



City of Avondale

Energy, Environment and Natural
Resources Commission



[Link to Summary of Actions](#)



[Link to Meeting Minutes](#)



**The Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Commission
Online Meeting**

Join the meeting: <https://avondaleaz.zoom.us/j/94719802175>

Using a Mobile Device? Download the Zoom Cloud Meeting App.

Join the meeting with audio only: Call 1-669-900-9128 (meeting ID: 947 1980 2175)

Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at 6:30 P.M.

Agenda

- 1. Roll Call by Staff Liaison at 6:42 PM.**
- 2. Commissioner and Staff Member Introductions. Discussed.**
 - a. Kevin Murphy, Director, Development and Engineering Services
 - b. Jodie Novak, Assistant Director, Development and Engineering Services
 - c. Danae Presler, Sustainability Officer
 - d. Commissioners
- 3. Unscheduled Public Appearances. None.**
- 4. Approval of February 26, 2020 Minutes (For Action). Approved.**

Staff Liaison Note: This item was moved after item number five when a quorum was established.
- 5. Presentation on City's Water Conservation Program. Discussed.**
- 6. Updates from Sustainability Officer. Discussed.**
- 7. Discussion of Future Agenda Items. Discussed.**
- 8. Adjournment. Meeting Adjourned at 7:55 PM.**

Members will attend either in person or by telephone conference call.

Los miembros asistirán en persona o vía teleconferencia.

Individuals with special accessibility needs, including sight or hearing impaired, large print, or interpreter, should contact the City Clerk at 623-333-1200 or TDD 623-333-0010 at least two business days prior to the meeting.

Personas con necesidades especiales de accesibilidad, incluyendo personas con impedimentos de vista u oído, o con necesidad de impresión grande o intérprete, deben comunicarse con la Secretaria de la Ciudad al 623-333-1200 o TDD 623-333-0010 cuando menos dos días hábiles antes de la junta.



**The Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Commission
Avondale Civic Center, 11465 West Civic Center Drive, Sonoran Conference Room
Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at 6:30 P.M.**

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:04 PM.

1. Roll Call by Staff Liaison

Members Present: Chair Litzy Hernandez, Thomas Albrigo, Elizabeth Valencia, Paul Lemmon and Billy Vaughan.

Members Absent: Vice Chair Rebecca Forstner, Barry Upshaw, Ariel Gomez, and Bernadette Barba.

Other Municipal Officials Present: Kevin Murphy, Development and Engineering Services Director; Jodie Novak, Development and Engineering Assistant Director; Linda Mendenhall, Deputy City Clerk; Danae Presler, Sustainability Officer; and Esmie Avila, Water Conservation Specialist

Billy Vaughan arrived at 7:04 PM.

2. Commissioner and Staff Member Introductions

Kevin Murphy, Development and Engineering Services Director; Jodie Novak, Development and Engineering Services Assistant Director; and Danae Presler, Sustainability Officer introduced themselves to the Commission. Commission Members introduced themselves to staff.

3. Unscheduled Public Appearances

None.

4. Approval of February 26, 2020 Minutes (For Action)

Staff Liaison Note: This item was moved after item number five when a quorum was established.

Motion was made by Commission Member Lemmon, seconded by Commission Member Vaughan, to approve the February 26, 2020 Meeting minutes at 7:45 PM.

Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously 5 to 0.

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Chair Hernandez	Aye
Member Vaughan	Aye
Member Albrigo	Aye
Member Valencia	Aye
Member Lemmon	Aye

5. Presentation on City's Water Conservation Program

Esmie Avila, Water Conservation Specialist, presented on the City's Water Conservation Program.

Member Lemmon inquired if the City's landscape codes apply to residential lots in a Homeowner's Association (HOA). Ms. Avila explained that the landscape codes apply to the common areas but not to residents' private property, however, an HOA may specify landscaping requirements for homeowners within the CC&Rs. Member Lemmon suggested that future housing developments encourage water conservation through their landscaping requirements.

Member Lemmon asked if new residents receive education on water conservation. Ms. Avila responded that new homeowners in Avondale receive a packet with landscape handbook and informational brochures delivered to their doorstep.

Member Vaughan inquired about rebates for HOAs converting turf to low-water use landscaping. Ms. Avila verified that rebates are available to HOAs for turf conversion at a rate of \$200 per 1,000 square feet, up to \$3,000 per year. Ms. Avila offered assistance to HOAs interested in the program.

Member Albrigo asked if the city's public utilities have sufficient supply for leak repair or if the supply chain has been impacted. Ms. Avila responded

6. Updates from Sustainability Officer

Danae Presler, Sustainability Officer, provided updates on the City's sustainability efforts. Ms. Presler shared with the Commission that the City has been awarded an EPA Brownfield Grant in partnership with the cities of Phoenix and Tempe and with support from Arizona State University. Grant monies will be expended to conduct an inventory of brownfield sites, perform environmental assessments and develop cleanup and reuse plans for brownfields.

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Ms. Presler informed the Commission that Mayor and Council approved of installing two Level 2 electric vehicle charging stations at the Municipal Operations Service Center. These charging stations are being provided to the City at no cost as part of the APS Take Charge pilot program.

Member Vaughan shared that SRP currently has rebates available for installation of electric vehicle charging stations.

Ms. Presler advised that a research team from Arizona State University has been conducting a study of the Crystal Gardens wetland neighborhood to analyze the impacts of green infrastructure on temperature cooling, quality of life, and effect on property values. The study is nearing completion and draft reports will be shared with the City for review.

Member Lemmon requested that the results of the study be shared with the Commission. Ms. Presler will provide the reports to the Commission.

Ms. Presler went on to update the Commission on a grant she applied for in collaboration with the cities of Phoenix, Tempe and Mesa to help cool vulnerable neighborhoods.

Lastly, Ms. Presler shared that Cien Motor Werks was certified as a Green Business last week under Avondale's Green Business Program. Two more site visits are scheduled for Thursday, May 28, 2020 for Cien's Garage and Sipping Sisters Cafe.

7. Discussion of Future Agenda Items

The next Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Commission meeting is scheduled for July 22, 2020.

Chair Hernandez requested that the Commission revisit the annual goals at the next meeting.

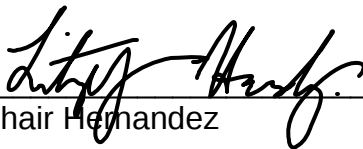
Member Lemmon suggested using the July meeting to plan this year's One Less Campaign.

Members Albrigo and Lemmon expressed interest in learning how COVID-19 has impacted the City's utilities. Chair Hernandez and Member Lemmon inquired what impact COVID-19 has had on Green Businesses.

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8. Adjournment

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.


Chair Hernandez


Danae Presler
Sustainability Officer as Staff Liaison

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting held on the 27th day of May 2020. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that the quorum was present.


Danae Presler
Sustainability Officer as Staff Liaison