

Our intention is to have in-person meetings going forward. For the time being, we will hold the City Committee Meetings, Plan Commission, Council and most others at the Community Room at 933 Michigan Avenue. This in-person location will meet the legal requirement for our open meetings.

We will have a virtual option available, but the technology for the hybrid style meeting may not be reliable all of the time.

**CITY OF STEVENS POINT
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**

February 5, 2026 - 5:30 PM

**Community Room
933 Michigan Avenue, Stevens Point, WI**

OR

Zoom Teleconferencing

Meeting ID: 827 4999 7870 | Passcode: 972652

By Computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82749997870?pwd=EifNFwuXMR8S2sN5NgPMVO6INEQzhZ.1>

By Phone: +1-312-626-6799 (US Chicago)

(A quorum of the City Council may attend this meeting)

AGENDA

Opening Section:

1. Roll Call.
2. Persons who wish to address the Sustainability Commission on specific agenda items must register their request at this time.
3. Persons who wish to address the Sustainability Commission on non-agenda items must register their request at this time.

Discussion and Possible Action on:

1. To approve the Minutes of the December 4, 2025 Sustainability Commission Meeting.
2. Presentation and discussion with the City of Middleton Sustainability Committee members regarding the committee's sustainability planning process, goals, objectives, and Priorities.
3. Discussion of Sustainability Commission 2026 meeting calendar updates and potential new information for future meeting topics and presentations.

Closing Section:

1. The next meeting is scheduled for March 5, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Room at 933 Michigan Avenue, Stevens Point, WI. A presentation and discussion with Susan Schuller, Executive Director, and Rylee Mullikin of Recycling Connections on the city's downtown recycling program.
2. Adjournment.

Any person who has special needs while attending this meeting or needing agenda materials for this meeting should contact the City Clerk as soon as possible to ensure a reasonable accommodation can be made. The City Clerk can be reached by telephone at (715) 346-1569, TDD # 346-1556 or by mail at 1515 Strongs Ave., Stevens Point, WI 54481.

Copies of ordinances, resolutions, reports and minutes of the committee meetings are on file at the office of the City Clerk for inspection during normal business hours from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**CITY OF STEVENS POINT
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION MINUTES
December 4, 2025 - 5:30 PM
Community Room
933 Michigan Avenue, Stevens Point, WI**

Opening Section:

1. Roll Call.

PRESENT Alderpersons: Allison Birr - District 5 and Sam Lang - District 9
Others Present: Heather Phelps, Robert Michitsch, Greg Knight, and Doug Stingle.

OTHERS PRESENT Speakers: Sylvia Lopez, Northcentral/Northeastern Energy Advisor, Focus on Energy.
UWSP Students: Thomas Hoover, Zander Labrec, Quentin DeBoer, Sam Giguere, and Nathan Sandwick.

2. Persons who wish to address the Sustainability Commission on specific agenda items must register their request at this time.

There were no people who wished to address the Commission on specific agenda items.

3. Persons who wish to address the Sustainability Commission on non-agenda items must register their request at this time.

There were no people who wished to address the Commission on non-agenda items.

Discussion and Possible Action on:

1. To approve the Minutes of the November 6, 2025, Sustainability Commission Meeting.

Robert Michitsch **moved**; Heather Phelps **seconded**, to approve the Minutes of the November 6, 2025 Meeting.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: **All**
 Nays: **None**. Motion **Carried**

2. Presentation by Sylvia Lopez, Northcentral/Northeastern Energy Advisor, Focus on Energy. Focus on Energy overview, accomplishments, and savings for the City of Stevens Point. Also, the potential for future collaboration, new programs, and grant opportunities. Opportunities to reduce energy consumption and reduce greenhouse gas emissions to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.

Overview of Focus on Energy:

- Program helps Wisconsin residents and businesses save energy.
- Provides financial rebates and incentives for energy-saving upgrades.
- For every dollar invested, \$4 in benefits are generated for Wisconsin.
- Support includes energy advisor access, team coordination, training, and funding for projects.

