6/16/2022 - Minutes

I. Call to Order

Members Present: Jason Williams, Chair; Peter Wernsdorfer, Vice-Chair; Emily Corley; Brian

Borah; Bryn Oakleaf, City Councilor

City Staff Present: Jonathan Rauscher, Director of Public Works

Guests Present: None

Call to Order by: Jason Williams

Meeting Start Time: 6:30 PM

Minutes Recorded by Jason Williams

II. Public Comment

None

III. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

Decision: Approved

Motion by: Peter Wernsdorfer

Second: Jason Williams

IV. Council Updates

Councilor Oakleaf offered updates on the current activities of the City Council, including:

- The Planning Commission will hold a hearing to review multi-family density bonuses with a goal of increasing the number of 3+ bedroom units being constructed in Winooski
- At the last meeting of the Council, Diversity and Inclusion members were approved; it will take a couple of weeks for the Committee to get organized and City Manager Wang will be the liaison
- At the last meeting of the Council, there was a lot of work with the Vermont Agency of Transportation to discuss East Allen Street improvements
- The City is waiting on infrastructure grant news
- The City has adopted Juneteenth as a City holiday

The City needs to identify a Tree Warden and needs to update the Tree Ordinance, which may require review by the Municipal Infrastructure Commission.

V. Department and City Updates

Jon Rauscher walked the Commission through several updates, including:

- The Vermont Agency of Transportation has added a thin level of pavement to ease groves on East Allen Street. There are still a lot of infrastructure changes to be made, including curbing changes and pedestrian island adjustments. Bike lanes will get included in the final project, and an eastbound lane will be eliminated in favor of a center bidirectional turning lane
- The traffic calming manual and policy will go to the Council for implementation imminently

The Department did a walkthrough of City buildings with Efficiency Vermont and found some opportunities for improvement, including lighting changes in the City garage.

VI. Energy Efficiency Discussion

Councilor Oakleaf shared that guests from Efficiency Vermont, Vermont Gas Systems, and Green Mountain Power will join the July Municipal Infrastructure Commission meeting. Jon Rauscher shared that he's certain the City will be able to find a project to use for the Efficiency Vermont municipal grant initiative.

VII. Policy, Priorities, Strategies Follow Up

The Municipal Infrastructure Commission reviewed the latest draft of the City Council's Policy, Priorities, Strategies document. The Commission focused on those priorities selected by the Council as key areas of focus, including:

- Main Street revitalization, which is almost ready to go to bid once final round of easement work is complete
- ADA assessment plan, which will get attention from a group of interns this summer reviewing curb and sidewalk condition and transitions
- Energy, which is broad, but will be informed by such things as the Efficiency Vermont audit and funding opportunities through Act 172, passed by the Legislature this year, and will provide significant municipal funding streams
- Traffic impact fees, which are complicated and may require Commission review

In addition, Director Rauscher may seek input on updated sidewalk permit policies and practices.

Director Rauscher will update the Commission's annual work plan based on the Council's priorities and the Commission's discussion.

Chair Williams noted the following topics for future Commission discussion:

- Energy with guests in July
- Main Street Revitalization
- Tree Ordinance review with the Tree Committee

ADA assessment, hopefully with a presentation by the summer interns

VIII. Adjourn

Motion by: Brian Borah

Second: Peter Wernsdorfer

