

FORESTRY COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 24th, 2020 @ 8:00 A.M.

Oconto City Hall Council Chambers

- 1.) The September meeting was called to order by Chairman Jeff Werner @ 8:10 a.m.
- 2.) Roll Call: Nick Badendick, Tom Sasse, Jeff Werner, and Susan K. Seidl
Also Present: Director of Parks, Rec. and Forestry John Bostedt
- 3.) **Seidl issued approval of Agenda; Sasse called second. (4 Ayes)**
- 4.) **Approval of Meeting Minutes from 8/13/2020 was placed into motion by Sasse with a second of Badendick. (4 Ayes)**
- 5.) Public Input: None.

- 6.) Correspondence:
 - a.) Two e-mailed issues of the Northeastern WI Forest Health Update WI DNR were sent to Committee members by Director Bostedt. Among the information were more insight into the Emerald Ash Borer which has arrived in Oconto County; Gypsy moth rebound; Oak leaf damage; and worms accompanying the Maple, Spruce, Balsam, Jack Pine and Redheaded Pine. All, it appears, increase in wet moist summer.
 - b.) Two Wisconsin Pollinators publications were also e-mailed to this Committee by the Director. The 1st issue shared more information about bees including hive defense. Clover helpful to lawns, and the mosquito quiz tested our knowledge, as did corn growth, and the caterpillar anatomy. The second issue newly discussed leaves and identification of the Ladybug vs. Japanese beetle which Sasse corrected as the Asiatic Female Beetle.
 - c.) Tree City USA Bulletin, handed out at the last meeting, and surveyed by the Committee explored several trees and shrubs. Diverse planting has been a basic of this Committee for new tree selection a few years now, as suggested by the bulletin. Buckthorn has become a problem which continues to have permanent solution in goats eating it off. (Director Bostedt stated it has been done elsewhere, and emphasized a pamphlet is available at the City Hall desk counter.)
 - d.) The 2020 Urban Forestry Webinar registration was sent to the members. Seidl will view sessions and share any learning.

- 7.) Discussion/Recommendation/Action on the Following:
 - a.) Review of wording for the present ordinance for Dangerous, Obstructive, or Infected Trees was once again TABLED.
 - b.) Future Tree Planting Areas was not expanded.
 - c.) Tree trimming in the City of Oconto has been completed. The Campground is over ½ complete: note residents are still there. One tree on Jefferson and one on Superior were noted by Badendick, and one Maple on the river (behind Main St.) was addressed by Sasse as needing a trim job yet: with the bucket truck.
 - d.) Other Plantings—All is looking good-to-date. As of yet, Doren Street is in waiting for its new planting.
 - e.) Trees removed include south of the Campground and a dead top removal.
 - f.) Round-a-bout tree, and two Pecor St. tree replacements will be occurring. The County needs to fix/maintain the cement curbing as it is crumbling due to faulty traffic. Both the flowers planted in one round-a-bout and tree in the other make Oconto's Highway 22 entrance desirable.

 - g.) Staking of previously planted trees is down to west Main St.
 - h.) Tree City USA plaque/sign (are both up) /stickers/& Tree City flag flies and marks the 20th year membership of the City of Oconto at Holtwood.
 - i.) Tent Worm Nests have been attacked throughout the City by our crew. In all, 31 nests were taken down and burned of the 33 reported (residents have been informed of the last 2 and the decision at their choice).
 - j.) The 2020 Tree City USA Renewal Application card has been received. It will be processed and at the end of March/April reaffirmed.

k.) The **2021 Forestry Budget**, handed out at meeting, was relayed by Director Bostedt. Included were \$600 for the Green Bay Conference; \$4,500 for EAB which is now in Oconto County; an increasing fund Carryover from 2020 to accomplish our City Tree Assessment (\$15,800 @ cost 4 years ago); \$2,000 for tree planting and replacement of those decayed/destroyed. Also there is a Carryover to balance the 2021 Budget. **Sasse called a motion to accept the proposed 2021 Forestry Budget as presented by Director John Bostedt. Badendick supported with a second.** (M/C)

8.) Next Meeting Date/Time: Thursday, October 15 @ 8 a.m.

Agenda Items:

- Review of wording for the present ordinance for Dangerous, Obstructive, or Infected Trees
- Discuss the Arbor Day presentation with 6th Grade students/January

9.) **Seidl summoned adjournment @ 8:48 a.m. Sasse witnessed a second.** (M/C)

Minutes submitted by Susan K. Seidl