

TREE COMMISSION

October 28, 2024

The October 28, 2024 Tree Commission meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. in Council Chambers by Chari Alesch, Chairperson. Tree Commission members present were Chari Alesch, Jason Lemire, and John Walker. Judi Lambrite and Nate Treadway were absent.

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

The minutes of the August 26, 2024 Tree Commission meeting, having been mailed to each Tree Commission member, were approved as received.

Mr. Niederkohr reported that the list of tree work presented at the August 26, 2024 Tree Commission meeting to be completed by Bill Sowers Tree Service & Nursery will be done in the future.

Mr. Niederkohr presented a quote of \$1,118.00 from North Branch Nursery for the purchase of six (6) trees as follows:

- A Sun Valley Red Maple to replace a Crimson King Maple on North Eighth Street that died in the spring of 2024. The resident living at the property is donating \$150.00 towards the purchase of this tree.
- An Ivory Silk Lilac to be planted at Duck Pond.
- A Crimson King Maple to be planted in the tree lawn on Fifth Street in a location where there hasn't been a tree. The resident living at the property is donating towards the purchase of this tree.
- A White Oak to be planted at the back of Stepping Stones Park resulting from a donation for a member of a family.
- A Ginkgo to be planted in the downtown area near Domino's Pizza, 128 East Wyandot Avenue.
- A 7' White Spruce, as requested by the Chamber of Commerce for the Home for the Holidays festivities, that will be placed on a trailer and lit after the annual parade and planted in one of the parks following this event. The possibility of obtaining a sponsor for this tree was discussed.
- Additional trees may be added to this order to replace memorial trees that were planted in Stepping Stones Park.

Mr. Niederkohr will request Bill Sowers Tree Service & Nursery provide quotes on the following tree work:

- Pruning dead limbs from an Elm located in the alley right-of-way near 849 Marseilles Avenue.
- Pruning limbs from a large Elm tree located near the intersection of Second Street and Finley Street.
- A couple of tree stumps located in the City.

Mayor McColly reported that he was recently contacted by a representative selling plaques and benches. Mr. Niederkohr indicated that he has a zoom meeting tomorrow with this representative to discuss plaques and benches, and this company also offers a QR code that can be incorporated on the plaques and benches that they sell which an individual could scan and a story of the tree, donor, etc. could be shared.

Mr. Walker inquired as to if Vancrest has addressed the removal of trees in the tree lawn in front of their property located along South Marseilles Avenue, as reported at the August 26, 2024 Tree Commission meeting. It was noted that site work for construction on the Vancrest property has begun but no trees have been removed at this point.

Tree Commission members reviewed the meeting schedule for 2025 with meetings to be held on the following dates: January 27, March 24, April 28, June 23, August 25, and October 27. In the event that one of these meetings is cancelled a meeting will be held on November 24.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned.

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Chari Alesch, Chairperson