

#5-R-23

Resolution Joining the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition (WLGCC)

Submitted By: Alderpersons Brad Firkus - District 3, Kristin Alfheim - District 11, and Denise Fenton - District 6

Submitted Date: June 7, 2023

Referred To: Parks & Recreation Committee

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Appleton on November 20, 2019, passed resolution 13-R-19 resolving that the City recognizes the overwhelming threats from climate change and human induced stressors to our environment, infrastructure, economy, and residents' health require that we take bold mitigation and adaptation measures to address these consequences of climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Appleton recognizes that efforts to reduce carbon emissions, adapt to climate change impacts and address issues of environmental pollution and waste will benefit Appleton residents through cost savings, stable energy prices, job opportunities and increased local revenues, social equity, improved air and water quality, and improved public health; and

WHEREAS, The City of Appleton Advisory Panel on Sustainability and Climate Resilience has recommended the City of Appleton join the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin has a goal of 100 percent carbon-free electricity by 2050 and local governments are important actors to help implement the State's goal and Clean Energy Plan;

WHEREAS, the City of Appleton has:

- A Mission Statement that includes meeting the community needs and enhancing the quality of life.
- In 2005, Established a 25% Energy Reduction Goal by 2025.
- In 2010, joined the Green Tier Legacy Community through the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.
- In 2019 passed Climate Change Resolution 13-R-19.
- In 2021, created a Master Plan to Move Appleton Towards Sustainability

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition is a group of local governments who work together to seek low-carbon and clean energy solutions. Members recognize that climate change poses severe risks to our communities and that we cannot avoid the worst effects of climate change without effective state policy; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition supports:

- Increased state and federal funding for energy efficiency, renewable energy, electrification of transportation and buildings, and advanced technology and research development solutions.

- State policies and laws that enable local governments and others to implement such actions to grow the clean energy workforce.
- State plan to retire coal plants no later than 2045.
- Choices and universal access to clean energy to reduce cost and participation barriers.
- Smart growth development policies and funding to reduce vehicle miles traveled, preserve natural resources, including agricultural, forestry, and recreational lands; and

WHEREAS, there is no cost to becoming a Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition member and the technical assistance provided to the City can result in additional savings and grant opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Appleton shares the goals of the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of Appleton that the City of Appleton officially joins the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition in their efforts.

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