Review of Stevens Point's energy projects over the past five years:

- Police Department: Multiple lighting upgrades, transition to LED.
- Street Lighting: Projects in 2020 and 2021.
- Parks and Recreation: 3 Solar PV installations in 3 parks in 2024 and 1 building furnace replacement.
- Community Facilities: Boys and Girls Club lighting, KB Willett LED Lighting.
- Emergency Services: Fire station lighting/HVAC upgrades, car replacement.
- Summary of savings: \$34,884 in incentives, \$3,394 therm savings, 822,713 kWh saved, 1,342,887 lbs. CO2 avoided, \$105,442 annual utility savings.

Importance of energy-efficient upgrades:

- Extends equipment lifespan, lowers utility bills, supports community carbon footprint reduction.
- Utility bill savings can be re-allocated to other critical budget needs.
- Long-term budget savings by reducing energy costs and improving efficiency.

Rebates and incentives:

- Standard rebates for one-to-one equipment replacements such as lighting and HVAC.
- Custom incentives for operational changes and advanced controls.
- Specific dollar amount rebates for installing qualifying energy-efficient equipment.
- Qualifying rebate incentives require early involvement in project planning.
- Renewable energy incentives (solar thermal, biogas, biomass, wind, hydroelectric). Discussed future changes and challenges anticipated for 2026.
- Work with your Focus on Energy advisor.

Project support, building and lighting upgrades:

- Project Assessment incentives up to \$15,000 to evaluate complex energy solutions, project planning bonuses of 10% to pre-plan energy efficient equipment with Focus on Energy, and building optimization to ensure buildings are operating efficiently.
- Lighting fixture or retrofit kit upgrades, including lighting controls and rebates.
- HVAC upgrades include high-efficiency heating and cooling and heat pumps, a ventilation system, and digital controls.
- Boiler tune-ups.
- Municipal roadway lighting incentives per fixture.
- Retro commissioning (RCx); audit program to improve performance and energy efficiency of existing building systems, equipment, and operations.

Technical assistance, resources and training:

- Working with your Focus on Energy advisor and contact information.
- Support for management plans, equipment checks, and contractor coordination.
- Training and scholarships for building operator certifications.
- Energy best practices guides.

Discussion and Q&A:

- Questions and discussion about solar PV incentives and the impact of federal changes, and the need for increased support for solar projects at the state level. Advocate for enhanced state-level incentives for solar PV projects, especially considering reduced federal support, and monitor updates on new or returning incentive programs.
- Suggestion from commission members to facilitate a meeting between the new Focus on Energy Advisor, Sylvia Lopez, and City department heads to introduce the new advisor and share updates on new incentives for 2026. Recommendation from Sylvia to schedule such meetings in February 2026 to align with project planning cycles.
- Continue and expand use of the Focus on Energy program for City energy efficiency projects, leveraging available financial incentives and technical support.
- Engage the Focus on Energy Advisor early in project planning, especially for new construction (such as the new City Hall Building), to maximize incentives and assistance.
- Encourage department heads to consider energy efficiency and sustainability in both planned and emergency equipment replacements.
- Recommend that facilities' staff participate in building operator certification programs offered through Focus on Energy to improve knowledge and practices.

3. Discussion of Sustainability Commission 2025-26 meeting calendar. Updates and potential new information for future meeting topics, presentations, and speakers.

Review of upcoming meeting calendar:

- Next meeting: February 5, 2026 (Zoom with the City of Middleton Sustainability Committee).
- March 5, 2026: Presentation from Recycling Connections.
- Send ideas for topics and speakers to Chairperson Greg Knight.

4. Discussion on the Sustainability Commission sustainability and climate resilience planning document process, goals, objectives, and timelines.

