

TREE COMMISSION

November 16, 2015

The November 16, 2015 Tree Commission meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. in Council Chambers by Sara Lou Binau, Chairman. Tree Commission members present were Sara Lou Binau, Judi Lambrite, and Don Spiegel. John Walker was absent.

Others present included: Scott Washburn, Mayor; Keith Niederkohr, Parks Manager; Matt Patchett, Parks Department; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The minutes of the August 17, 2015 Tree Commission meeting, having been mailed to each Tree Commission member, were approved as received.

The minutes of the October 19, 2015 Tree Commission meeting, having been mailed to each Tree Commission member, were approved as received.

Tree Commission members discussed a request received from Mr. Tom Shumaker, 428 Front Street, to remove a street tree planted in his tree lawn. It was noted that prior to planting a stake was placed in Mr. Shumaker's yard and a notice was hung on his door. The tree planted was a podless Honey Locust and the City paid to have it planted in the right-of-way and would have to pay to have it dug up and transplanted to another location.

A motion was made by Mr. Spiegel, seconded by Mrs. Lambrite, to leave the tree planted in the tree lawn at 428 Front Street, as the Tree Commission does not want to set a precedent of unnecessarily removing trees located within the City rights-of-way. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Tree Commission members reviewed the meeting schedule for 2016 with meetings to be held on the following dates: January 11, March 21, April 18, June 20, August 15, and October 17. In the event that one of these meetings is cancelled a meeting will be held on November 21.

A motion was made by Mr. Spiegel, seconded by Mrs. Lambrite, to approve the meeting schedule for the Tree Commission for 2016 as proposed. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

In January 2016, the Tree Commission will begin discussing plans for the Tree City USA Awards Program to be hosted by the City in 2018.

Mr. Patchett reported that trees were delivered from North Branch Nursery recently with three trees to be planted in the tree pits in the downtown area, approximately thirteen trees to be planted in Stepping Stones Park, including one memorial tree, and one tree to be planted at the Water Treatment Plant.

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

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk.

Sara Lou Binau, Chairman