

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

November 11, 2022 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Franklin City Hall Training Room

8:00 am	Welcome and Introductions	Mike Cassity
8:05 am	*Approval of October Meeting Minutes	Mike Cassity
8:05 am 8:10 am	Announcements:	Andrew Orr
	-Policy Guides Update	John Brevard
	-New Members	
	-Quality of Life Survey	
	-Native Grasses	
8:10 am 8:30 am	Communications and Social Media	
8:30 am 8:50 am	*Discussion and Prioritization of Policy Guides	Teresa Anderson
	-Review Energy Policy Guide	
8:55 am 9:00 am	News/Updates/Adjourn	Mike Cassity
	-Holiday Breakfast	
	-Next Meeting 1/13/23	

*Item contains an attachment or link

CITY OF FRANKLIN MISSION STATEMENT: Franklin will continually strive to be a community of choice for individuals, families, and businesses to grow and prosper through an excellent quality of life supported by exceptional, responsive, and cost-effective City services.

Anna Timme (12/14/2024)	Christina Christiansen (Utility Rep) (8/23/2025)
Mike Cassity (11/10/2024)	Dana Kose (12/10/2022)
Beverly Burger (BOMA co-terminus)	John Brevard (12/14/2024)
Eric McElroy (Franklin Tomorrow co-terminus since 2/8/2022)	Chase Harper (12/14/2024)
R. Keith Gordon (3/23/2024)	

The Sustainability Commission was created to continue the work Initiated by the Sustainability Task Force and to act as a policy advisory body to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen and City Administrator in the development and initiation of programs that will enhance and promote economic development, environmental health, and social equity within our community for present and future generations (Ord. 2009-41).



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FRANKLIN SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

October 14, 2022 8:00 am

Members Present: Mike Cassity, Alderman Beverly Burger, Eric McElroy, Chase Harper, Christina Christiansen, Dana Kose, Keith Gordon

Members Absent: John Brevard

Staff Present: Andrew Orr, Eric Conner, Teresa Anderson, Cheryl Hebert

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

Mike Cassity welcomed everyone to the meeting. Everyone introduced themselves and gave a brief introduction.

Approval of May Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to approve the September 2022 minutes as presented, by Alderman Burger, seconded by Dana Kose. The motion passed with all in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- <u>Policy Guide Updates</u> Andrew explained that the Policy Guides were presented to BOMA this past Tuesday. Alderman Bagget suggested adding some discretionary funding to next year's budget for this Commission as well as other Commissions.
- <u>A Call For New Members</u> The Mayor does have an interview set up. There are two positions available. One is a vacant position, and the other is Dana's position that ends in December. Six or seven applications were received, and Andrew thought they were all great. Andrew did state there are several other Commission vacancies as well.
- <u>200kw Solar Project</u> Andrew had an internal meeting with the Director of Franklin's Water Department and Franklin's Assistant City Manager over Public Works. There is a hold, but there is support of evaluating this system and using it in the future. They are hesitant on moving forward now as it is still an active construction site and the expansion is wrapping up. The Water Department is open to relocating the facility somewhere else on the property where there would be more acreage available and also upgrading the panels. Almost the entire site is out of the Floodplain. The useful life of the panels are usually 25 years, and they were installed in 2012. The industry average is a loss of 2.3% per year.
- <u>Native Grasses</u> John Brevard is not present but told Andrew that he was going to meet with the folks at Bridgestone/Firestone Wilderness Area and they have a native grass area. We will wait for an update from John.





<u>Recycling News</u> – Mike Cassity read in the newspaper that Spring Hill just signed a contract with Waste Management, and he believes the rate is \$10.87 per month. It would be interesting to understand the cost structure. Essentially it was outsourced. Additional carts are available to rent for \$7.50 per month. Mike C. said he does believe this rate is for both trash and recycling. Eric Conner said he is in the Metro area, and they must pay \$22 per month for just trash and recycling is an additional \$20. Cheryl stated she lives in Spring Hill and is charged \$15.52 a month for trash and recycling. Mike will send everyone a link to the article.

Mike Cassity mentioned the BOMA Work Session he attended this week. He said the Mayor was very complementary regarding this Commission. There is a regional coalition that is coming together, Mayors, State Reps, Waste Management pertaining to recycling. Alderman Burger said recycling is becoming more and more costly. Andrew said more intel will need to be received. Dana wonders if these big companies, like Waste Management, have a solution. She would be curious if they are recycling or is it going to the trash.

