

CHAPTER 49: SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE.

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49.01: Purpose.

The Sustainability Committee was created to advise the City of Ashland's Planning and Development Department, Ashland Common Council and other City of Ashland Departments to provide and improve the sustainability resources (including environmental, economic, and social) of the City for the enhancement of the quality of life for residents, the larger regional community, and visitors. The goals of this ordinance will be accomplished through prioritizing Ashland's sustainability goals, completing annual reviews, organizing sustainability improvement projects pertaining to natural resources, economic efficiency, and social interaction, and enhancing communication within and between the City of Ashland and residents.

The Sustainability Committee will study and make recommendations regarding sustainability issues affecting Ashland community members and undertake such projects and requested by the City's governing body. The Committee shall, from time to time as it deems desirable:

- (a) Present or discuss policies and programs affecting all aspects of City sustainability.
- (b) Recommend cooperation with all agencies, groups, clubs, and individuals concerned with environmental conservation, economic efficiency, and social organization in the City.
- (c) Make recommendations to both the Planning and Development Department and Common Council for maintaining and improving overall quality program/service deliveries.

49.02. Membership and Organization.

- (a) The Sustainability Committee shall be composed of 7 members appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Common Council to serve staggered two year terms commencing July 1st.

One member must be a member of City Council

- (b) At the first meeting of the committee and the first meeting after July 1 of any given year, the committee shall elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson.
- (c) If any committee member has three unexcused absences or resigns, the Committee may declare the position vacant and request the Mayor to fill the vacancy (for the remainder of the term) pursuant to the provisions of this section.

49.03. Duties.

Unless otherwise expressly provided, the Committee may perform its duties without first obtaining the consent of the Common Council but in no event is the committee empowered to financially obligate the City of Ashland in any manner without the consent of the Common Council.

- (a) Prioritize City sustainability initiatives
- (b) Promote/disperse sustainability information to local area of influence
- (c) Serve as contact for sustainability issues and questions
- (d) Organize/Plan sustainability events and programs
- (e) Conduct annual evaluations and monitoring of city sustainability goals and projects
- (f) Encourage citizen participation.

49.04. Meetings and Public Notice.

- (a) The Committee shall meet as determined by the Committee.
- (b) All agenda items will be reviewed by the Committee Chair for validity and urgency of the request and determine when and if that item should be placed on a Committee agenda.
- (c) The Committee shall operate under Robert's Rules of Order.
- (d) All regular and special meetings of the Committee shall comply with the public meeting requirements of Wisconsin Statutes.
- (e) All meeting notices shall comply with the public meeting notice requirements of Wisconsin Statutes.

- (f) All meeting notices and agendas shall be issued by the Planning and Development Department.

49.05. Quorum.

A quorum shall be a majority of the full Committee.

49.06. Reports and Record Keeping.

- (a) Committee members shall select one among themselves, or the Planning and Development Department will designate a staff member, to record the minutes of each meeting of the Committee. A written record of all meetings shall be kept and approved at the next subsequent meeting of the Committee.
- (b) Committee reports and recommendations shall be reduced to writing and shall not be included on a Council agenda until reduced to writing and submitted by the Committee to the City Clerk.
- (c) The City Clerk is the record custodian for the City. All committee minutes and records shall be filed with the City Clerk.

49.07. Referrals to the Committee.

The Common Council of the City of Ashland may refer any matter pertaining to City sustainability programs and projects to the Sustainability Committee for review, study, and reports.

49.08 Miscellaneous Provisions.

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid, unconstitutional by reason of any decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of any other section, subsection, sentence, or clause or phrase or portion thereof.

ADOPTED: 49 (2018-1906) 6/26/2018

