

Findlay Shade Tree Commission

Minutes of October 6, 2008

Meeting convened at 7:00PM in the Municipal Building Conference Room by Chair Mike Jurkiewicz. Those in attendance were: Brooks Bosse, Linda Casey, Bruce Hardy, Mike Jurkiewicz, Rick Kidwell, Bill Malloy, Deb Seng, Cathy Smith, Mark Steward, and Matt Stoffel.

Minutes for the meeting of September 8, 2008 were approved.

Reports

Street Dept. – Matt Stoffel

Matt reported that crews have been working on tree removals and clean-up of storm damage. Several ash trees will be removed from Firestine Park. Marketable timber will be sold at city property auction.

Two Street Dept. employees attended training session on tree trimming/removal and are now certified.

Engineering Dept. – Mark Steward

Mark stated that there were no related projects at this time.

City Council – Deb Seng

Deb reported that council approved the EAB Management Plan.

Council is working on the budget in light of a proposed large reduction, as much as 22%. Extreme fiscal conditions are requiring serious review of all expenses. A spending freeze is currently in place.

Service Director – Bruce Hardy

The EAB Management Plan was approved by council.

The public meeting to discuss the Austree plantings along East Sandusky Street, was attended by 7 of the 13 property owners. There was a mostly positive response. AEP will be proceeding with the removals in late December/early January.

City Forester – Cathy Smith

Cathy reported that the inventory and mapping for Firestine Park and Riverside Park have been completed by Timothy Rethorn, the Eagle Scout candidate. He has also arranged for scouts to assist with the planting of the new trees following the removal of the 27 trees marked for removal. Deb Seng recommended that a resolution be drafted to recognize Timothy at an upcoming council meeting.

Stephanie Miller has identified EAB infestation at Riverside Park and a Cord Avenue location.

An EAB Informational Meeting will be held on October 16th at The Lodge at Riverbend. The purpose is to provide accurate information about EAB to lawn care firms, etc.

Old Business

The Fall Adopt-A-Tree program was reviewed. There were applications for approximately 30 trees. Applications were distributed to STC members for the inspection process. Completed inspections should be returned to Mike by October 26th. Tree distribution will be held at The Cube on Saturday, November 1st from 9-Noon.

New Business

Brooks Bosse referred to a planting violation. The property owners, previously denied in the Adopt-A-Tree program, have planted a tree in that location. Follow-up was recommended.

Next Meeting - November 3, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Kidwell
Secretary