

April 5, 2017

Chairman Thomas DeRoss called the meeting of the Tipp City Tree Board to order on Wednesday, April 5, 2017 at 5:15 p.m. Other Board Members in attendance included Adam Blake. Also in attendance were Tipp City Arborist Anthony Freels, Tipp City Superintendent of Municipal Services Tony Hunt, Board Secretary Dawn Gross, Board Secretary Jennica Whitt, and City Manager Timothy J. Eggleston. Citizens present: Karen Jackson.

Swearing in of Member: Karen Jackson was sworn in by Dawn Gross to serve the remainder of term for previous member Joanna Pittenger.

Election of Officers: **Adam Blake moved to appoint Mr. DeRoss to serve as Chairman, Mrs. Jackson seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried. Mr. DeRoss moved to appoint Mr. Blake as Vice Chairman, Mrs. Jackson seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.**

Minutes

Mr. DeRoss moved to approve the February 8, 2017 meeting minutes as presented and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

New Business

Tree Planting/Removal Requests

The Board discussed and concurred on the following requests:

- 121 W Plum St – Removal of Curb Lawn Tree by the City
 - The original application, by the resident Julie Lara, for a removal request states that the sidewalk is up two inches in 2 spots. All board members stated that they did notice somewhat of a rise of the sidewalk, but otherwise the tree is in good condition. Mr. DeRoss asked what the City's code was in regards to the maximum allowance of lift in sidewalks. Mr. Eggleston stated that insurance companies look at the maximum lift allowance being ½" or less. He stated that the City is looking into obtaining a product called permeable asphalt which has expanding capabilities. This material could allow for tree growth without damaging sidewalks and eliminating the removal of a healthy tree. **To allow the preservation of the healthy tree and allow time for the City to explore other options, Mr. DeRoss motioned to defer the tree removal request at this time, but will accept the request in a year if it has not been rectified within this time. Unanimously approved. Motion moved.**
- 79 Kiser Dr. – Removal and Planting of Curb Lawn Tree by the City

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- o The original application, by the resident, Carol Pietro states that the request for removal is the tree is infected. Mr. DeRoss and Mr. Blake agreed that they saw the tree was in poor shape. Mr. Freels stated that he also noticed the poor condition of the tree and have placed it on their list for removal. **Mr. DeRoss moved to approve removal and planting of the tree by the City. Unanimously approved. Motion moved.**
- 115 S 2nd St- Removal of Curb Lawn Tree by the City
 - o This location is part of the Vectren 2016 Bare Steel Sidewalk Project. The tree had substantial roots that required removal in order to eliminate heaved walk. A request was submitted on behalf of Tipp City Inspector, John Bodiker to remove the curb lawn tree. All board members agreed that this tree does need to be removed. **Mr. DeRoss moved to approve removal of the tree by the City. Unanimously approved. Motion moved.**

2017 Annual Plan

- The 2016 Annual Plan was examined to develop the 2017 Annual Plan. Items that will be on the current Annual Plan are as follows (details can be obtained at the City Government Center):
 - Continue review of Planting and Removal applications from property holders.
 - Tree Pruning Educational Class provided by City Staff.
 - Recommend trees for replacement using Species Diversity Plan (10-20-30 [Species-Genus-Family]).
 - Promote Arbor Day, April 28, 2017.
 - Meet standards for Tree City USA.
 - Promote continuing education for Board members.
 - Completion of the Westedge Tree Inventory and Replacement Plan.
 - Update Ash Inventory, present to City.

Other Business

Ordinance Changes Update

- Mr. Eggleston stated that the ordinance changes that were presented to City Council were not approved at the second reading. The Council is requesting that the Tree Advisory Board adopt the following modification of the code 97.24 Reforestation: "If a tree is removed that is within the city right-of-way, the city shall notify the property owner in writing that they may request another tree to be planted in its place in accordance with 97.25 Street Tree Species To Be Planted. The Tree Board shall act upon the request prior to the replanting of the tree. Should the Tree Board deny the request, the property owner may appeal to the City Council as allowed under 97.15." After further discussion between board members and Mr. Eggleston, it was decided that Mr. DeRoss and Mr. Eggleston would schedule a separate meeting to further discuss and compose the code.

14 W Dow St- Violation Notice Letter Update

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- The violation notice letter to the resident of 14 W Dow St. was mailed 02/15/2017. No further action by the resident regarding the tree has been noted. No further action by the City has occurred.

Tree Removal and Planting Update

- Mr. Freels stated that all of the trees that were on the list to be removed have been removed. He did note that there still are various Ash trees throughout the City that will be addressed as time allows. Mr. DeRoss questioned if Lescher Woods Ash trees have been addressed. Mr. Hunt stated that the Street department has been going through and clearing out the trails of brush and Ash trees. Over the next couple of weeks, any Ash trees that could potentially fall on the paved walking trail of Lescher Woods will be removed. Mr. Hunt stated that 3 Ash trees were removed in Hathaway Park and 3 Pine trees were planted. Six Ash trees were removed in Kyle Park: 3 at the entrance (which will be replaced with new trees) and 3 others towards Timmer Pavilion (at the west side of the drive) will be removed this summer. Mr. DeRoss asked if there were any future plans to replace the Ash curb lawn trees that were taken out in the neighborhood of Miles Ave. Mr. Hunt stated that the increased funds that were granted by the City Council would help fund that project. Mr. Hunt further stated that 9 trees were going to be planted on 04/06/2017: 3 in Kyle Park (1 of which is a Memorial tree, a second is the Arbor Day Tree, and a third near the Arbor Day Tree), 1 in City Park (a Memorial Tree), and 5 curb lawn trees throughout the City.

Arbor Day Update

- A Red Oak tree will be planted this week. The Tipp City Arbor Day Celebration is scheduled to take place April 28, 2017 from 10:00-11:00am at Kyle Park, South side of the main drive- just past the flag pole. Invitations have been made to all staff, City Council, Tipp City Mayor, Community Services, KIT-TV, and other various media outlets. Nevin Coppock 1st grade students will also be bused (by the school) to the event (weather permitting). Each student will also receive a tree seedling to take home. In case weather is poor, students will remain at the school and the City will bring the tree saplings to them for distribution.

TCMS Requested Presenter for Tree Pruning Summer Session

- Jennica Whitt stated that she was contacted by Katie with Tipp Monroe Community Services (TCMS) asking to acquire a presenter for their summer classes regarding tree pruning, as has been done in the past. Retired City employee John Montgomery was pleased to agree to hold the session again on behalf of the City. At this time, the session is scheduled for Saturday, June 10, 2017 from 9:00-10:00am (originally the date was stated during the meeting incorrectly as June 2, 2017). Location will be Kyle Park at the Timmer Pavilion.

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Citizen Comments -Items Not On the Agenda

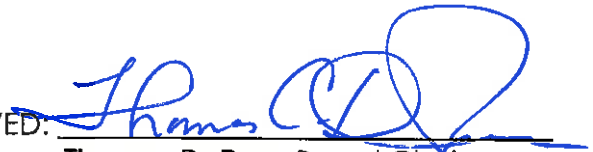
Comments of Tree Advisory Members

- The Tree City USA Awards Ceremony is April 21, 2017 in the City of Lebanon. Mrs. Whitt offered to register any board member that would like to attend. Registration deadline is April 12, 2017. All board members contacted Mrs. Whitt stating they would be attending. Registration has been submitted since this meeting.

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 6:17 p.m.

APPROVED: _____



Thomas DeRoss, Board Chairman

ATTEST: _____



Jennica Whitt, Board Secretary