

**MINUTES OF THE TREE COMMISSION MEETING HELD AT THE GREENFIELD DPW, ON THURSDAY,
JANUARY 08, 2015, AT 6:30 PM**

1. Joan Stevens, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:48 PM

**Meeting called to order
at 6:48 PM**

Roll Call:	Joan Stevens	Present
	Ald. Bruce Bailey	Present
	Michael Wendt	Present
	Becky Thorpe	Excused
	Lew Silva	Present
	Terry Krell	Present

Also Present: Dennis Fermenich, City Forester
John Laskoski, Working Foreman DPW

2. Approval of the November 6, 2014 Meeting Minutes

**Approval of 11/6/14
Minutes**

It was moved by Mr. Wendt, seconded by Mr. Silva, to approve the November 6, 2014 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Aldermanic Report

Aldermanic Report

Mr. Bailey reported that the area of the former Mt. Carmel site will likely become the new Meijer's location. With this development, Mayor Neitzke would like to make the area a centerpiece for the city. Mr. Fermenich will be involved with any forestry aspects of the area.

4. Superintendent of Public Works Report

Public Works Report

Crews have been out doing structural pruning and tree removals and have been doing a terrific job.

5. Chair Report

Chair Report

Ms. Stevens worked really hard on the report for Tree City USA and got it out. Marina helped a great deal and Dennis also worked on it. She believes that the city will again obtain the Growth Award.

It was planned to have Kulwicksi Park as the Arbor Day location. However, the transfer of the Park is still in the works with Milwaukee County. Mr. Fermenich indicated that he thought Maple Dale School would be a good alternative site.

6. City Forester's Report

City Forester's Report

Mr. Fermenich asked the commission for ideas of changes that Forestry could implement. He would like to see the commission become more involved. Specifically, he is looking for ways to get the schools (public and private) more involved and to develop a better working relationship.

As part of the Grant, Mr. Fermenich is planning on working with the school district to plant trees in front of city schools as well as inject Ash trees on school property. He has a cooperative agreement to help pay for the funding of the injections.

Ald. Bailey suggested inviting school board members from the districts to attend a Tree Commission meeting. Ald. Bailey will compose the letter inviting the school board members and both he and Ms. Stevens will sign the letter.

Mr. Fermenich is waiting for the final signatures on the Grant Resolution. The grant has been informally awarded. Mr. Ewert hoped to have the signatures by the end of the week. Part of the grant will be used to fund a Forestry booth. Mr. Fermenich asked members what information they would like to see made available at the booth. He specifically wants to have EAB information but is looking for other ideas as well. Ms. Stevens suggested pruning videos playing in the booth as well as forestry equipment. A Tree City USA flag may be appropriate as well.

7. Discussion regarding EAB assistance for the disadvantaged and the elderly

EAB Assistance

Mr. Fermenich stated that there are individuals living in the city that have limited incomes. These people will be economically impacted by the EAB and is looking for any type of assistance for these people such as grants for the elderly or disabled. Some tree services in the area would consider a modest group discount if Mr. Fermenich provided a list of participants.

8. 2015 Planting Contract

2015 Planting Contract

Mr. Fermenich provided the commission with a copy of the proposed tree planting contract for this spring. There are two modest road project areas as well as 65 replacement trees. The tree bid advertisements have been sent out and will run on Jan. 15th and Jan. 22nd. The bid opening will be on January 29th.

9. Annual Review of 2014 Accomplishments, Tree City and Growth Award and Goal Setting for 2015

2015 Goals, Tree City and Growth Award

Accomplishments were reviewed at a prior meeting. Ms. Stevens provided the 2015 Goals to the commission. The goals include licensing of arborists working in the city, planting trees in Hawkview Park with funding provided from a small grant from American Transmission Company (ATC), to establish a forestry booth, to establish a working relationship with the school districts, to update the EAB response plan and to build forestry awareness and support by publishing forestry related articles, and preparing/distributing a forestry related brochure. The continuing goals are sponsoring the Ecology Essay contest, Arbor Day and to obtain the 22nd consecutive Tree City USA and 21st Growth Awards.

10. Review of Forester's Contract (Closed Session)

Forester's Contract

It was moved by Mr. Wendt, seconded by Mr. Silva for the commission to go into closed session, pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes, Section 19.85(1) (c), to consider the Forester's Contract. On a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Mr. Wendt, seconded by Mr. Silva to adjourn the closed session and reconvene into open session.
The motion carried unanimously.

11. Discussion and Decision regarding Arborist Conference

Arborist Conference

Mr. Fermenich and Mr. Wendt will be attending the conference. Mr. Wendt will be paying his own expenses and the Tree Commission will be only covering the event fees for Mr. Fermenich. Ms. Stevens has not yet determined if she will be able to attend. The conference will be held Jan. 25, 26, and 27th in La Crosse.

It was moved by Ms. Stevens and seconded by Mr. Wendt to cover registration costs for Mr. Fermenich and registration and room costs for Ms. Stevens. Costs are to be paid from the Tree Commission budget. The motion carried unanimously.

12. Suggested date and discussion items for next meeting.

**Suggested Date and
Items for Next Meeting**

Next meeting will be on Thursday, March 5, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

13. Adjournment

Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Silva, seconded by Mr. Wendt, to adjourn the Tree Commission meeting at 8:21 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Marina Schmidt
Clerk Typist
Division of Public Works

Date distributed: January 30, 2015