

## Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 14, 2016 at 4:30 PM

Ed Overland Room, City Hall, 381 E Main St, Stoughton

**Members Present:** Kevin Short, Dean Tangeman, Keith Kvalheim and Sid Boersma

**Absent & Excused:** Robert Kardasz & Kendall McBroom

**Staff:** Street Department Secretary Vickie Erdahl & Forester Randy Nelson

**Guests:**

**Call to order:** Meeting called to order at 4:30 PM by Short

### 1) **Communications:**

*Boersma* reported the back ground history that of the East Main St trees that were removed due to road construction and because of small parkrows were not replanted on the north side of the street which is now being questioned. The Public Works Comm. discussed the E Main St tree planting plan that *City Forester Nelson* and several members were not in agreement with the plan and requested that the Tree Commission review and respond. **Placed on October agenda.**

*Boersma* also requested that the Tree Commission review new development site plans to allow appropriate park rows to plant trees and more room in general when the houses are built because of Arnett building houses to close together. *Boersma* would like to see the Planning Department forward development plans to the Tree Commission for review before approving. **Placed on October agenda.**

*Nelson* requested that the Tree Commission review Ordinance 10-2 (d) street tree installation as the wording suggests the developers only pay the money and the city will plant which would burden the city as they have a small crew and already the cost to cover the plantings is outdated – need to calculate actual tree price, products, planting fees, mulch and watering. **Placed on October agenda.**

Commission was reminded of the training on Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. Dean had already signed up and Kevin was checking his agenda.

### 2) **Forestry Reports:** No discussion.

### 3) **Update on Emerald Ash Borer (RFP):** *Hebert* finished the RFP which *Nelson* was reviewing and making suggestions. The RFP will be brought to the committee for review at the October meeting.

### 4) **Update on Wood Lot Plan:** *Nelson* stated that

- ✓ Approx. 30 Populus trees were removed
- ✓ 11 Populus trees had massive crown reduction and sides trimmed
- ✓ 100's of non-native trees and bushes were removed (honeysuckle, buckthorn, maples & ashes)
- ✓ Wood chips were left on site
- ✓ Site will continue to be monitored for future safety issues
- ✓ 2 parkrow trees were removed and need to grind the stumps

### 5) **Approval of minutes from August 10, 2016 Meeting:** Motion by *Boersma*, seconded by *Kvalheim* to approve the minutes. Carried 4-0.

- 6) **Construction Contracts Discussion:** After a short discussion of issues with trees being damaged in construction areas and multiple complaints from city residents, the committee would to see language put into the city contract that would hold the companies liable for damages. *Nelson* was asked to find some examples to use and the committee will forward language to the Public Works Committee for adoption. *Nelson* said that the Public Works Director, *Brett Hebert* and Planning Director, *Rodney Scheel* have discussed the situation and would also like to see changes made.
- 7) **Future Agenda Items:** Construction Contracts, EAB RFP, East Main Street Trees, Ord 10-2(d) & New Developments Plats and 2016 Fall Tree Removal RFP

Motion by Tangeman, seconded by Kvalheim to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m. Respectfully submitted 9/22/16,  
Vickie Erdahl - Staff