

FORESTRY COMMITTEE
Wednesday July 12th, 2023 @ 8:08 A.M.
Oconto City Hall Council Chambers

- 1.) Chairman Tom Sasse called the meeting to order @ 8:06 a.m.
- 2.) Roll Call: Tom Sasse, Susan K. Seidl, Jeff Werner
Excused: Nick Badendick
Also Present: Director of Park, Rec., and Forestry John Bostedt, & Diane Motiff
- 3.) **Seidl motioned for approval of Agenda; Werner called second. (3 Ayes)**
- 4.) **Approval of Meeting Minutes from 06/14/2023 were placed into motion by Sasse with a Werner second. (3 Ayes)**
- 5.) Public Input: None.
- 6.) Correspondence:
 - a.) Northeastern WI Forest Health Update - WI DNR-6/9/2023 held several useful articles including Spongy Moss increase within the last decade; an end to the EAB quarantine due to Emerald Ash Borer being so widely spread; and that only 4 counties remain free of EAB. Finally we learned that there is now a biological method in which to control Garlic Mustard.
 - b.) Wisconsin Pollinators – Lantana –Butterfly Magnet (6/18/2023) Lantana is commonly grown as an annual: hummingbirds like it too. A life-cycle of EAB was relayed.
 - c.) Wisconsin DNR- (Outdoors for All) 7/7/2023 This concentrated on the expanding of pollinator planting.
- 7.) **Discussion/Recommendation/Action on the Following:**
 - a.) *Future Tree Planting Areas*– Forestry retains an extended list.
 - b.) *Other City Website Ideas for Forestry Page*– to include Bluebirds from Audubon.
 - c.) *Sharp Park (Select Cut/Buckthorn/Clean Up)* once again was in lengthy discussion. We learned that our Goat Buckthorn-elimination source, Stephanie, is now booked for the rest of the working season. Forestry is aiming to attack Sharp Park Buckthorn in 2024.
 - d.) *Grants* (Google Docs) for Buckthorn removal have been searched with a couple positive results... including a Grant that centers on opening up public trails.
 - e.) *From Stephanie: Sharp Park-What to Expect* and Sharp Park Quote continues as we seek a way to write awarding Grants. Director Bostedt connected us with Stephanie via his phone with the following results: Yes, gas \$ for goat transportation will be necessary; We can perform the daily check and watering of the goats (learning how-to as a team... and then alone); City park clean-up will continue throughout the winter months. Stephanie has attained a working partnership with UW-Extension: this boosts her ability to visit with us and attack planning, and Grants, etc. for 2024. *Meanwhile Bostedt will talk with Administrator Bickel for her Grant input, and set up an August date for the Committee, Stephanie, and Bickel to begin the process.*
 - f.) *Update on Planted Trees With Drought Conditions*– Director Bostedt and crew have been paying attention to how our most vulnerable plantings are being affected. We learned that we lost one Red Maple and others throughout the City are suffering though watering is in process.
- 8.) Next Meeting Date/Time: Wednesday, August 9 @ 8 a.m.
Agenda Item: Stephanie and Adm. Bickel: Sharp Park: **Beginning Grants**
- 9.) **Seidl summoned adjournment @ 9 a.m. Werner sought final closure. (M/C)**
Minutes submitted by Susan K. Seidl