

June 10, 2015

Chairman Tom DeRoss called the meeting of the Tipp City Tree Board to order on Wednesday, June 10, 2015 at 5:15 pm. Other Board members in attendance included: Joanna Pittenger and Adam Blake. Also in attendance were City Park/Street Superintendent - Jim Asher, Tipp City Arborist – John Montgomery, Wendy Van Buren - Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and Board Secretary - Kimberly Patterson. Citizens signing the register: There were none.

Minutes

Chairman DeRoss asked for discussion. Being no further discussion, Mrs. Pittenger **moved to approve the April 08, 2015 meeting minutes as written**, seconded by Mr. Blake and unanimously approved. **Motion carried.**

Items Not on the Agenda

Sterling Tree City USA Award

Wendy Van Buren with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources attended the meeting to present the Tipp City Tree Board with their Sterling Community Award. This award is achieved by communities that have earned the Growth Award for ten consecutive years in a row. The Certificate stated the following:

"In recognition of ten years of participation in the Tree City USA Growth Award Program, Tipp City, Ohio has been named a Sterling Tree City USA By the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service. Presented on this Arbor Day, 2014 – Matt Harris Chief Executive

Mrs. Van Buren mentioned that there were only a hand full of communities with the Sterling designation.

Asian Longhorn Beetle

Board Members inquired what the status was on the secondary insect of concern.

Mrs. Van Buren stated that the Asian Longhorn Beetle was not in Ohio and that approximately 125 trees have been removed due to infestation. The Asian Longhorn Beetle likes thirteen different species of trees to find as a host tree and recommended that the Board Members continue to look for signs for the Beetle. Mrs. Van Buren noted that if a single larvae was not found in the tree then treatment was possible but if one ovipositor was found the tree would be cut down.

Mrs. Van Buren noted that on September 16, 2015, was Tree Academy Freshman course.

New Business

Tree Planting/Removal Requests

The Board discussed and concurred on the following

- Thomas McDonald, 349 N. Second – Remove by City *Approved for removal.

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- Linda Heffner, 431 N. Fourth – Remove by City *Recommended to trim the tree and deadwood.
- Heather Bailey, 304 W. Broadway – Remove by City * Board requested more information from the home owner.

Community Tree Pruning – June 13, 2015 at Kyle Park Pavilion

Tipp City Tree Arborist John Montgomery stated that there were eight people currently signed up for the class scheduled to be held at Kyle Park Pavilion. Mrs. Patterson would have staff send out a tweet and facebook reminder to sign up for the class. Mrs. Pittenger stated that KIT-TV will be on site to record the event.

Old Business

County Road 25A Project

Mr. Asher stated that due to possible installation of sidewalks the new City Engineer had recommended that the trees be planted as though the sidewalks were to be installed; which would narrow the curb lawn significantly. Chairman DeRoss noted that the Board had picked a variety of size trees and strategically had the trees placed in particular areas where they best fit. Mr. Asher was asked by our new City Engineer to pick smaller to trees for the entire project. Mr. Asher mentioned that he had suggested Armstrong Maple. Mr. Blake stated that the majority of the trees chosen were slow growing, self-shaping large trees and would take them a long time to grow.

Mrs. Van Buren stated that a medium sized tree could be placed in a 6' curb lawn area and that a small maturity tree will never get the height to be out of the right of way and will always be high maintenance; and whereas a medium size tree could be limbed up and out of the way.

Chairman DeRoss stated that he was comfortable removing all the large trees but was not ok with removing the medium trees and installing all small trees which would look like an orchard and not look right. Board Members concurred.

Mr. Blake stated to drive around the community and to look around and wondered why we wouldn't want the same look throughout the entire City.

Mr. Asher noted that the Armstrong maple was in the small tree category but could get very tall. Mrs. Van Buren suggested the new Purple Princess Oak which grows 45' straight up.

Board Members inquired as to when the species needed to be returned to the City Engineer. Mr. Asher expressed very soon. Board Members agreed to accept the recommendation and to hold a special meeting to pick the species on June 17, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.

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Chairman DeRoss noted that all of the large trees would not be eliminated and extended an invitation to the City Engineer to attend to discuss the varieties in public form.

Miscellaneous

Stump Removal Update

Mr. Asher stated that he had just received a quote to remove 57 stumps for \$10,000. Mr. Montgomery mentioned that when he first started that he was tree removing 12 requests a year and now tree removing 120 requests a year.

Ash Tree Removal Update

Mr. Montgomery stated that 150 Ash trees have been removed; present inventory was 300; 12 large Ash trees in City Park. Mrs. Van Buren noted to double check the Ash trees in August for the borer.

Downtown Trees

Mr. Asher stated that 6 trees had been replaced. Mrs. Van Buren suggested to switch out species maybe bulb cypress, honey locust, linden plain trees. Mr. Asher stated that he could make that happen during fall tree planting.

Adjournment

Chairman DeRoss asked for further discussion or comments. There being none, Mr. Blake **moved for adjournment**, seconded by Mrs. Pittenger and unanimously approved. **Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

APPROVED: Joanna Pittenger
 VICE Board Chairman, Thomas DeRoss
 Joanna P. Henger

ATTEST: Kimberly Patterson
 Kimberly Patterson, Board Secretary