Development of Sustainability Commission planning documents and road map:

- Commission members to work on: outlining and sharing thoughts on key points and recommendations for development of a City sustainability planning document and/or roadmap.
- Discussion on cataloging accomplishments and identifying future priorities.
- Emphasis on public participation and collaboration with university partners.
- Develop a summary or outline of key points for future recommendations to the City Council.
- Document past and current City sustainability and energy efficiency achievements and programs.
- Invite and engage with City planning staff and external experts, UWSP, and UW Extension, at future meetings for additional ideas and planning tools.
- Identify and prioritize future actions and recommendations of the Sustainability Commission for the City Council, considering public participation and collaboration with local partners.

- Nathan Sanwic (Zoom participant) suggested that the Commission focus on sustainability principles in the City's comprehensive plan, particularly in economic development, transportation, and future land use. Public and private investments should provide long-term value versus short-term least cost. Sustainability is largely about creating systems built to last and impact long-term infrastructure.

Discussion of file-sharing solutions for collaborative work.

- Chairperson Greg Knight will contact City Administrative Support to find out if there is a way to set up a file-sharing account for commission members to file information and work on document drafts.

Closing Section:

- 1. The next meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Room at 933 Michigan Avenue, Stevens Point, WI, with a Zoom presentation and discussion with the City of Middleton's Sustainability Committee Members on their planning process, community involvement, and development of climate sustainability and resilience goals, projects, and carbon neutrality by 2050.**

2. Adjournment.

Heather Phelps **moved**, Alder Allison Birr **seconded**, to adjourn the Sustainability Commission Meeting at **6:59 p.m.**

Call for the Vote: Ayes: **All**
 Nays: **None**; Motion **Carried**

2025_2026 Meeting Calendar and Presentations [12/04/2025](#)

Sustainability Commission

Date	Presentation	Description
March 6, 2025	Public Works	Scott Beduhn, Director: Streets, Fleet, Facilities, Resident garbage, compost, recycling.
April 3	Community Development -Planning & Zoning	Adam Kuhn, Associate Planner/Zoning: Wis Local Gov Climate Coalition, GHG Inventory.
May 1	Public Utilities and Central Transportation	Joel Lemke, Director.
June 5	Parks, Recreation & Forestry	Dan Kremer, Director
July 10 Field trip	Public Works. Scott Beduhn Chris Johnson	Garbage & recycling, Garage facilities planning & Sustainability. 5:30pm at 100 6 th Avenue.
August 19 Field trip	Public Utilities. Joel Lemke	Waste Water Treatment plant; Bio-gas, heat pumps, solar, E-gauge operations.
September 4	Community Development Adam Kuhn, Associate Planner/Zoning	Zoning code revision update. Green House Gas inventory status update.
October 2	Fire and Police Moody and Kussow	Fire, EMS, Police departments sustainable projects and plans.
November 6	UWSP office of Sustainability	Dave Barbier & Michelle Gullickson, Climate action planning and opportunities for collaboration.
December 4	Focus on Energy program	Sylvia Lopez, N Cent/N East Energy Advisor
2026		
January 8	No meeting	
February 5	City of Middleton	Middleton Sustainability Committee Zoom meeting, planning process and projects
March 5	Recycling Connections	Susan Schuller Executive Director and Rylee Mullikin. Downtown recycling program.

Potential Presentation and/or Topics for future Meetings

- Modeling scenarios and planning priorities for Green House Gas (GHG) emissions using the ClearPath tool.
- Planning meeting to develop Sustainability Commission report, recommendations, road map, timelines, etc.
- Caity Carmody, DOA Office of Sustainability & Clean Energy, sustainability, resilience, climate action planning.

- Katie Livernash, Community Development UW-Extension Portage County, sustainability, resilience, climate action planning.
- Austin Holland, UWSP Center for Land Use Education, community sustainability and regional cooperation for sustainability, resilience, climate action planning.
- Food waste diversion from landfills.
- Fleet management planning and replacement tools.
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