more chargers in parks when they do not seem to be used. She doesn't think it would be smart to waste money on another charger when they are not being used very often. She wants to have numbers on how often the park chargers are currently being used. Brian said there are companies that offer free studies on charger usage because they want you to buy a charger from their company. Other companies will give chargers for free but play advertisements on the charger as a revenue stream. Brian said there is a much better return on investment with the lighting project and more public benefit. Alderman Burger agreed. LED lights will support sports fields which keep children safe, active, and out of trouble. Al added to the discussion by saying the lighting project will need to be done at some point regardless, since lights are outdated and leave fields in the dark. Overall, this project would be the best to increase revenue streams and provide a better quality experience, especially during sports tournaments. One benefit of the lights is Musco will provide the maintenance and repairs to damaged lights, saving overall costs.

Chair Cassity asked if anyone wanted to make a motion. Keith motioned to approve the LED light project. Christina seconded the motion. Chair Cassity asked if all were in favor. The motion carried with all in favor.

This grant started in the mid 2000s. Congress has allocated money twice to the grant. There are no guarantees this money will be granted again. Batteries will continue to get better and safer, so the EV charger project could be considered in the future.

4. **Bylaws Update and Approval**

Sponsors:

A motion was made by Chair Cassity, seconded by Al to approve the Bylaws. The motion carried with all in favor.

OTHER BUSINESS

The next meeting will be on Friday, November 10th at 8:00 am.

Al Pramuk offered to schedule a tour of the EV Battery Facility in Spring Hill. Andrew offered to help coordinate the tour during one of the Commission's meeting dates/times.

Andrew reiterates the Annual Board of Mayor & Alderman Session Update and elaborates that each Commission that the city has does an annual update, and ours is on the September agenda.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:58 am.

______________________________ ____________

Chair Date

HISTORIC FRANKLIN TENNESSEE

City of Franklin

109 3rd Ave S.
Franklin, TN 37064
(615) 791-3217

File #: 21-05329

DATE: September 29, 2023

TO: Sustainability Commission

FROM:

SUBJECT:

Announcements

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information to the Sustainability Commission concerning

BACKGROUND/STAFF COMMENTS:

(Brief description of the history and supporting information regarding the item, including an explanation of why staff is recommending the action.)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

(Include the cost of the item, how the item will be funded, which fund it will come from, if there are grants or loans involved and whether the item is included in the current approved budget.)

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that (item name) be (action)

City of Franklin

109 3rd Ave S.
Franklin, TN 37064
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File #: 21-05327

DATE: September 29, 2023

TO: Sustainability Commission

FROM:

SUBJECT:

(8:05 AM to 8:40 AM) Ultium Battery Plant Presentation

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information to the Sustainability Commission concerning

BACKGROUND/STAFF COMMENTS:
(Brief description of the history and supporting information regarding the item, including an explanation of why staff is recommending the action.)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

(Include the cost of the item, how the item will be funded, which fund it will come from, if there are grants or loans involved and whether the item is included in the current approved budget.)

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that (item name) be (action)

HISTORIC
FRANKLIN
TENNESSEE

City of Franklin

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File #: 21-05328

DATE: September 29, 2023

TO: Sustainability Commission

FROM:

SUBJECT:

(8:40 AM to 8:55 AM) Future Options for 200 kW Solar Project

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information to the Sustainability Commission concerning

BACKGROUND/STAFF COMMENTS:

(Brief description of the history and supporting information regarding the item, including an explanation of why staff is recommending the action.)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

(Include the cost of the item, how the item will be funded, which fund it will come from, if there are grants or loans involved and whether the item is included in the current approved budget.)

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that (item name) be (action)

City of Franklin

109 3rd Ave S.
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File #: 21-05410

DATE: October 19, 2023

TO: Sustainability Commission

FROM:

SUBJECT:

(8:55 AM to 9:00 AM) Approve 2024 Meeting Schedule

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information to the Sustainability Commission concerning

BACKGROUND/STAFF COMMENTS:
(Brief description of the history and supporting information regarding the item, including an explanation of why staff is recommending the action.)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

(Include the cost of the item, how the item will be funded, which fund it will come from, if there are grants or loans involved and whether the item is included in the current approved budget.)

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that (item name) be (action)

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION 2024 SCHEDULE

- Jan 12th
- Feb 9th
- No March Meeting (Litter Pick-Up)
- April 12th
- May 10th
- June 14th
- No July Meeting
- Aug 9th
- Sep 13th
- Oct 11th
- Nov 8th
- No December Meeting