

**CITY OF EDGERTON
CITY HALL
12 ALBION STREET
EDGERTON, WI**

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Monday, February 13, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

NOTICE: The meeting noticed above will also be live streamed on a Zoom platform: To view the meeting, please select the link to the meeting listed on the **calendar events** on the City website's home page at www.cityofedgerton.com. Due to occasional technical difficulties, citizen participation via Zoom may not be possible.

1. Call to order; Roll Call.
2. Confirmation of Appropriate Meeting Notice Posted on Friday, February 10, 2023.
3. Consider Approval of November 7, 2022 minutes.
4. Consider areas and process for planting native grasses on public property.
5. Consider regulations for keeping of ducks and rabbits.
6. Staff Report.
7. Adjourn.

cc: All Commission Members
Department Heads

City Administrator
City Engineer

All Council Members
Newspapers

NOTICE: If a person with a disability requires that the meeting be accessible or that materials at the meeting be in an accessible format, call the City Administrator's office at least 6 hours prior to the meeting to request adequate accommodations. Telephone: 884-3341

"Notice is hereby given that a majority of the Common Council is expected to be present at the above scheduled noticed meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility. The only action to be taken at this meeting will be action by the Public Works Committee."

**NOVEMBER 7, 2022 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF EDGERTON**

Chairperson Jim Burdick called the meeting to order at 6:18 p.m.

Committee members present were Jim Burdick, Casey Langan and Sarah Braun.

Also present were City Administrator Ramona Flanigan, Municipal Services Director Howard Moser and citizens.

Moser confirmed the agendas were properly posted on Friday, November 7, 2022 at the Post Office, Edgerton Library, City Hall and the City's website.

APPROVE MINUTES: A Braun/Langan motion to approve the September 26, 2022 Public Works Committee minutes passed on a 3/0 roll call vote.

NEW CURB FINANCING POLICY: A Burdick/Braun motion to approve a new curb financing policy where the resident will pay 50% and the Stormwater Utility will pay 50% of the cost of new curb where curb was not previously installed passed on a 3/0 roll call vote.

Being no other business before the Committee, a Braun/Langan motion to adjourn passed, all voted in favor.

Howard Moser/mjf
Municipal Services Director

Memo

To: Public Works Committee

From: Staff

Date: 2/10/2023

Re: Feb 13, 2023 Meeting

Native grass / pollinator areas: Previously, the city has debated establishing areas of native grasses to increase habitat for pollinators and to reduce maintenance (mowing) costs. Staff would like to discuss the following areas, and any others the committee may have, for the establishment of native grasses or reduced mowing frequency, as well as the process to have native grasses installed.

Areas to establish native grasses:

- 2 acres on Lord Street
- Rail corridor behind Fulton Square
- A portion of Veterans' Park
- Right of way at Newville and Hwy 59
- Right of way at W Fulton and Menhall
- Lyons Street near community garden

Areas to mow once per year as opposed to mowing with a turf mower but not seed with native grasses:

- Portion of Winston dog park

Installation: For those areas where native grasses are to be established, the existing turf will have to be removed or killed.

2 acres on Lord Street: A very effective means of preparing the seed bed for native seeds is by growing soybeans with the aid of Roundup the year before seeding. The only parcel listed above that would be suitable for this process is the 2 acres on Lord Street. Using "the soybean process" would make the city eligible for a grant of free seed from the Bee and Butterfly Foundation. Staff has been unable to find a farmer who is willing to plant soybeans following the grass that is currently there because the insects common in grasses will greatly diminish the soybean yield. Alderperson Casey Langan has reported the FFA Alumni may be willing plant soybeans but may require a payment from the city to cover some of the costs.

Other areas where native grasses are to be established that are not suitable for soybeans would require the removal of turf and planting the seed. This process requires experience

and proper equipment. If the committee wishes to proceed with planting of native seeds, staff recommends the city bid out the installation and establishment of native grass areas. This contract would include the planting of the seed in the 2 acres on Lord Street (hopefully with free seed) as well as the seed bed preparation and planting of the native seeds in the areas selected by the committee.

Ducks: Keeping of ducks and establishment of duck enclosures is prohibited by chapter 29 Animals (See below) unless it is allowed by chapter 22 Zoning. Chapter 22 indicates ducks are allowed in a A-1 Agriculture District only.

The Plan Commission plans to hold a public hearing to determine if chapter 22 will be amended to allow ducks. Chickens are regulated in chapter 22 as opposed to chapter 29 because there are very detailed provisions including the requirement for a permit. Assuming similar regulations are desired for ducks, the Plan Commission will address the duck issue.

Rabbits: The current ordinance (Chapter 29 below) allows the keeping of three (3) rabbits as pets inside a residential structure, but prohibits the keeping of rabbits and establishment of rabbit hutches outside unless otherwise allowed by chapter 22 Zoning. Chapter 22 indicates rabbits are allowed in a A-1 Agriculture District only.

If the committee wishes to allow the keeping of rabbits outside in a hutch, the committee should decide what provisions it wishes to include:

- how many rabbits;
- size / material of hutch,
- will there be setbacks for the hutch,
- in which zoning districts,
- in which yards (rear, side of front yard);
- is heat /electrical permit for winter;
- will a permit to keep rabbits outside be required

Existing Ordinance

29.09(4) KEEPING OF LIVESTOCK, RABBITS, AND FOWL. It shall be unlawful for any person, unless in compliance with Chapter 22, to keep, maintain, or raise farm animals including but not limited to horses, mules, donkey, ponies, cows, pigs, goats, sheep, fowl, steers, rabbits (except for up to three (3) rabbits kept as pets inside a residential structure), poultry (except for chickens kept in compliance with Chapter 22), or other animal raised for fur-bearing purposes. It shall be unlawful for any person, for himself or for any person, firm or corporation, to build, erect, maintain, or use on any lot or parcel of land any hog pen or yard, chicken coop or yard, dove cote or other buildings or yard for the purpose of keeping or housing any pigs, rabbits, geese, **ducks**, doves, chickens (except for chicken enclosures kept in compliance with Chapter 22), or other fowl unless in compliance with Chapter 22.



