# MAHTOMEDI ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA January 11, 2021 6:30 P.M.

Meeting to be held electronically pursuant to Minn. Stat. Sec. 13D.021
Telephonic Meeting Call – in instructions
Dial: +1 312 626 6799

Enter Meeting ID 864 2400 7899 Passcode 409160

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https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86424007899?pwd=cFhFWTl5SjNMUnBOTUZ3Rnl3YXpCQTO9

1.	CALL TO ORDER	6:30
2.	APPROVAL OF AGENDA	
3.	APPROVAL OF THE December 14, 2020 MEETING MINUTES	
4.	OLD BUSINESS - Sustainability Plan – Roxy Robertson, WSB	6:35
5.	NEW BUSINESS - Community Survey Questions	7:15
6.	FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS	
7.	ADJOURNMENT	8:00

#### MAHTOMEDI ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING

#### **MINUTES**

## **DECEMBER 14, 2020**

A regular meeting of the Environmental Commission was held on Monday, December 14, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. via zoom.

Present were Commission Members: Mike Chevalier, Christine Ahmann-Maples, Kevin Toskey, Brandon Cass, Will Seuffert, Peter Merrill.

Also present: Council Member Jeff Ledermann, City Administrator Scott Neilson, City Forester Steve Schumacher, and Roxy Robertson, WSB.

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Toskey, seconded by Merrill to approve agenda. Motion carried.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Merrill, seconded by Toskey to approve the meeting minutes for November 9, 2020. Motion carried.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

# **Tree Ordinance Revisions**

City Forester Steve Schumacher brought back the revised Tree Ordinance for a final review before the Commission. Motion by Toskey, seconded by Chevalier to recommend to the City Council for the January 19, 2021 City Council Meeting. Motion carried. The final draft ordinance is attached.

# **Organics Drop Off Site**

City Administrator Neilson updated the Commission on the Organics drop off site to be at the Fire Station parking lot. The startup date is uncertain due to a required text amendment for the City Code relating to fencing around dumpster containers. The County also will enter into a memorandum of understanding with the City for the operation of the site.

## Sustainability Plan

Roxy Robertson of WSB presented an outline for the Sustainability Plan for feedback from the Commission. Discussion included incorporating sidewalk and trails into the plan, short and long range goals and action items, and reviewing the partial work completed on the plan by former Commission Member Kimberly Byrd. The Sustainability Plan work will be the focus of the January Commission meeting as well as survey questions relating to sustainability for the City's Community Survey.

# **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The following are the agenda items for the January Environmental Commission Meeting:

- 1. Sustainability Plan
- 2. Community Survey Questions

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Chevalier, seconded by Merrill to adjourn meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