Discussion and Prioritization of Waste Reduction, Transportation and Mobility, and Energy Policy Guides:

Andrew Orr - Staff met to look at the policy guides and came up with a ranking system for each of the items. Also assessed and ranked was the difficulty to achieve the item and overall impact.

Waste Reduction – The two that rose to the top of the list were action items seven and ten – these are both fairly easy to do with a moderate to big impact. The three below that had the same level - Item two (moderate impact and achievability), Item five: this is an immediate need and Andrew will report back on this. Andrew explained more customers are being added to the City, but we are not adding more land, therefore, we are running out of space, so more space or different technology is needed. A couple years ago the operation was moved to the wastewater plant, but he was confronted with stiff opposition, so it was moved back. The objection to this move was because of the truck traffic and unsightliness. Different techniques and technologies are being looked into to help with the process. Andrew said Item eight is achievable with a moderate impact. It would be great to make this more regular and maybe even partnership with the Cumberland River Impact. Alderman Burger asked Andrew to get more information from them. Lastly, Mike's suggestion about establishing landfill diversion, this has a high impact but very difficult to complete. Mike would like to take this item on.

Dana wondered if we could have a conversation with Milissa regarding items 4, 11, and 12 regarding promotion – Alderman Burger mentioned having a banner on our website and a monthly post on social media. Andrew said we used to do a "Trash Talking Tuesday" post. Dana mentioned doing a "Sustainability Saturday" – Andrew said recycling has changed so much over the years that people are doubtful about it. Maybe we could get Milissa to attend a meeting to have the discussion with her.

Eric McElroy asked if there is any LEED certification or sustainability metric that the City is aiming for? Andrew answered there is, LEED Silver.





Chase asked if we have any idea of what percentage of companies have a recycling program. Is there a way to survey these companies? Christina feels like Item 13 pertains to sponsorship, not necessarily what percentage of companies participate but what companies may need help with getting started or continuing their process.

Transportation – Eric Conner. – The highest potential item is item six – relatively easy with medium impact. Item four has a moderate on both the difficulty and impact scales. We should be doing this. Easy with low impact are items three, seven, and eight. Item 9 was categorized as difficult with low impact. A suggestion was made about a sidewalk gap, the streets department will do a quick analysis to see if it can be accomplished if someone calls and inquires about a sidewalk gap. Alderman Burger explained that people have called her and she has either spoken with the contractors already working on a sidewalk about just adding in another few feet of sidewalk or has spoken to Steve Grubb (Director of Streets) and it is added to a list. The other thing that people don't know about is if someone calls the Street Department about a potentially dangerous sidewalk, that the Streets Department has 48 hours to get out there and assess and possibly fix the issue. If not, and someone gets hurt the City could be held liable because they knew of the issue.

Eric Connor asked if there any other items that jump out to anyone that are doable? Number 5 was rated difficult with low impact. This is about children walking/biking to school. The City does not have control on stating whether students must be walking or riding their bikes to school. A discussion was had that some schools do not allow children to walk or ride their bikes to school without parent supervision. Andrew mentioned that the Bike/Walk Franklin group would probably be a better group to approach the schools.

Mike Cassity explained that Andrew had a great idea of having the members sign up for an action item and take it on. It doesn't have to be decided today, but let Mike or Andrew know. Dana stated she would like action item eight.

NEWS/UPDATES/ADJOURN

Andrew reminded everyone that the Bike/Walk Summit is next Friday at Columbia State. Eric will be presenting at 2 pm that day.

Alderman Burger moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Chase Harper, the motion passed with all in favor.

The next meeting will be on Friday, November 11, 2022, at 8:00 am.

The meeting adjourned at 9:07 am.

