



Sustainability Commission

Regular Meeting

Minutes

335 South Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115
www.deperewi.gov

Tuesday, March 10, 2026

5:30 PM

Council Chambers/Virtual

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30PM by Commissioner Castellanos.

1. Roll Call

Present: Emily Castellanos, Rachel Leonard, Casey Nelson, Jonie Panick, Nicole Slavin, Anna Metzler

Excused: Randall Lawton

Also present: Angelica Greco and Matthew Katz from ICLEI (remote)

II. Public Comment on Matters not on the Agenda. Comments made during the public comment period shall pertain only to matters under the jurisdiction of the Sustainability Commission. §6-3(f) DPMC

None.

III. Items

1. Approval of the February 10, 2026 Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Casey Nelson
SECONDER:	Nicole Slavin
AYES:	Emily Castellanos, Rachel Leonard, Casey Nelson, Jonie Panick, Nicole Slavin

2. Introduction Presentation by ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability USA (ICLEI USA)

Angelica Greco and Matthew Katz from ICLEI presented on the organization's offerings and outlined the benefits to local governments who become members. They create a custom support plan for municipalities and assign an advisor, providing ten hours of one-on-one assistance. Membership includes access to the ClearPath 2.0 platform emissions tool. ICLEI provides technical programs for sustainability such as greenhouse gas emissions, and develop climate action plans, as well as finance and policy solutions. Greco and Katz then explained that traditional climate action plans often fall short due to lack of clarity; their ClearPath platform provides direction with actionable steps by laying the foundation, setting targets, taking action, and checking progress. The platform models a shift from less sustainable, high-emitting activity to more sustainable, lower/no emitting alternatives. Examples include changing the ways that needs are fulfilled (traveling, heating your home, lighting your business); switching to electric vehicles, going from furnace to heat pumps and upgrading efficiencies. ICLEI membership is \$1,800 per year, with discounts when signing up for more than one year. Greco and Katz then answered questions about the outputs that ClearPath can provide.

Presentation only. No action necessary.

3. Consideration and possible action on election of Vice Chairperson

Alderperson Nelson nominated Commissioner Leonard for the position of Vice Chair.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Nicole Slavin
SECONDER:	Casey Nelson
AYES:	Emily Castellanos, Rachel Leonard, Casey Nelson, Jonie Panick, Nicole Slavin

4. Discussion on Sustainability Commission Work Plan

Assistant City Engineer Chase Kuffel reported that someone is needed to lead the composting project. Commissioner Panick agreed to take the lead. Staff has been working on updating the information for the Green Tier legacy communities and getting that up to speed.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

5. Discussion on Initiative Prioritization - Adopt-a-Drain

Assistant City Engineer Chase Kuffel reported that the program currently has 24 adopters who clean 33 inlets throughout the City. Four cleaning logs have been submitted already this year, and staff used the clean up data for the MS4 permit report submittal to the Department of Natural Resources. He noted that 80 gallons of debris were pulled during cleanup efforts. Staff is looking to develop more billboard advertisements and will bring concepts to the Commission. Teen Advisor Metzler reported that her environmental sciences teacher would be interested in doing fields trips with students to clean drains. She will provide her teacher with staff's contact information. Discussion followed regarding social media posts to promote the project.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

6. Discussion on Initiative Prioritization - Pollinator Gardens / Planned Natural Landscapes

Assistant City Engineer Chase Kuffel reported that staff has posted the invasive species document on the City's website. He noted that the Mulva Cultural Center has replied to staff, but they have not been able to provide information yet. Commissioner Castellanos reported that she talked to the Green Bay Botanical Gardens and they are waiting to do something during Pollinator Week in June.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

7. Discussion on Initiative Prioritization - Green Energy

Assistant City Engineer Chase Kuffel reported that staff received the signed contract for the Green Tier Legacy Scoresheet Consultant, and they will hold a kickoff meeting next week to get it going. Commissioner Leonard requested a report on the energy data.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

8. Discussion on Initiative Prioritization - Composting

Assistant City Engineer Chase Kuffel reported that the program is up to 24 households; 11 are on the weekly schedule and 13 are every other week. Discussion followed on continuing promotional efforts.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

9. Discussion on Data Centers

Commissioner Leonard reported that she has researched other communities and states that have authored non-disclosure agreement ordinances or statutes. Ohio has passed something broad for non-disclosure

agreements. Wisconsin has a Senate bill, SB969, working its way through committee; it has similar language to Ohio's, but specifically calls out data centers. Commissioner Leonard feels it is better to come from the state rather than the local level; we don't have any protection without legislation. The City of Superior conducted a survey to evaluate data centers in their area; she asked if it would be worth doing a similar audit here. Commission members then discussed appropriate next steps, and things to think about when drafting language for a potential City resolution. Assistant City Engineer Chase Kuffel cautioned that any draft must be sustainability related. Staff would route through the legal team and administration and then bring back comments to the Sustainability Commission.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

IV. Future Agenda Items

Advertisement concepts for billboards and discussion on ICLEI USA will be brought back at a future meeting.

V. Adjournment

Commissioner Panick moved, seconded by Alderperson Nelson, to adjourn the meeting at 6:10PM. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
City Clerk Carey Danen