

TREE COMMISSION

January 22, 2024

The January 22, 2024 Tree Commission meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. in Council Chambers by John Walker, Acting Chairman. Tree Commission members present were Judi Lambrite and John Walker. Sara Lou Binau and Nate Treadway were absent.

Others present included: Kyle McColly, Mayor; Keith Niederkohr, Parks Manager; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The minutes of the October 23, 2023 Tree Commission meeting, were approved as received.

Mr. Niederkohr reported that all of trees purchased in the fall have been planted with the last tree planted near the Wyandot County Title and License Bureau Office located at 235 North Sandusky Avenue.

Mr. Niederkohr also reported on a request he received from Ag-Pro Company for the removal of two trees located along East Wyandot Avenue and to the west of the concrete driveway leading to their new retail and service location at 1385 East Wyandot Avenue. The removal of one tree would facilitate the placement of a business sign and increase motorists' visibility and the removal of the second tree is necessary as it is dying. Ag-Pro Company will provide the labor necessary for the removal of these trees. It was noted that Ag-Pro Company already removed two trees along East Wyandot Avenue near their location, and they plan to plant eight trees on the west side of their property along Malabar Drive, between East Wyandot Avenue and the driveway to the south. Tree Commission members voiced no objections to this request.

Mr. Niederkohr presented information from a quote of \$21,350.00 received from Bill Sowers Tree Service & Nursery for trees, tree and stump removal, and hazard pruning as follows:

- 345 West Wyandot Avenue – one maple tree on the east side – remove the tree and stump;
- Harrison Smith Park - one large Cottonwood tree near the dumpster at the park maintenance building – remove the tree as it is hollow and cut the stump low to the ground;
- 308 North Sandusky Avenue (across from the Library) – one maple tree – remove the tree and stump – the Parks Department employees will assist with directing/flagging traffic during this work;
- Indian Cemetery, South Fourth Street – one maple tree located next to the power pole at the end of the driveway – remove the tree and stump as the tree is hollow;
- 629 South Hazel Street (located in the unimproved east/west alley between South Hazel Street and Eulalia Avenue and at the corner of the property owner's fence) - one walnut tree – remove tree and stump as the tree is losing bark and leaning;
- 533 South Seventh Street – one oak and one Chinese Elm (seeping at the base) located in the front yard – these trees are healthy and do not need to be addressed;
- 381 South Hazel Street – one maple tree located in the front yard – remove the tree as a large limb was recently removed, the tree is leaning towards the house, and the tree is dying;
- 201 West Crawford Street (at the southwest corner of the intersection with South Seventh Street and located along South Seventh Street) – one maple tree – remove the tree and stump as a large limb recently broke off and the tree is declining;
- 201 West Crawford Street (located on Crawford Street at the corner of the intersection with South Seventh Street) – one Silver Maple – remove the tree and stump as the tree is hollowing in the larger limbs;
- 126 East Finley Street (on the North Fifth Street side) – one Basswood – remove tree and stump as the tree is decaying at the large attachment.

Mr. Niederkohr noted that the Parks Department will also be removing a maple tree located at 126 East Finley Street as the base of the tree is decaying and the tree is leaning towards the street.

Mr. Niederkohr indicated that the Parks Department will be removing some smaller tree stumps with their stump grinder at the following locations within the City: Stepping Stones Park (parking lot); Bicentennial Park (near the monuments); 518 North Seventh Street; Custom Glass Solutions (formerly known as Guardian Industries) (2); 802 Marseilles Avenue; 714 Eulalia Avenue; 502 North Eighth Street; Upper Sandusky Middle School football parking lot; 506 South Warpole Street; 347 West Walker Street; Union School playground (near West Walker Street); 230 East Bigelow Street; 124 East Bigelow Street; and CH 121/East Wyandot Avenue (2).

Mr. Niederkohr also presented a quote of \$4,275.00 from Bill Sower Tree Service & Nursery for the removal of tree stumps in the following locations within the City: 484 Shafer Drive; 641 South Sandusky Avenue; 621 Pleasant View; 215 Commerce Way (5); SH 67 S north of Custom Glass Solutions (9); 736 Marseilles Avenue; 342 West Hicks Street; 332 West Johnson Street; 115 West Finley Street; 103 West Finley Street; 119 East Finley Street; 516 East Bigelow Street; 345 West Wyandot Avenue (2); 122 East Finley Street; Duck Pond Park (Willow); 724 South Seventh Street; and 302 East Wyandot Avenue (south/east corner – on 5th Street).

Mr. Walker inquired as to how much money has been allocated for the Tree budget for 2024. Mayor McColly and Mr. Niederkohr indicated that they have been working with Mrs. Nickie Coppler, City Auditor, and there is currently approximately \$38,000.00 in the City's Tree budget for 2024.

A location for the 2024 Arbor Day Program was discussed. Mr. Niederkohr suggested that Duck Pond Park be considered for this year's program as one Weeping Willow tree has been lost at this location and another Weeping Willow recently lost a large limb.

Mr. Niederkohr reported that Mrs. Natalie Mouser, Parks Department employee, graduated from the Tree Academy on December 6, 2023.

Mayor McColly inquired as to if there have been any trees planted to provide shade at the Dog Park. Mr. Niederkohr noted that there are trees located at the Dog Park.

Due to a lack of quorum, the Acting Chairman declared the meeting adjourned.

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

John Walker, Acting Chairman