

**FEBRUARY 13, 2023 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF EDGERTON**

Chairperson Jim Burdick called the meeting to order at 6:02 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, February 10, 2023 at the Post Office, Edgerton Library, City Hall and the City's website.

APPROVE MINUTES: A Braun/Langan motion to approve the November 7, 2022 Public Works Committee minutes passed, all voted in favor.

PLANTING NATIVE GRASSES ON PUBLIC PROPERTY: Staff and the Committee discussed establishing areas of native grasses to increase habitat for pollinators and to reduce mowing costs. Possible sites include: 2 acres on Lord Street; rail corridor behind Fulton Square; a portion of Veterans' Park; right of way at Newville Street and Hwy 59; right of way at W Fulton and Menhall Drive; and Lyons Street near the community garden.

The Committee also discussed the installation process for areas where native grasses are to be established. The 2 acres on Lord Street would require "roundup ready" soybeans to be grown prior to the planting of native seeds. The City may be eligible for a grant of free pollinator seed from the Bee and Butterfly Fund and the FFA/FFA Alumni may be willing to plant the soybeans. Other areas where native grasses are to be planted would not require the soybean process, however the turf would need to be removed in order to plant native seeds. This process would require experience and proper equipment so the installation and establishment of native grasses would need to be bid out. The Committee agreed to move forward with additional discussion and research on the native grass project.

REGULATION FOR KEEPING DUCKS AND RABBITS: The Committee discussed the current duck and rabbit regulations, and how the ordinance may be updated to allow ducks in the City, and to allow rabbits to be kept outside the home. It was agreed that if ducks were allowed in the City they should be regulated in Chapter 22 (Zoning), similar to chickens. Alternatively, rabbit regulations would stay in Chapter 29 (Regulation of Animals). The Committee recommended the following be included in the draft rabbit ordinance: 6 rabbits maximum; hutches allowed in side and rear yards with setbacks similar to chicken coops; and on single family properties only. Staff will draft updated ordinances for the next meeting.

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

Howard Moser/mjf
Municipal Services Director