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION



RESOLUTION 2021-81

A RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE THE ENERGY POLICY GUIDE

WHEREAS, on July 28, 2009, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BOMA) approved Ordinance 2009-41 that created a Sustainability Commission to serve in an advisory capacity; and

WHEREAS, on August 11, 2009, the BOMA approved Ordinance 2009-36 that endorsed the Sustainable Community Action Plan and encouraged all citizens to participate; and

WHEREAS, the City has completed or initiated many of the items from the 2009 Action Plan, including the establishment of a residential curbside recycling program, the adoption of a Greenways and Open Space Master Plan, a reduction in municipal electricity costs, and the procurement of several grants; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, the Sustainability Commission held two open-house meetings and conducted an online survey to collect feedback on sustainability related efforts and to determine the most important issues; and

WHEREAS, the BOMA endorsed an updated Sustainability Action Plan in 2013, which was derived from feedback received from the public outreach efforts and contains a section on Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 the City of Franklin was named LEED Silver in the LEED for Cities certification program; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, the Sustainability Commission identified their top three priority areas in which to focus their upcoming work: Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy, Waste Reduction, and Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Sustainability Commission created the Energy Policy Guide to establish policy statements pertaining to energy conservation and renewable energy and to identify action items for the Sustainability Commission to further study.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF FRANKLIN that it endorses the attached Energy Policy Guide (Exhibit A) and charges the Sustainability Commission to further study the action items to bring forth strategies, as deemed appropriate, for the BOMA to consider in its planning, policymaking, and municipal practices.

IT IS SO RESOLVED AND DONE on this _ day of Ula , 2021.

ATTEST:

Eric S. Stuckey

City Administrator

Approved as to Form: By: Shauna R. Billingslev **City Attorney**

CITY OF FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE:

By:_____ Dr. Ken Moore Mayor



ENERGY POLICY GUIDE

The City of Franklin is committed to evaluating energy projects that make fiscal and environmental sense. It's also positioned to make policy changes to encourage advancing energy efficient and renewable energy technologies.



TOTAL MUNICIPAL ELECTRICITY USAGE AND COST

Usage	Cost
24,807,442 kWh	\$2,642,664.00
27,118,515 kWh	\$2,664,966.00
26,743,092 kWh	\$2,905,019.72
27,762,427 kWh	\$2,880,570.71
26,790,143 kWh	\$2,672,170.01
23,561,360 kWh	\$2,702,953.47
25,029,025 kWh	\$2,871,121.38
24,705,955 kWh	\$2,753,071.49
	24,807,442 kWh 27,118,515 kWh 26,743,092 kWh 27,762,427 kWh 26,790,143 kWh 23,561,360 kWh 25,029,025 kWh

ELECTRICITY USAGE AND COST FY 2019-2020

Usage	Cost
912,571 kWh	\$96,581.82
2,045,800 kWh	\$170,373.73
853,281 kWh	\$83,403.77
626,880 kWh	\$56,878.06
258,320 kWh	\$26,238.61
597,628 kWh	\$68,839.53
3,969,525 kWh	\$388,508.72
13,239,728 kWh	\$1,209,811.05
N/A	\$465,943.54
991,817 kWh	\$82,958.42
	912,571 kWh 2,045,800 kWh 853,281 kWh 626,880 kWh 258,320 kWh 597,628 kWh 3,969,525 kWh 13,239,728 kWh N/A

POLICY STATEMENTS

1. The City seeks to use renewable energy, energy efficient technology, and conservation measures to make operations more resilient to future cost increases in order to flatline total municipal electricity usage and costs while adding new infrastructure and services.

2. The City encourages and seeks to make it easier for residents and businesses to adopt energy conservation practices and utilize alternative energy technologies to help them be more resilient to future cost increases.

ACTION ITEMS

- Reduce street light energy usage by converting all street lights to LEDs. Require LEDs for any new streetlight service the City pays for on a monthly basis. Prioritize fixtures that reduce light pollution.
- 2. Evaluate renewable energy and energy saving measures for the new City Hall.
- Complete comprehensive energy audits of all cityowned buildings with a focus on energy cost reduction.
- 4. Evaluate future uses for the 200 kW solar project.
- 5. Complete a comprehensive study of the municipal fleet with a focus on fuel cost reduction.
- 6. Perform community-wide electric vehicle readiness analysis.
- 7. Evaluate the use and costs of LED sports lighting. Prioritize fixtures that reduce light pollution.
- 8. Consider updating the residential energy code to 2018 IECC.
- 9. Utilize social media and conventional media channels to inform the public about the City's energy efforts.
- 10. Act as advocate to the State legislature for energy related policies.