

**MINUTES
CITY OF ST. CHARLES
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING
LOREN NAGY, CHAIRMAN
SEPTEMBER 14, 2023**

1. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was convened by Chair. Nagy at 7:03 p.m.

2. Roll Call

- 3. Commissioners Present:** Angela Churchill, Tom Galante, Lee Haggas, Jeff Mengler, Laura Miller Hill, Suzi Myers, Loren Nagy, Pam Otto, Meagan Provencher. **Student Member:** Deetya Solanki.

Absent: Commissioners: Heather Goudreau, Ryan Johnson. **Student Members:** Morrighan Hayes, Callie Ramirez.

City Staff Present: Marcelline D'Argento, Victor Pierce.

4. Appointment of New Commissioner

Mayor Vitek recently appointed Jeffrey Mengler to serve on the Natural Resources Commission [NRC]. Comm. Mengler introduced himself to all present, and was welcomed to the Commission by Chair. Nagy.

5. Minutes Review and Approval

Motion to approve and place into the public record the minutes of the August 10, 2023 NRC meeting. Motion by Comm. Churchill, second by Comm. Provencher to approve the minutes. Voice vote: unanimous; nays – none. Motion carried at 7:05 p.m.

6. Old Business

A. Scarecrow Weekend

Comm. Myers reported having an information booth at the City's Scarecrow Weekend event was not feasible. Comm. Myers, with the assistance of City staff, built a scarecrow for display at Scarecrow Weekend from October 6th – 8th. The theme of the display is Dark Sky awareness and World Migratory Bird Day, which will be observed in the United States and in Canada on October 14th.

B. Bird City Community Designation

Comm. Myers reported City Council passed a Resolution on September 5th authorizing the city's observance of World Migratory Bird Day. The resolution is required as part of the city's Bird City application. A copy of Resolution No. 2023-96 is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

7. New Business

A. Dark Sky Awareness

Comm. Otto reported the Park District will be meeting with the staff of the Illinois Youth Center to discuss what can be done about the bright lights from the center impacting wildlife at Hickory Knolls.

8. New Committee Assignments

Chair. Nagy reported all members of the NRC have been assigned to at least one of the restructured committees. Assignments were based on members' preferences and at the discretion of the chairman based on who might best fit each committee. Chair. Nagy will serve on the Ad-Hoc Committee, which currently involves the NRC's single-use bag initiative. Chair. Nagy reported he will be making an additional presentation to City Council regarding single-use plastic bags; representatives from the City of Batavia and Lakeshore Recycling Services will participate in the presentation as well. A copy of the committee assignments is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

9. Communications – Public Services Division Tree Activity Reports

Motion to approve and place on file the Public Services Division tree activity reports for August 2023. Motion by Comm. Galante, second by Comm. Haggas to approve the reports. Voice vote: unanimous; nays – none. Motion carried at 7:27 p.m.

10. Additional Items

A. Commissioners

Comm. Provencher requested an update from City staff regarding the NRC's Instagram account. Staff reported an administrative hold on the account had been placed by META. The City's communications manager is working with META to resolve this issue.

Comm. Miller Hill noted "It's Our Fox River Day" is this Saturday, September 16th and confirmed the NRC team leaders' had the information they needed for the event.

Chair. Nagy noted there are three openings for high school students to join the NRC. Student Member Solanki and the Commissioners will reach out to the high schools in St. Charles to facilitate filling the openings.

B. City Staff

None.

11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion by Comm. Churchill, second by Comm. Myers to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote: unanimous; nays – none. Motion carried at 7:44 p.m.

City of St. Charles, Illinois
Resolution No. 2023-96

REFER TO:
Minutes 9-5-23
Page _____

**A Resolution to Authorize the City of St. Charles to Observe October 14, 2023
as World Migratory Bird Day**

**Presented & Passed by the
City Council on September 5, 2023**

WHEREAS, migratory birds are some of the most beautiful and easily observed wildlife to share our communities;

WHEREAS, migratory birds and their habitats are declining throughout the Americas, facing a growing number of threats on their migration routes in both their summer and winter homes;

WHEREAS, public awareness and concern are crucial components of migratory bird conservation;

WHEREAS, since 1993, World Migratory Bird Day has become a primary vehicle for focusing public attention on the nearly 350 species that travel between nesting habitats in our communities and throughout North America and their wintering grounds in South and Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean, and the southern United States;

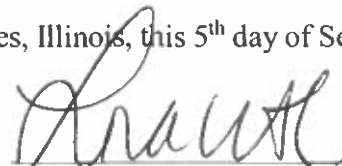
WHEREAS, World Migratory Bird Day is not only a day to foster appreciation for wild birds and to celebrate and support migratory bird conservation, but also a call to action;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of St. Charles, Kane and DuPage Counties, Illinois, that the Mayor and City Council celebrate and observe October 14, 2023 to be World Migratory Bird Day and support efforts to protect and conserve migratory birds and their habitats.

PRESENTED to the City Council of the City of St. Charles, Illinois, this 5th day of September, 2023

PASSED by the City Council of the City of St. Charles, Illinois, this 5th day of September, 2023

APPROVED by the Mayor of the City of St. Charles, Illinois, this 5th day of September, 2023



Lora Vitek, Mayor

ATTEST:



Nancy Garrison
City Clerk

COUNCIL VOTE:

Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
Absent: 3
Abstain: 0



Natural Resources Commission Committees

- Education & Outreach

- Social Media
- Current Education Committee Duties
- Langum Woods

Comm. Myers

Comm. Otto

Comm. Provencher

- Engagement

- Current Community Sustainability Committee Duties (pumpkin smash, oil recycling, rain barrel sale)
- Event Planning (Arbor Day, workshops, river clean up, etc.)

Comm. Goudreau

Comm. Haggas

Comm. Miller Hill

- Advisory

- Current Greenest Region Compact Committee
- Periodic Reviews of UFMP and Tree & Shrub Ordinance

Comm. Churchill

Comm. Johnson

Comm. Mengler

- Ad-Hoc

Comm. Galante