

MINUTES OF THE FORESTRY COMMITTEE
Wednesday July 10, 2024 @ 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: John Bostedt/Director of Parks, Rec., and Forestry; Mayor Martin; Diane Motiff
- 3.) **Seidl motioned for approval of Agenda; Werner witnessed a second. (5 Ayes)**
- 4.) **Approval of Meeting Minutes from 6/12/2024 was called into motion by Sasse with a second of Werner. (5 Ayes)**
- 5.) Public Input: Seidl had an Arbor Day Foundation pamphlet and booklet (July/Aug. 2024) with materials for our website or 6th grade poster contest.
- 6.) Correspondence:
 - a.) Northeastern WI Forest Health Update - WI DNR (July 2024 was given last month)
 - b.) Wisconsin Pollinators – 7/1/2024 (Summer issue Celebrate the Season) The Committee noted several informational tidbits.
 - c.) Wisconsin DNR Info-none
 - d.) Informational Handouts from 2024 WAA/WI DNR Urban Forestry Conference were handed out @ the meeting, allowing members of the Committee to be updated on recent information. Members of the Committee will study the handouts and share any concerns @ the August meeting. Also given was an Agricultural Dept. booklet.
- 7.) **Discussion/Recommendation/Action on the Following:**
 - a.) *Future Tree Planting Areas* have been listed. It was noted that Harbor Road tree lining has been completed: looks good. Also, this fall we added trees on Jones Ave., also thriving.
 - b.) *Other City Website Ideas for Forestry Page*– Note the Arbor Day handouts. Bostedt suggested we could continue to add a little packet for our Arbor Day planting, as we have done in the past.
 - c.) *Sharp Park*– Bostedt’s crew has cleaned up after the last windstorm. Also feedback from the Pickle and Wiffle ball tournament participants and spectators was all positive as to the property, facilities and upkeep.

d.) *Grants for Buckthorn (2024)* This issue continues to be in the works with a County employee. Tabby is also seeking out Grants.

e.) *Up-date on Nuisance Trees*– Some are on personal property. Director Bostedt noted that 2024 has had the most calls yet. Sasse noted the Farnsworth Library property: a dying Ash tree stands on the north end of the parking lot, and one on Main St. too. Also, there is an issue in the front of the middle school

f.) *Motus Project Bird Friendly Plants*– Unfortunately the deer discovered them! However, the staff has fenced the planters off and plantings are taking hold again. In September we will receive our Motus “winning” trees.

g.) *Up-date on Newly Planted Trees*– Note discussion in a.). Main Street has 2 Coffee trees- by the aluminum donation bin -that are top bare: on sandy soil, they are being tended. The Crab trees planted around Tractor Supply have received new collars with an awareness to the store’s grass-weed eaters. Otherwise, they have taken root well.

h.) *2024 Tree City Recertification Process* has replaced its paper version with online processing: the negative is that it takes a long time for response and, Bostedt questioned them as to the potential of uploading pictures, as evidence.

8.) Next Meeting Date/Time: Tuesday, August 6 @ 8 a.m.

Agenda Items: USDA Forest Service Tree Owner’s manual comments; WAA/WI DNR Conference handout discussion

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

Minutes submitted by Susan K. Seidl