# Mahtomedi Sustainability Plan Outline – Draft for Environmental Commission Discussion

- 1. Introduction
  - 1.1. Vision
  - 1.2. What do we mean by "Sustainability"?
  - 1.3. Why is this important to Mahtomedi?
  - 1.4. What is this Plan meant to accomplish?
  - 1.5. Steps to achieving SMART goals
    - 1.5.1. Baseline data, barriers, implementation, communication, progress review, deadlines
  - 1.6. Time horizon for the Plan
- 2. Direction from the Citywide Comprehensive Plan
  - 2.1. Recap of public engagement
  - 2.2. Goals
    - 2.2.1.Infrastructure and Environmental Assets
    - 2.2.2. Energy Infrastructure and Efficiency
    - 2.2.3. Healthy Communities
    - 2.2.4. Economy and Society
- 3. Direction from Green Step Cities
  - 3.1. Status of city achievements
  - 3.2. Actions addressed in Comp Plan-
  - 3.3. Actions not addressed in Comp Plan
- 4. Indicators
  - 4.1. Ecological Heath (topics: wildlife, trees, restoration and preservation, pollinators)
    - 4.1.1.Existing conditions, issues, and targets
    - 4.1.2.SMART goal 1
      - 4.1.2.1. Strategies to meet SMART goal
    - 4.1.3.SMART goal 2...
    - 4.1.4.Community action items to achieve ecological heath goals (actions the community can do to help reach the goals)
    - 4.1.5. Timing
    - 4.1.6. Future goal considerations
  - 4.2. Energy (topics: consumption, renewable energy, green buildings)
    - 4.2.1. Existing conditions, issues, and targets
    - 4.2.2.SMART goal 1
      - 4.2.2.1. Strategies to meet SMART goal
    - 4,2,3,SMART goal 2...
    - 4.2.4.Community action items to achieve energy goals (actions the community can do to help reach the goals)
    - 4.2.5. Timing
    - 4.2.6. Future goal considerations
  - 4.3. Water (topics: water quality, water infrastructure, reuse projects)
    - 4.3.1. Existing conditions, issues, and targets
    - 4.3,2.SMART goal 1
      - 4.3.2.1. Strategies to meet SMART goal
    - 4.3,3,SMART goal 2...
    - 4.3.4.Community action items to achieve water goals (actions the community can do to help reach the goals)
    - 4.3.5. Timing
    - 4.3.6. Future goal considerations
  - 4.4. Travel (topics: road infrastructure, trails, walkability/mobility)
    - 4.4.1. Existing conditions, issues, and targets
    - 4.4.2.SMART goal 1

4.4.2.1. Strategies to meet SMART goal

4.4.3.SMART goal 2...

4.4.4.Community action items to achieve travel goals (actions the community can do to help reach the goals)

4.4.5. Timing

4.4.6. Future goal considerations

4.5. Community (topics: engagement, housing, gardening, local food, race and equality)

4.5.1. Existing conditions, issues, and targets

4.5.2.SMART goal 1

4.5.2.1. Strategies to meet SMART goal

4.5.3.SMART goal 2...

4.5.4.Community action items to achieve community goals (actions the community can do to help reach the goals)

4.5.5.Timing

4.5.6. Future goal considerations

4.6. Waste (solid waste, composting, yard waste)

4.6.1. Existing conditions, issues, and targets

4.6.2.SMART goal 1

4.6.2.1. Strategies to meet SMART goal

4.6.3.SMART goal 2...

4.6.4. Community action items to achieve waste goals (actions the community can do to help reach the goals)

4.6.5.Timing

4.6.6. Future goal considerations

4.7. Climate (greenhouse gas emissions, air quality, city fleet, climate change vulnerability)

4.7.1. Existing conditions, issues, and targets

4.7.1.1. Current greenhouse gas emissions summary from Regional Indicators Initiative (pie chart).

4.7.2.SMART goal 1

4.7.2.1. Strategies to meet SMART goal

4.7.3.SMART goal 2...

4.7.4.Community action items to achieve climate goals (actions the community can do to help reach the goals)

4.7.5. Timing

4.7.6. Future goal considerations

5. Supporting the Plan

5.1. Staff and community involvement

5.2. Funding and resources

6. Progress review

6.1. Three-year targets

6.2. 1-3 year priority projects

7. Conclusion and Work Plan

THE MORRIS LEATHERMAN COMPANY 3128 Dean Court Minneapolis, Minnesota 55416

2017 CITY OF MAHTOMEDI RESIDENTIAL SURVEY FINAL MARCH 2017

Hello, I'm \_\_\_\_\_\_ of the Morris Leatherman Company, a nationwide polling firm located in Minneapolis. We've been retained by the City of Mahtomedi to speak with a random sample of residents about issues facing the city. The survey is being taken because your city representatives and staff are interested in your opinions and suggestions. I want to assure you that all individual responses will be held strictly confidential; only summaries of the entire sample will be reported. (DO NOT PAUSE)

