



Shade Tree and Beautification

January 26, 2021

Commission Meeting

Minutes

3:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Susan Kahl	Board Member	Present	
Kate Burley	Board Member	Present	
James Brown	Chair	Present	
Brian Ball	City Engineer	Present	
Richard Dzik	Safety Service Director	Absent	
Colleen Clarkson	Board Member	Present	
Lauren Heffelfinger	Board Member	Absent	
Tanner Salyers	At Large	Absent	

Judy Ashcraft-Recording Secretary
Brian Wade-Wade and Gatton Nursery
Mayor Starr

MINUTES APPROVAL

Minutes of the August, September, October and November 202 at 3:00 PM

Kate Burley made a motion to accept the August, September, October and November 2020 commission minutes. Colleen Clarkson seconded the motion. AIF, motion carries.

FINANCIAL REPORT

OLD BUSINESS

TCP Program- Ms. Clarkson stated that she is up to 80 trees. Mr. Wade stated that we has 6 to go.

Arbor Trust Budget- Mr. Brown stated that he is expecting to get the \$25,000.00 again this year and two things that we need to consider is the bridge on Mount Vernon Avenue and would like to designate a good chunk of money to some trees along Mount Vernon Avenue by the new bridge and up through the Center Run bridge. Mr. Brown stated that he would like to be more deliberate about the trees but make it showy. Mr. Brown stated that with the Public Square he asked if the Arbor Trust going to fund all of this or our we going to split this with grant. Ms. Burley stated that she has including it in the cost from the grants. Mr. Brown stated that we did Belmont Street last year and thinks this should be the TCP area for this year.

Mr. Brown stated to Mr. May stated that 50-60 trees that will be planted on Edgewood Road would be added to the water truck watering this year.

Mr. Brown asked if we could find a small group of retired people that would not mind working a day or two a week driving the truck and watering the trees and build a team that we could pull out of to cover the week. Mr. May stated that he would rather have the two that work everyday.

Mr. Brown stated that we are going to be putting more trees at Riverview Park.

Mr. May asked if there was a total of trees that need to be watered this year. Mr. Brown stated around 300 trees.

Tree City USA-2021 is at Lancaster, it is their 40th Anniversary. It will be held in June or July of this year.

Mr. Brown stated that 2022 is our year to have the Tree City USA Program/Banquet here in Mount Vernon Ohio.

NEW BUSINESS

Public Square

Mayor Starr stated that he would like to do a video of the work that will be done on the Square with removing some trees and also inform the public of the work and purpose of the Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Brown asked commission members who would like to get drafts on these press releases. Ms. Clarkson asked why the trees are coming down other than they are old.

Mr. Wade explained why these trees need to come down. Sweet Gum Tree: Mr. Wade stated that the tree has out grown its spot and is shallow rooted because of the cistern that is underneath of it. Blue Spruce: This tree is diseased and is dying. Norway Spruce: This tree has outgrown its usefulness, it is so big and there is nothing down below the branches. Mr. Wade stated that the tree will eventually grow old and blow over. Maple Tree: It has some bad crouches in it and is weak. We have another tree there taking its place, so we are creating a space for it to grow. Buckeye Tree: This tree is weak wooded, is breaking and falling and is quickly turning into a dangerous tree. He stated that a new Buckeye tree would be planted there. Mr. Wade stated that they want to have the trees removed by the end of February. Colleen Clarkson stated that she would work up a draft and have Mr. Wade and whoever wants to look at it.

Funding for Public Square-Arbor Trust will fund part of this project.

TCP-Catherine and Oak Street and Belmont Ave.-Trees for TCP in these areas

Arbor Day

ARBOR DAY-Mr. Brown stated that we had East School picked for Arbor Day last year and would like to do them this year. Mr. Brown stated he would get a hold of the school to find out a date.

Mr. Brown asked if council passed our budget of \$25,000. Mr. Ball stated that it was passed for \$50,000.00 because of the line pond from the bike path.

Cemetery Planting- Mr. Wade stated that they will be planted soon, in about a month.

Mr. Ball stated that he would meet with Jon May about a bench request from Susan Kahrl.

ADJOURN

Ms. Burley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Kahrl seconded the motion. AIF, motion carries.