

CITY OF SAINT PETER, MINNESOTA

MINUTES OF THE TREE ADVISORY BOARD

Monday, June 15, 2020 7:00 PM

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the City of Saint Peter Tree Advisory Board was conducted at Public Works Office, Conference Room.

A quorum present, Board Chair Mike Looft called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following Board Members were present: Mike Bidelman, Al Christensen, Brian Fremo, Eli Hoehn, Sarah Nielsen, Mike Looft, Ryan Kupcho and Laura Zender. The following Board Members were absent: Emily Bruflat, Shanon Nowell and Jordan Paula. The following ex-officios were present: Pete Moulton, Director of Public Works and Joey Schugel, Director of Recreation and Leisure.

Visitors present: Scott Schroeder, Maintenance Superintendent and Angie Glassel, Administrative Secretary.

Approval of Agenda – Eli Hoehn made a motion, seconded by Laura Zender, to approve the agenda. With all in favor, the agenda was approved.

Approval of Minutes – Sarah Nielsen made a motion, seconded by Ryan Kupcho, to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2016. With all in favor, the minutes were approved.

Visitor Presentations – No visitors in attendance.

Unfinished Business:

- A. There was no unfinished business to discuss.

New Business

A. Forestry Program Overview: Pete Moulton, Public Works Director and Scott Schroeder, Maintenance Superintendent gave an overview to the Tree Advisory Board of the following items listed below.

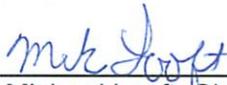
1. Planting Plan: The attached map shows that the City has planted 796 trees between 2017-2019. The goal going forward is 4 new trees planted to each tree removed.
2. Tree Pruning: The second attached map identifies where tree pruning/trimming was completed. This map identifies a 6-year regular plan moving forward beginning in 2020 with zone #1 different zones that the City will focus on. All boulevard trees, park trees and any tree showing hazard to the public are pruned.
3. Tree Removal: For the period of 2017-2019 the City removed 184 trees, mainly trees that were identified as hazardous to the community or ones that were dying due to age. Removal requests were also evaluated.
4. Tree Inventory: A computerized system called "GIS" keeps inventory of all trees in the City. The City has approximately 1,000 (20%) Ash trees. These are only boulevard trees and does not including Parks and private property.
5. Emerald Ash Bore (EAB) Update/Management Plan: Has not been identified in Nicollet County. Once EAB is 15 miles from the City plans will be implemented to be proactive.
 - a. Quarantine Area - EAB wood cannot be taken out of the City. This will cause a problem as our Compost Site is out of town. A storage site has been designated within the City (County) if necessary.
 - b. EAB Watch Zone (Buffer Zone) – A map was attached to the Advisory Board packet.

- c. The City will chemically treat 34 Ash trees that are larger diameter (20 >) and have a quality score of >7. The cost for treatment is approximately \$5 per inch diameter at breast height (DBH).
- d. The City will be removing 17 trees that are large diameter (20" >) with a condition of <4 in high and low density areas.
- e. The removal of 74 small/medium diameter (>2" and <20") with a condition that is in a high density area.

B. Environmental Services Program

- 1. Compost Site: The City has a "drop off site" within the City and a compost site located outside of the City that is rented from Unimin on an annual basis, this is called the Kasota Drop Off site. In 2019, the City hauled over 5,000 yards of brush and 2,600 yards of lawn and garden waste. There is also a partnership with Tri-County Recycling and a surveillance camera has been posted at the site across from Public Works to curb illegal dumping.
- 2. Mosquito Control: The City does put pellets in catch basins that attacks the larvae of mosquitos. The pellets usually last approximately 45-60 days. Mosquito spraying is done by request and a few times throughout the year for City events; such as 4th of July.
- 3. Downtown Planters and all City Medians: Over 250 plants were planted including the hanging baskets. Seasonal workers do all of our planting and we have a contract with the State Hospital to keep our hanging baskets watered.

Adjournment – Al Christensen made a motion, seconded by Sarah Nielsen to adjourn the meeting. With all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.



Michael Looff, Chair

ATTEST:



Sarah Nielsen, Recording Secretary

Note: Secretary signs when approved at next meeting, whether or not secretary was at the actual meeting. Chairperson attests to the signature.