1. Approximately how many years LESS THAN TWO YEARS....68

	•	
1.	Approximately how many years have you lived in Mahtomedi?	LESS THAN TWO YEARS6% TWO TO FIVE YEARS17% SIX TO TEN YEARS20% ELEVEN - TWENTY YRS27% TWENTY - THIRTY YRS17% OVER THIRTY YEARS14% REFUSED0%
2.	What do you like MOST, if any-thing, about living in Mahtomedi?	CONVENIENT LOCATION 2% CLOSE TO FAMILY 12% SMALL TOWN FEEL 22% SCHOOLS 16% LAKE 4% RURAL/OPEN SPACE 9% NEIGHBORHOOD/HOUSING .10% QUIET AND PEACEFUL 14% SAFE 4% PARKS AND TRAILS 5% SCATTERED 3%
3.	What do you think is the most serious issue facing Mahtomedi today?	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED2% NOTHING16% TAXES11% GROWTH11% SCHOOL FUNDING11% TRAFFIC CONGESTION8% STREET MAINTENANCE7% LAKE WATER LEVELS15% FORECLOSURES3% LACK AFFORDABLE HOUSING12% SCATTERED4%

4.	How would you rate the quality of life in Mahtomedi excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	EXCELLENT
5.	How would you rate the general sense of community among Mahtomedi residents excellent, good, only fair or poor?	EXCELLENT

- 6. All in all, do you think things in Mahtomedi are generally headed in the right direction, or do you feel things are off on the wrong track?

RIGHT DIRECTION......91%

WRONG TRACK.....4%

DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....6%

- 7. What aspects, if any, of the community should be fixed or improved in the future?
  - UNSURE, 8%; NOTHING, 29%; LAKE LEVELS, 4%; PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, 2%; STREET MAINTENANCE, 10%; YOUTH RECREATION ACTIVITIES, 2%; CONNECT TRAILS, 5%; LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING, 8%; SCHOOL FUNDING, 4%; PROTECT ENVIRONMENT, 2%; CITY SERVICES, 2%; SIDEWALKS, 2%; LOWER TAXES, 3%; TRAFFIC CONGESTION, 2%; IMPROVE QUALITY OF EDUCATION, 2%; MANAGE GROWTH, 2%; MORE STREET LIGHTS, 2%; SCATTERED, 11%.
- 8. What, if anything, is currently missing from the City of Mahtomedi which, if present, would greatly improve the quality of life for residents?

UNSURE, 11%; NOTHING, 43%; PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, 3%; DINING, 9%; ENTERTAINMENT, 5%; YOUTH RECREATION ACTIVITIES, 3%; LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING, 6%; RECREATION FACILITIES, 5%; JOBS, 2%; COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS, 2%; UPDATE PARKS, 2%; SCATTERED, 9%.

I would now like to read a list of characteristics which are a part of the overall quality of life in a community. First, for each one tell me if it is a very important aspect of the quality of life, a somewhat important aspect, a not very important aspect or not at all important aspect of the quality of life.

		MIV	SIM	NVI	NAA	DKR
9.	Parks and trails?	39%	50%	11%	1%	0왕
10.	Schools?	76%	22%	3%	0%	0%
11.	Open space?	36%	46%	17%	2%	0%
12.	Lakes?	39%	48%	13%	1%	0%
13.	Shopping opportunities?	27%	45%	24%	4%	0%
14.	Public safety?	77%	19%	4%	0%	0%
15.	Community celebrations?	24%	46%	28%	2%	1%
16.	Public transportation?	20%	41%	27%	11%	2%

Now for each one, please rate the City of Mahtomedi on that characteristic as excellent, good, only fair or poor.

		EXC	GOO	FAI	POO	DKR
17.	Parks and trails?	40%	50%	9%	0%	1%
18.	Schools?	62%	31%	4%	0왕	4%
19.	Open space?	34%	47%	18%	1%	1%
20.	Lakes?	22%	54%	21%	3%	1%
21.	Shopping opportunities?	12%	37%	35%	17%	0 %
22.	Public safety?	47%	43%	9%	0%	1%
23.	Community celebrations?	24%	46%	24%	2%	5%
24.	Public transportation?	8%	35%	24%	24%	9%

Now, I would like to read you a list of characteristics of a community. For each one, please tell me if you think Mahtomedi currently has too many or too much, too few or too little, or about the right amount.

