

**February 8, 2017**

Chairman Thomas DeRoss called the meeting of the Tipp City Tree Board to order on Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at 5:14 p.m. Other Board Members in attendance included Joanna Pittenger. Also in attendance were Tipp City Arborist Anthony Freels, Board Secretary Dawn Gross, Board Secretary Jennica Whitt, City Manager Timothy J. Eggleston, City Engineer John Donnelly, and Deputy City Engineer Eric Mack.

Citizens present: Adam Blake.

Swearing in of Member: Adam Blake was sworn in to reappointment of board member position by Dawn Gross.

Election of Officers: Chairman DeRoss **moved to defer the election of the officers until the April 2017 meeting.**

Minutes

Ms. Pittenger **moved to approve the December 14, 2016 meeting minutes as presented.** Seconded by Mr. DeRoss and unanimously approved. **Motion carried.**

Items Not On the Agenda

- Mr. DeRoss wanted to thank and acknowledge that approval by the City Council of the 2017 budget request.
- Mrs. Pittenger requested that a purchased memorial tree for her step daughter be planted in City Park instead of Kyle Park. **Mr. Blake moved that the memorial tree for Teresa Pler be planted in City Park as opposed to Kyle Park as indicated on the application. Seconded by Mr. DeRoss and unanimously approved. Motion carried.**
- Mrs. Pittenger requested approval of her resignation as a Tree Advisory Board Member. **Mr. DeRoss accepted the resignation.**
- Request for removal of a curb lawn tree by the contractor located at 215 N Hyatt St.

New Business**Tree Planting/Removal Requests**

The Board discussed and concurred on the following requests:

- 628 S 3<sup>rd</sup> St – Removal and Planting by the City  
The original application, by the resident Ben Mosier, for a removal request states that the tree is dead with falling branches. It also states that it was the only tree not removed when the street was redone. Mr. DeRoss confirmed this information adding that he saw 2 holes in the tree and was concerned that the middle of the

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tree was no longer present. **Mr. DeRoss moved for approval of the removal and planting of the tree by the city and seconded by Mr. Blake and unanimously approved. Motion carried.**

- 215 N Hyatt – Removal and Planting by Contractor
  - The original application, by the contractor, John Link with Link Custom Homes, states that the request for removal is to allow for a new home construction with driveway. It also states that the contractor agrees with replacing the tree with a new one once construction is complete. **Mr. Blake moved to approve the above request and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.**

**Complaint**

- 14 W Dow- A complaint was received via email from a Restoration Board member, Heather Wendel, concerning the condition of a tree on the property. The complaint states that "...I am concerned that a passerby might get hurt by branches falling from his property. There are several (very large diameter) broken branches from the tree in front of his house that are directly above the sidewalk." Mr. DeRoss pointed out the Tree Advisory Board is permitted by Ordinance 97.31 to send a letter and provide notice to have it removed at the owner's expense. According to Joanna Pittenger, who holds the position of 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Board of Health of the General Health District, the property owner, William Kessler, has been charged with several health code violations concerning the property. At their January 2017 meeting, it was motioned that the owner be granted until March 17, 2017 to have the violations fixed. If these violations are not completed by this time, approval for demolition will be granted at the March 23, 2017 meeting. Mr. Frees stated that on observation of the tree, he noted that the tree is still alive and there are a few branches that are broken but are still well attached to the tree. He agrees that the tree does need to be trimmed, but removal is not warranted. **Mr. Blake moved to have the city staff comprise and mail a letter to the owner on behalf of the Tree Advisory Board and its ordinance 97.31 regarding the tree in question and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.**

Other Business**Tree Removal Under Transmission Lines In Kyle Park**

- Mr. Donnelly provided an update regarding DP&L's progress on removing the trees under the transmission lines in Kyle Park. He stated that they removed 7 trees (stump removal to still take place) and have agreed to give the city a check of \$600 to help replace the trees that were removed. The only requirement that they have is that if the city would like to have the trees replanted under the transmission lines, then the choice of tree would have to come from DP&L's approved list. This would guarantee an appropriate tree size

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for this area. Otherwise, if the city wants to plant the trees elsewhere, the \$600 check will still be granted and the city can choose whatever tree they would like.

#### **Ordinance Review**

- Mr. Eggleston presented an updated version of the Tree Advisory Board Ordinances with changes noted. To include: Chapter 97- Trees Section(s) 97.01, .11, .26, .27, .30, .31, .32, .33 and adding Section 97.24 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Tipp City. Mr. DeRoss asked what the procedures were in regards to notifying a resident regarding a tree impeding the right-of-way and following up with receiving a response from the resident. Mr. Donnelly and Mr. Eggleston confirmed that the current procedure consist of sending a letter to the resident and following up with a second letter if there has been no action. If after a second letter there is no response, then it would be presented to the law director for further action. **Mr. DeRoss moved to approve the changes to the Ordinances. Mr. Blake seconded and unanimously approved.**

#### **Memorial Space for Tipp City Foundation Members**

- Mr. Eggleston presented a request on behalf of the Tipp City Foundation Members to have the Tree Advisory Board approve a specific section of Kyle Park for their own memorial tree plantings together. Mr. Blake motioned to have the request be presented to the Park Board to decide where there is adequate space for such a request.

#### **Tree City USA Significant Tree Submission**

- Jennica Whitt presented to the board information concerning submission of a "Significant Tree Photo" for the Tree City USA Awards program. Wendi Van Buren, ODNR Urban Forester recently sent out an email to participating cities requesting a picture and description of a significant tree in their town to be presented at the next Tree City USA Awards program. Mrs. Whitt spoke with Mr. Asher regarding this request and Mr. Asher decided that the Oak tree located in the City Park football field would be appropriate. Mrs. Whitt located a couple of pictures of the tree, via Internet, and comprised a descriptive story, "Thanks To Our #1 Fan," about the tree. The board unanimously agreed that both pictures and story were appropriate to submit.

#### Citizen Comments -Items Not On the Agenda

#### Comments of Tree Advisory Members

- Mrs. Pittfenger stated that the tree board in the past (30<sup>th</sup> year) has hosted the Tree City USA Awards program and has discussed about trying to host it again

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for year 35. The board agreed and Mrs. Whitt stated that she would notify Wendi of the offer.

- Mrs. Pittenger made note that Arbor Day plantings will need to be ordered soon and coordinating with the community schools for celebration of Arbor Day will need to be started since it takes place in April. The tree board does not meet again until April 12. Mrs. Whitt stated that she and Mr. Brookhart were made aware of the information and Mrs. Whitt is waiting to for further update from Mr. Brookhart regarding the saplings. Further coordination and planning will continue in the weeks to come and the Tree Advisory Board will be updated often.

Adjournment

Chairman DeRoss asked for further discussion or comments. There being none, **Mr. DeRoss moved for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Blake and unanimously approved. Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_



Thomas DeRoss, Board Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_



Jennica Whitt, Board Secretary