

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**

March 5, 2026 - 5:30 PM

Community Room

933 Michigan Avenue, Stevens Point, WI

OR

Zoom Teleconferencing

Meeting ID: 864 0454 2382 | Passcode: 270242

By Computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86404542382?pwd=2nqW9e38fiWhLNtVaqWCOXm84v7Kq.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 February 5, 2026, Sustainability Commission Meeting.
2. Presentation and discussion with Susan Schuller, Executive Director and Rylee Mullikin of Recycling Connections on the City's downtown recycling program.
3. Discussion of the Sustainability Commission 2026 meeting calendar updates and new information for future meeting topics and presentations. Information on the April 2nd Commission facilitated a working meeting to begin developing a sustainability plan road map.

Closing Section:

1. The next meeting is scheduled for April 2, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Room at 933 Michigan Avenue, Stevens Point, WI. A work session for the commission to brainstorm and begin development of a City

sustainability plan road map and development with recommendations for the City Council by the end of this year, 2026. This work session will be facilitated by Katie Livernash, Community Development at UW-Extension Portage County, and Caity Carmody, Department of Administration, Office of Sustainability & Clean Energy, Sustainability, Resilience, and Climate Action Planning.

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
February 5, 2026 - 5:30 PM
Community Room
933 Michigan Avenue, Stevens Point, WI**

Opening Section:

1. Roll Call.

PRESENT Heather Phelps, Robert Michitsch, Greg Knight, Ald. Sam Lang - District 9, and Ald. Allison Birr - District 5.

ABSENT Doug Stingle.

OTHERS PRESENT **Speakers:** Kelly Hilyard - Sustainability Coordinator for Middleton, Lisa Janairo - District 6 Alderperson for Middleton, Laura Buchholz - Sustainability Committee Vice-Chairperson for Middleton, Deb Weitzel - Sustainability Committee Member for Middleton.
Others Present: Bill Fisher, City Resident.

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

No one 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.

No one wished to address the Commission on non-agenda items.

Discussion and Possible Action on:

1. To approve the Minutes of the December 4, 2025 Sustainability Commission Meeting.

Heather Phelps **moved**, Ald. Allison Birr **seconded**, to approve the meeting Minutes of December 4, 2025.

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

2. Presentation and discussion with the City of Middleton Sustainability Committee members regarding the committee's sustainability planning process, goals, objectives, and Priorities.

Middleton's Sustainability Committee background:

- The sustainability committee was formally created in 2009.
- The Committee includes residents, a high school student voting member, an Alderperson, and a full-time City Sustainability Coordinator.
- The 2016 climate referendum showed 82% public support for city climate action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- In 2018, Middleton adopted 100% renewable energy resolution goals (city by 2040, community by 2050).
- In 2019, the city established a full-time city sustainability coordinator, enabling grants, planning & policy implementation, and major projects to be completed.

Energy and Infrastructure:

- 50% of the city electricity comes from renewable sources, largely solar.
- 30% of community-wide electricity comes from renewable sources.
- Solar installations on municipal buildings (golf clubhouse, and water utility sites).
- LED streetlight conversion.
- City fleet EV purchasing.
- Planning for new civic campus (City Hall, library, and Senior Center).
- LEED certification for all buildings and commercial buildings.

Policy and Planning Framework:

- Middleton consolidated its sustainability planning by aligning the 2021 Comprehensive Plan, 2020 Energy Plan, and existing sustainability goals.
- This streamlining approach improved clarity and city council adoption.
- **Sustainable Purchasing Policy:** 2017 policy, but was underused. Policy was updated in 2023 to include: life-cycle cost analysis for all major purchases, vehicle fleet replacement requirements for evaluating gas vs. EV vs. hybrid, contracts/purchasing requests for proposals (RFP's) must include sustainability criteria (e.g., low-carbon concrete).
 - Policy implementation included staff listening sessions, training, and tools (e.g., fleet life-cycle calculator).
 - Departments now must justify purchases in budget requests using sustainability criteria.
 - Must have the input and support of city staff (survey and training staff).

Community Engagement and Education:

- High school student representatives play an active role in bringing sustainability goals to the school district; one helped pass a school district sustainability resolution (100% renewable by 2035).
- The School District's EV bus purchase, solar panels were installed on buildings, and a voter referendum that also supports sustainable projects.
- Partnerships with local organizations support public education of city sustainability goals (e.g., bird-safe building design).
- The "Sustainable Middleton" Awards Program recognizes individuals, nonprofits, schools, and businesses' accomplishments towards a Sustainable Middleton.

Challenges and Future Issues:

- **Data Centers** are emerging as a major concern because of the very large energy and water demands.
- Middleton is considering policies similar to Madison's Data Center Moratorium and may seek involvement in the Dane County Data Center Task Force.
- Staff capacity and funding remain an ongoing challenge.

Q&A with Stevens Point Commissioners:

- Sustainability issues and synergies with Madison and adjoining communities.
- Integrating sustainability into zoning codes and comprehensive city plan updates.
- Training resources.
- Implementation outcomes from the sustainable purchasing policy.
- Data center impacts.
- Committee structure and city staff support.
- Middleton provided detailed examples, emphasizing alignment of plans, staff buy-in, and persistent advocacy.

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.

Robert Michitsch **moved**, Ald. Sam Lang **seconded**, to adjourn the Sustainability Commission Meeting at **7:10 p.m.**

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

2025_2026 Meeting Calendar and Presentations [March 5, 2026](#)

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.
April 2	Commission work session	Sustainability road map & plan development Katie Livernash, UW-Extension Caity Carmody, DOA Office of Sustainability
May 7		
June 4		
July 1		
August 5		
September 3		
October 1		
November 5		

December 3		

Potential Presentation and/or Topics for future Meetings

- Modeling scenarios and sustainable 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.
- City facilities/buildings master planning for LEED.