		MANY MUCH	FEW/ LITT	ABOUT RIGHT	DK/ REF
25.	affordable housing, defined by the Metropolitan Council as a				
	single family home costing less	3%	55%	38%	4%
26	than \$177,500? apartments?	5 % 6%	38%		3%
26. 27.	condominiums and townhomes?	5%	32%		3%
28.	starter homes for young families?	88	54%	36%	3%
29.	"move up" housing?	16%	20%		4 %
30.	higher cost housing?	26%	10%	61%	4%
31.	One-level housing for seniors	0		E 4.0	100
	maintained by an association?	7%	29%		10%
32.	assisted living for seniors?	8%	30%		11%
33.	parks and open spaces?	88	20%		3%
34.	trails and bikeways?	9%	19%	71%	1%
35.	entertainment opportunities?	6%	45%	48%	1%
36.	fine dining restaurants?	7%	30%	62%	1%
37.	family sit-down restaurants?	5%	31%	64%	0왕

# Moving on....

As you may know, property taxes are divided between the City of Mahtomedi and various other units of local government. Thinking about the amount going to the City....

38.	Do you think the city portion of	VERY HIGH19%
	your property taxes, which funds	SOMEWHAT HIGH37%
	city services in Mahtomedi is very	ABOUT AVERAGE38%
	high, somewhat high, about average,	SOMEWHAT LOW1%
	somewhat low or very low compared	VERY LOW0%
	to nearby suburban communities?	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED6%

I would like to read you a list of a few city services. For each one, please tell me whether you would rate the quality of the service as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

		EXC	GOO	FAI	POO	DKR
39.	Police protection?	50%	43%	6%	0%	0%
40.	Fire protection?	58%	35%	3%	0왕	5%
41.	Emergency medical service?	57%	33%	3%	0왕	7%
42.	Storm drainage and flood					
	control?	26%	47%	22%	2%	3%
43.	Park maintenance?	36%	49%	13%	1%	2%
44.	Trail maintenance?	44%	45%	8%	0왕	2%

Now, for the next three city services, please consider only their job on city-maintained streets and roads in neighborhoods. This means exclude state and county roads taken care of by other levels of government. Hence, County Roads 244 and 12, should not be considered. How would you rate ....

		EXC	GOO	FAI	POO	DKR
45. 46. 47.	City street repair and maintenance? Snow plowing? Street lighting?	13% 37% 29%		25% 15% 17%	3%	0% 1% 1%
48.	When you consider the property taxes you pay and the quality of city services you receive, would you rate the general value of city services as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	GOOD ONLY POOR	FAIR	 		22% 65% 10% 1%

49.	Would you favor or oppose an increase in city property taxes, if it were needed to maintain city services at their current level?	FAVOR					
50.	Would you favor or oppose a property tax increase to expand or improve city services?	FAVOR					
	IF "FAVOR," ASK: (N=181)						
	51. What city services would you be willing to pay higher property taxes to expand or improve?	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED7%         STREET MAINTENANCE29%         PARKS6%         POLICE					
52.	If you could increase the budget by one percent, which ONE of these major areas would you prioritize for the increase police and fire protection, street mainten- ance, parks and trails, or some other city service?	POLICE/FIRE					
Turr	ning to public safety						
I wo	ould like to read you a list of publi	c safety problems.					
53.	Please tell me which one you consid concern in Mahtomedi? If you feel serious, just say so. (READ LIST)	er to be the greatest none of these concerns are					
Personal safety?							

- 54. How would you rate the amount of patrolling the Washington County Sheriff's Department does in your neighborhood -- would you say they do too much, about the right amount, or not enough?
- 55. How serious of a problem is traffic speeding in your neighborhood -- very serious, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not at all serious?

Thinking about parks and recreation....

