

Resolution #2-R-25
Appleton Sustainability Advisory Panel's Emissions Reduction Recommendation

Date: February 19, 2025

Submitted By: Alderperson Hayden – District 7

Referred To: Parks & Recreation Committee

Summary: This resolution presents the recommendation of the Appleton Sustainability Advisory Panel (ASAP) to establish the City of Appleton's emissions reduction target, aiming to cut the City's net emissions by half by the end of 2034.

Whereas, Resolution #13-R-19 (2019) set a goal for the City to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 or earlier;

Whereas, the City's December 2021 Climate Action Proposal advised adopting a resolution to establish clear timelines for reducing energy consumption and transitioning to 100% renewable energy by 2040;

Whereas, the City Council passed Resolution #9-R-22, creating the Appleton Advisory Panel on Sustainability and Climate Resilience to provide recommendations on meeting the objectives outlined in the 2021 Climate Action Proposal;

Whereas, the Appleton Advisory Panel on Sustainability & Climate Resilience serves as an advisory body to the Mayor, City Department Directors, and the Common Council, offering guidance on sustainability, climate action, and resilience initiatives;

Whereas, this panel has since adopted the name Appleton Sustainability Advisory Panel (ASAP);

Whereas, the ISO International Workshop Agreement 42:2022 on Net Zero Guidelines aligns with the Paris Agreement's goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C, recommending that net emissions be reduced by half every decade;

Whereas, the City of Appleton reported net emissions of 27,198 metric tons of CO₂e in 2023, as documented in ASAP's December 2024 report to the City Council;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the City of Appleton update its emissions target, shifting from the goal of achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 or sooner to a new objective of reducing net emissions by 50%—from 27,198 metric tons CO₂e to approximately 13,600 metric tons CO₂e—by 2034. Additionally, the City will maintain an aspirational stretch goal of reaching net-zero emissions by 2050, contingent upon our electrical utility supplier meeting its Scope II target.