

## FORESTRY COMMITTEE

Wednesday December 13th, 2023 @ 8:00 A.M.  
Oconto City Hall Council Chambers

- 1.) Chairman Tom Sasse called the final 2023 meeting to order @ 8:26 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 called motion for approval of Agenda; Badendick followed with a second. (4 Ayes)**
- 4.) **With the amendment of 5. Public Input to say “the EAB Ash tree across the street from the Okato Manor”, approval of Meeting Minutes from 11/29/2023 were moved by Werner with a second of Seidl. (4 Ayes)**
- 5.) Public Input: None.
- 6.) Correspondence:
  - a.) Northeastern WI Forest Health Update - WI DNR 12/5/2023 No commentary.
  - b.) Wisconsin Pollinators – (2)  
“Wisconsin Native Turkeys” (11/12/2023) Werner stated that native turkeys were the only poultry plentiful in WI, by the ‘70s they had gotten thin. Sasse added that WI and Missouri made an exchange of Rough Grouse with turkeys to restock WI.  
“10 Tree Care Myths” (11/26/2023) Werner commented on 1 of the myths: wrapping the trunk to prevent bark problems.
  - c.) Wisconsin DNR Info- (2)  
“Going to Bat for Wisconsin Bats” (11/29/2023) Noted by observation, bats in WI depleted due to White Nose Syndrome, however there are sightings again: The City has erected bat houses.  
“Have you seen an active bear den while hunting?” (12/01/2023) Discussion ensued.
  - d.) Arbor Day Foundation – “Reflections on the world forum on Urban Forests” (11/10/2023) It was noted that the article was interesting... worldwide involvement.
- 7.) **Discussion/Recommendation/Action on the Following:**
  - a.) Future Tree Planting Areas- Director Bostedt added the infected tree area of Arbutus and Madison.
  - b.) Other City Website Ideas for Forestry Page- No present additions.
  - c.) Sharp Park- The forestry crew will revisit the property in the near future: Sasse noted that despite the freezing temperatures, Buckthorn still has leaves on it.
  - d.) Grants for Buckthorn (2024)- Administrator Burrueel will make contact for an update next week.
  - e.) Up-date on Nuisance Trees- Indeed, there are 2 EAB infested trees @ Madison and Arbutus: they are being cut down, wood chipped, and burned. Once again we visited our Sasse snapshots of this type of devastation.
  - f.) Tree City USA Recertification- 2023- All paperwork is being completed with the last fall cleanup, other paperwork is up-to-date, and pictures attached.
  - g.) 2024 WAA/ WI DNR Annual Urban Forestry Conference (Green Bay, WI February 25th-27th, 2024) We still await an informational brochure so that the attendees can be selected, date chosen, and fees paid.
- 8.) **Next Meeting Date/Time: Tuesday, January 16, 2024 @ 8 a.m.**  
Agenda Items will remain the same.
- 9.) **Sasse summoned adjournment @ 8:55 a.m. Badendick called second (M/C)**

Minutes submitted by Susan K. Seidl