

**TREE COMMISSION MEETING
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM
August 10, 2021**

Commission Members Present: **Chairperson Sattler, Dios, Jesionowski, City Representative Polinski, Council Representative Kelly.**

Others Present : **Jonathan Liskovec, Service Director, Councilperson Winzig**

Mr. Sattler opened the meeting and welcomed everyone back to the in-person meeting, and it was good to see everyone.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –The minutes from the June 8, 2021, meeting were approved as written by all present.

COUNCIL REPORT -

Ordinance Update – Councilman Kelly said there was nothing new to report on the ordinance at this time. Council is on summer recess although there is a meeting on Friday to discuss some time-sensitive matters.

Councilman Winzig added that there was some talk of getting the committee together, but that has not happened yet due to scheduling conflicts.

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ARBORIST REPORT

Mr. Polinski said that since the City did not get the grant, it was thought to use the plan that was submitted as part of the grant approval. The highest area in need (of trees) is in Area 1, at the western side of town according to the canopy study. After discussing the plan with Service Director Liskovec, it was decided to take two of the streets from the plan submitted for the fall planting. We would not be able to do the entire area but we could start chipping away sections at a time. Therefore, it was decided to start with Marvis and Applewood, which were already selected for the planting in the plan submitted for the grant. The planting plan was already updated due to conflicts in the original planting plan for these streets. The Accolade Elm, which is resistant to disease, will be planted on Applewood. The Shumard Oak, which is disease-resistant to oak wilt, will be planted on Marvis. We are not sure yet how many trees will be planted. Realistically there could be 40 to 50 planting spaces and the budget amount available.

Mr. Sattler asked if the Tree Commission will still be involved with the planting plan. Mr. Polinski responded that they were going forward at this time with the planting proposed in the grant application due to time constraints for the fall planting. Had we met last month, the Tree Commission would probably have had more input. He said he

needed to have everything ordered and ready to go by September 15th since he will be out of the country for three weeks with no access to e-mail or phone. However, he believes the Commission will still be involved with the street tree planting next year.

Mr. Sattler said that the Tree Commission would need more information on cut-off dates for spring and fall plantings so that Tree Commission would be able to schedule their time, along with other events they may be participating in, such as Bay Days.

Mr. Polinski said we would need to discuss the spring and fall planting next year. Maybe area 3 east of Dover could be done. We might want to do is to look at the spring planting starting before the April meeting so that we can finalize plans at that meeting. Twelve-fifteen years ago the tree budget was \$45,000 to \$50,000. Now the budget could be anywhere from \$10,000 to \$15,000 each year.

Ms. Jesionowski suggested getting information out to residents on what goes on before the actual tree planting begins so they can see all the time and work that goes into the spring and fall planting. Mr. Kelly said at Bay Days there were all kinds of questions from planting trees, trimming trees, etc., One resident said they were going to have their oak trees pruned in July. He asked them not to do that because of oak wilt. Many residents don't understand why. At Bay Days a lot of information was given to residents along with answers to their various questions.

Mr. Kelly asked how many trees can be planted in the spring and fall if the budget was higher. Mr. Polinski said that we have planted 200 trees. He said that the way they are doing it now we could plant 50 trees in a week. With planting trees in one area and the equipment they have, it speeds up the process.

Mr. Kelly asked with the Bartlett Inventory and all the information we have, is there a separate item for city property plantings. Mr. Polinski responded that the inventory was more detailed for tree lawn tree plantings. It could be a possibility but not right now. We are not allowed to plant anything right now north of Lake Road by Cahoon Park due to the possibility of future projects within the next few years. We do not want to plant trees that may have to be ripped out due to the projects. He said they are considering changing the name for Cahoon Park Memorial Tree Planting Program because we are getting requests from people who just want to donate to have a tree planted in the parks, which would not have to be a "Memorial Tree".

A question came up regarding residents planting tree lawn trees. Mr. Polinski said that the City plants tree lawn trees per ISA Standards. If residents are allowed to plant tree lawn trees, they usually do not know the proper way to plant it.

Mr. Winzig asked if Mr. Kelly were to request an increase in the budget, what would we need to plant more trees. Mr. Polinski said it would be another \$15,000 for a total of \$25,000 for this year.

OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

Mr. Sattler said he has been updating the information on the website. Maybe we can use the Community Room to hold a meeting whereby residents could attend to ask questions and learn more about the Tree Commission.

Mr. Polinski said there are some things that are going to be updated. He and Mr. Liskovec ran the new Bartlett Inventory, which runs much better after updates were done, and will send it to everyone to see how it works. If it works, it would be put this on the website. There are going to be a few more updates such as entering the address and street only. Mr. Liskovec said they are tweaking it so if someone wants to look at in-depth information, they will be able to do so. Input from Tree Commission members is very helpful.

Another question asked was whether the appraised value of the tree would be available. Mr. Polinski said they would be able to see the value of each tree.

NEW BUSINESS

Master Street Tree Planting Plan update –

The Tree Commission members will be working on the Master Street Tree Planting Plan to get it updated, removing trees that are no longer available or did not grow well and replacing them with more acceptable trees.

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made to adjourn. The next Tree Commission meeting will be September 14, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Moore

Jackie Moore, Secretary