



SHADE TREE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 23, 2017

Gary Stachowicz, Hillsdale City Forester called the Shade Tree meeting to order at 3:07 P.M.

Board members present: Barb Vallieu and Dr. Maria Bidny. Bud Heinowski and Jake Hammel arrived late. Angie Girdham was absent. Dr. Bidny made the motion to excuse Angie from the meeting. Motion was seconded by Barb Vallieu. Alan Beeker from the City Zoning office was in attendance to discuss agenda item "A" under new business.

Approval of minutes: Barb Vallieu made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 3rd Shade Tree meeting. Motion was seconded by Dr. Bidny and carried unanimously.

Public comments: None

Old Business: Tree City USA was put on the agenda by mistake as it was discussed at the May 3rd 2017 meeting.

New Business:

A. Tree valuation at 124 S. Howell St (Elm Ct frntg) - Hospice of Hillsdale.

A lengthy discussion was engaged regarding two city owned honeylocust trees on Elm Ct frontage that Hospice of Hillsdale would like removed and would like to be exempt from paying the tree valuations totaling \$2,308.87. Barb Vallieu spoke in favor of Hospice being granted an exemption to the normal city practice of residents/businesses being required to pay current tree valuations plus removal costs as they relate to construction projects while the rest of the committee members felt the current practice and ordinance 14-111 (Conditional permit for removal of tree or shrub) be followed and applied to everyone.

Jake mentioned that Shae Dow had contacted him earlier in the day and informed him that Hospice would be paying the tree valuation in full.

Alan Beeker from the zoning office informed the committee of the past history of the Hospice building and that part of the parking lot Hospice utilizes is located on city property. Alan went on to say that any work Hospice does to reconstruct the parking lot will have to have a land use agreement entered into between the City of Hillsdale and Hospice. Such an agreement will have to be drawn up by the city attorney and signed by the city manager.

B. Tree valuation (33 E. College St (Hillsdale St frntg)).

Gary informed the committee that as part of yet another Hillsdale College development project, two city- owned white oak trees on Hillsdale St may need to be removed. The total valuation for both trees totals \$19,541.12. Hillsdale College has not yet decided whether or not they will need the trees removed.

C. Hillsdale Townhome tree payment.

Gary informed the committee that as part of the Hillsdale Townhome project located at the SW corner of N. West St and College St, two city trees needed to be removed. One tree was for a 3.0 inch caliper serviceberry and the other was for a 4.0 inch caliper red maple. Total valuation was for \$806.00. Both tree valuations have been paid for.

D. Landscape ordinance proposal.

Gary mentioned to the committee that he will be doing a drive through part of the city with the city manager to look at a number of terraces that the Public Services does periodic maintenance on. These are along streets where there is no sidewalk and property owners have not been mowing or cutting brush out of the right of way. Gary has concerns as to whether or not the city staff should be providing this service because maintenance of these roadsides should be the responsibility of the residents who live there just as it is where residents have sidewalks in front of their homes.

ADJOURNMENT: The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday October 11th at 3:00 P.M. in the second floor conference room at City Hall.