The Mahtomedi park system is composed of larger community parks and smaller neighborhood parks, trails, open spaces, the Beach and community ballfields. For each facility, please tell me if you or members of your household use that facility. Then for each one you use, please tell me if you would rate that facility as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

		TOM	USE	USE	USE	USE	DK/
		USE	EXC	GOO	FAI	POO	REF
56.	Large community parks?	21%	39%	37%	4 %	0왕	0%
57.	Smaller neighborhood parks?	22%	33%	37%	7%	0왕	1%
58.	Trails?	13%	40%	38%	8%	1%	1%
59.	Open spaces?	27%	34%	29%	9%	0%	1%
60.	The Beach?	31%	26%	32%	9%	1%	1%
61.	Community ballfields?	42%	25%	25%	6%	1%	2%

For each of the following, please tell me if you would strongly support the use of city funding, support, oppose or strongly oppose the use of city funding. (ROTATE)

		STS	SUP	OPP	STO	DKR
	Expansion of trails?	23%	37%	26%	13%	1%
	Connection of trails through- out the community?			17%		
64.	An off-leash dog area?	27%	31%	22%	T8%	3%

65.	How much would you be willing to see your property taxes increase to fund parks and trails projects in the city? Let's say, would you be willing to see your monthly property taxes increase by \$? (CHOOSE RANDOM STARTING POINT; MOVE UP OR DOWN DEPENDING ON RESPONSE) How about \$ per month?	NOTHING.       28%         \$4.00.       21%         \$8.00.       22%         \$12.00.       17%         \$16.00.       4%         \$20.00.       3%         \$24.00.       1%         OVER \$24.00.       0%         DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.       5%		
Thin	king about the environment			
66.	In general, do you think the City is doing too much, too little, or about the right amount in protecting the environment?	TOO MUCH		
67.	What do you think is the most import that needs to be addressed in Mahton	cant environmental issue medi?		
	UNSURE, 16%; NOTHING, 15%; LAKE LIWATER QUALITY, 6%; AIR QUALITY, 8%; SPECIES, 4%; WATER QUALITY, 6%; PLITTERING, 6%; RECYCLING, 3%; BUCK 3%; LAWN CHEMICAL RUN-OFF, 5%; BRUA%.	; WASTE, 3%; INVASIVE ROTECT OPEN SPACES, 2%; KTHORN, 2%; ENERGY USAGE,		
68.	How would you rate the water quality of lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands in Mahtomedi, would you say the water quality is excellent, good, only fair or poor?	Y EXCELLENT		
I would like to read you a short list of programs and events offered by the City. For each one, tell me first if you are aware of it. For those you have heard of, tell me if you have participated in it (ROTATE)				
		NOT YES YES DK/ AWA PAR NOT REF		
69.	Cash rebates for purchasing low flotoilets and energy efficient washin machines?			
70.	Annual RITE of Spring Environment Fair?	33% 33% 34% 0%		
71.	Fair? Green Step City program?	45% 26% 29% 1%		
72.	Septic system inspection program?	46% 25% 27% 2%		

Are there other programs or events you would like to see the 73. (IF "YES," ASK:) What would they be? City offer? UNSURE, 6%; NO, 73%; YOUTH RECREATION, 3%; COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS, 4%; GREEN PRODUCT USAGE, 5%; SCATTERED, 9%. Changing topics.... YES.....64% Other than voting, do you feel that if you wanted to, you could NO.....30% DON'T KNOW/REFUSED....7% have a say about the way the City of Mahtomedi runs things? QUITE A LOT......9% How much first-hand contact have 75. SOME.....37% you had with the Mahtomedi City VERY LITTLE.....38% staff -- quite a lot, some, very NONE AT ALL.....17% very little, or none at all? DON'T KNOW/REFUSED....0% From what you have seen or heard, EXCELLENT.....25% 76. GOOD.....60% how would you rate the job per-ONLY FAIR......7% formance of the Mahtomedi City POOR.....1% staff -- excellent, good, only DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....7% fair, or poor? Moving on.... DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....1% What is your principal source of CITY NEWSLETTER.....56% information about Mahtomedi City LOCAL NEWSPAPER.....8% Government and its activities? WEBSITE.....16% CABLE TELEVISION.....4% MAILINGS.....6% WORD OF MOUTH......7% SCATTERED.....2% CITY NEWSLETTER.....49% How would you prefer to receive LOCAL NEWSPAPER.....13% information about Mahtomedi City WEBSITE.....12% Government and its activities? CABLE TELEVISION.....3% MAILINGS.....8% WORD OF MOUTH.....3% E-MAIL....11% SCATTERED.....2%

For each of the following items, please tell me whether it is a major source, minor source or no source at all about Mahtomedi news, activities, events or City policies?

