

## FORESTRY COMMITTEE

Wednesday November 29th, 2023 @ 8:00 A.M.  
Oconto City Hall Council Chambers

- 1.) Chairman Tom Sasse called the meeting to order @ 8:05 a.m.
- 2.) Roll Call: Nick Badendick, Tom Sasse, Susan K. Seidl, Jeff Werner  
Also Present: Director of Parks, Rec. and Forestry John Bostedt, Diane Motiff
- 3.) **Seidl motioned for approval of Agenda; Werner called second. (4 Ayes)**
- 4.) **Approval of Meeting Minutes from 10/10/2023 were accepted by Sasse with an equal response of Werner. (4 Ayes)**
- 5.) Public Input: Sasse called attention to a partially diagnosed EAB Ash tree in the terrace of the Okato Manor. He has witnessed an affected spread of EAB north and south.
- 6.) Correspondence:
  - a.) Northeastern WI Forest Health Update - WI DNR  
10/19/2023 Sasse reminded us of the content: it is time to treat invasive plants.  
11/01/2023 Oak Wilt is in Ashland County: 66th of the 72 counties.
  - b.) Wisconsin Pollinators –(2)  
“How to Gather Seeds in Fall” (10/15/2023) No info here.  
“All About Pumpkins”(10/29/2023) Werner filled in the latest moose information as they have had less population in WI... however, it is slowly rising. Reasons for past loss? Over hunting and environmental affected habitat. Their predators are wolves, bears, and cougars.
  - c.) Wisconsin DNR Info- (2) No new information herein.  
“A Focus on Wisconsin’s Forestry”(10/16/2023) No addition.  
“Get Ready for Deer Hunting”(11/01/2023) Elk have been reintroduced in WI.
- 7.) **Discussion/Recommendation/Action on the Following:**
  - a.) *Future Tree Planting Areas* have been established.
  - b.) *Other City Website Ideas for Forestry Page* has no new entries.
  - c.) *Sharp Park* has had all necessary- danger- cleanup. It will receive more attention this season. People are using the park.
  - d.) *Meeting For Grants 2024* –(*Buckthorn*) We await Stephanie’s response. Both Badendick and Motiff emphasized the need of the City to keep in touch with her as the public “wants to know”.
  - e.) *Up-date- Nuisance Trees* have been eliminated, however one new one has come to Bostedt’s attention.
  - f.) *Fall Planting 2023* has become Spring Planting 2024 due to weather conditions. Werner keeps contact with the middle school teachers as we remain aware that the 7th graders did not get a physical planting opportunity though they did take the tour. The well organized indoor demonstration and discussion Bostedt presented held student attention.
  - g.) 2024 Forestry Budget has been approved as presented with the carry over.
  - h.) *Tree City USA Recertification- 2023* is almost complete @ Bostedt’s hands: he requested Werner to send pictures as they did not come through on the computer: he

will try with the office staff and if no result will again contact Werner. Sasse will send his in as well.

i.) *2024 WAA/ WI DNR Annual Urban Forestry Conference* (Green Bay, WI - February 25th-27th,2024) An informational brochure will be coming soon: Director Bostedt checked the computer which only held outdated information. We are to place the dates on our calendars for availability.

j.) *Motus Wildlife Tracking System* (motus.org) The new device, mounted @ the harbor, was gifted by our Bird City Status. It can check flight time and average speed of banded birds. Also included is the potential to be chosen to receive a few native trees: Bostedt will keep us informed.

8.) Next Meeting Date/Time: Wednesday, December 13 @ 8 a.m.

**9.) Seidl summoned adjournment @ 8:46 a.m. Badendick witnessed second. (M/C)**

Minutes submitted by  
Susan K. Seidl