

**Village of Fairport
Tree Board**

Meeting notes from Wednesday, February 17, 2010

Board members attended: Kathy Clark, Art Muldoon, Ken Rohr, Bridget Schalabba and Zakery Steele

Board members absent:

Village staff attended: Paul Feeley

Minutes prepared by Bridget Schalabba

1. Annual Tree Plan Work Completed/Scheduled.

P. Feeley reported to the Board that a total of 13 trees were removed this past winter. Stump removal will be done this spring. Next month at the earliest, scheduled safety pruning and crown reduction will hopefully start. Routine ground trimming has been performed by the DPW in units 3 and 4.

2. Tree City USA Recertification.

K. Rohr submitted the application in mid-December. K. Rohr did receive an invitation to a lunch in Albany, but has yet to receive the recertification letter.

3. 2010-11 Budget Request Submitted by DPW.

P. Feeley reported to the Board that line item A8560.1, personal services was a significant change to next fiscal years budget request. For Tree City USA recertification one criteria is a minimum of \$11 to \$12 thousand dollars must be expensed. This wage allocation of \$12,051 will cover the expense criteria each year. Line item A8560.4, contractual expenses request is the exact same as last years. This includes \$3,000 for new tree plantings, \$20,000 for tree removals and trimming, \$1,500 for saw repairs and chains, \$500 each for professional services/spraying and training. Additional expenses are \$2,500 for re-inventory of unit 3, \$2,500 for hazard assessment, \$500 for stump grinder rental and \$700 budgeted for Arbor Day Celebration (new trees). The Tree Board will send a note to the Mayor in support of the budget request by the DPW to maintain the Village's trees.

4. Arbor Day Celebration – April 30th.

The Tree Board will submit a request in the Village Board's March meeting for a Proclamation of Arbor Day Celebration on April 30, 2010. The Tree Board discussed the various items of celebration to dedicate on Arbor Day. It was decided that for Arbor Day 2010 the placement of a new flag pole to display the Tree City USA flag will be the focus this year. The flag pole will be placed behind the entrance sign at the wetlands. This area is near two sites of previous Arbor Day dedications. The Rotary planted an oak tree for the 1st Arbor Day Celebration by the wetlands in 2004. For Arbor Day 2008, the planting of a memorial tree for the "five angels" in the wetlands was dedicated. This

location for the flag pole will reinforce the significance of the memorial tree grove, represent an area of plantings, Arbor Day Celebrations, and display the Tree City USA flag. Fairport has been awarded Tree City USA certification 6 years in a row. The Board discussed celebrating the planting of Elm trees for Arbor Day 2011 celebration. For fall 2010 planting, one location is the south side of Summit Street. The DPW is planning on planting Elm trees at this location. The Board will use this opportunity to publicize the re-emergence of Elm trees. K. Rohr will inform the Mayor and Post of the agenda. K. Rohr will contact Village Board Member Tim Slize to discuss school groups interest. K. Clark will look in to attaining Arbor Day materials and distributing them in schools and local establishments.

5. Annual Tree Plan for 2010.

A draft of the Annual Tree Plan was provided to the Board by K. Rohr for review and discussion. See attachment for copy. The draft was approved and will be presented to the Village Board at their March meeting.

6. Other Matters for Discussion.

- There is no DEC grant funding available at this time, K. Rohr will continue to monitor.
- The flagpole for Thomas Creek Wetlands - see above discussion on Arbor Day.
- The viability of the Fat Albert tree in front of the Village Hall was discussed. It was concluded to observe the tree through another growing period and summer and then make a decision to replace it or not. It was identified that due to the various surrounding environmental factors such as traffic, concrete, clay soil, and winter salt that the site is not ideal for tree planting.
- Resident Comments:
 1. Misty Pine resident Bob Jacobs asked if any action has been taken by the Board to remove the dust path on the Arboretum plans. K. Rohr will check to see if removal of path will affect grant application.
 2. A. Muldoon stated that a South Avenue resident questioned why pruning was done more then once. P. Feeley stated that the job was never finished the first time, then the DPW did complete the job at a later date. A. Muldoon also asked if the right a way on Route 250 between Winding Brook and Park Circle could be a site for future tree plantings. Per P. Feeley the area is state run and there is a large main buried under that area.
 3. Per A. Muldoon, Maggie Swineberger of White Alder asked if trees could be planted in the circle. P. Feeley stated that per tree planting guidelines this area did not meet the guidelines, and a sewer line with a manhole is part of the infrastructure under the location.

7. A tentative meeting is scheduled for April 14th if needed for Arbor Day. The next scheduled Tree Board meeting is Wednesday, May 19, 2010 at 5:30pm.