					MAJ	MIN	NOT	DKR	
79.	"Whit	e Bear	r Press" newsp	aper?	36%	34%	28%	3%	
80.	Cable Television?			12%	25%	61%	3%		
81.	"The Mahtomedi Newsletter," the								
	City's newsletter?			61%	29%	11%	0%		
82.				24%	55%	20%	2%		
83.	Co-workers/Neighbors?			34%	49%	17%	0 %		
84.			ess or Star Tr	ribune?	5%	18%	75%	2%	
85.	City'	s web	site?		23%	29%	45%	4%	
	_								
86.	Do you or any household members reqularly read the City's news-				YES	<i></i>		87%	
					NO12%				
	letter, "The Mahtomedi Newsletter?"					DON'T KNOW/REFUSED1%			
			, the City cur nning Commissi		casts (	and web	casts (	City	
87.	or Pl	anning ently	do you watch C g Commission m , occasionally	neetings	OCCASI RARELY NEVER	ENTLY IONALLY Y KNOW/RI	 	15% 19% 63%	
88.	at ho	ome? nave a	e access to the (WAIT FOR RESI	PONSE) Do	WORK (BOTH.	ONLY ONLY ER KNOW/RI	 	3% 58% 12%	
	IF "Y	ES,"	ASK: (N=353)						
	89.	Have websi	you accessed .te?	the City's	ΝО	 KNOW/R		39%	
		IF "Y	YES," ASK: (N=	213)					
		90.	How would you the content of City's web sicellent, good fair, or poor	of the te ex- l, only	GOOD. ONLY POOR.	LENT FAIR KNOW/R		56% 17% 4%	

91.	How would you rate the	EXCELLENT23%
	ease of navigating the	GOOD51%
	site and finding the in-	ONLY FAIR20%
	formation you sought	POOR6%
	excellent, good, only	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED1%
	fair, or poor?	

I would like to ask you about social media sources. For each one, tell me if you currently use that source of information; then, for each you currently use, tell me if you would be likely or unlikely to use it to obtain information about the City of Mahtomedi.

		NOT USE	USE LIK	USE NLK	DK/ REF
92.	Facebook?	24%	38%	38%	1%
93.	Twitter?	53%	14%	33%	0%
94.	YouTube?	45%	19%	36%	0%
95.	Blogs?	60%	24%	16%	0왕
96.	Podcasts?	73%	11%	16%	0%
97.	E-mail blasts?	50%	36%	14%	0%
98.	Text blasts?	46%	35%	19%	0%

Now, just a few more questions for demographic purposes....

Could you please tell me how many people in each of the following age groups live in your household. Let's start oldest to youngest....

99.	First, persons 65 or over?	0
100.	Adults under 65?	0
101.	School-aged children and preschoolers?	0
102.	Do you own or rent your present residence?	OWN

103. What is your age, please? (READ RANGES)	18-24
And now, for one final question, keeping held strictly confidential	in mind your answers are
<ul> <li>104. Finally, thinking about your household finances, how would you describe your financial situation, would you say that <ul> <li>A) Your monthly expenses are exceeding your income;</li> <li>B) You are meeting your monthly expenses but are putting aside little or no savings;</li> <li>C) You are managing comfortably while putting some money aside;</li> <li>D) Managing very well?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	STATEMENT A
105. Gender	MALE48% FEMALE52%
106. Area of the City	PRECINCT ONE46% PRECINCT TWO54%