

CITY OF OLNEY TREE BOARD  
OLNEY CITY HALL  
FEBRUARY 28, 2018  
7:00 P.M.

AGENDA #1 “CALL TO ORDER” The meeting of the Tree Board was called to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 300 S. Whittle Ave., Olney, Illinois, with Brandy McKinney presiding.

AGENDA #2 “ROLL CALL” The following Tree Board members were present: Brandy McKinney, Chris Simpson, Paige Abell, and Bill Page. Bill Caulfield and Kelsie Sterchi were absent.

AGENDA #3 “APPROVE MINUTES OF TREE BOARD MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 28, 2017” Mr. Page moved to approve the minutes of the Tree Board meeting on September 28, 2017, seconded by Mr. Simpson. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

AGENDA #4 “PUBLIC COMMENTS/PRESENTATIONS” No one from the public was present.

AGENDA #5 “DETERMINE FOLLOW-UP PROCEDURES FROM THE 2017 TREES FOREVER GRANT” Mrs. McKinney had been in contact with Mrs. Grabner-Kerns from the Trees Forever program. As a follow-up requirement to the grant received in 2017, an educational event would need to be scheduled. Mrs. Grabner-Kerns would be present at the event, along with an Ameren arborist. It was strongly suggested that representatives from Street and Park Departments be present, along with members of the general public. The event would last approximately three hours.

Mr. Simpson asked what time of the day the educational events typically occurred. Mrs. McKinney believed that any time could be scheduled, but in prior conversation with Mrs. Sterchi, it was suggested that some time after 3:00 p.m. could be appropriate as most of the Public Works employees would be available. However, the event could be scheduled for earlier in the day. Additionally, Mrs. Grabner-Kerns was open to scheduling the event on a weekend, but Mrs. McKinney noted that would most likely make it more difficult to have attendance from Public Works.

Most of the Tree Board felt that the weekends would be too difficult to schedule with the busy Spring season quickly approaching.

Mrs. McKinney then told that suggested dates from Mrs. Grabner-Kerns included: April 10, April 30, May 1, May 2, May 3, or May 10, 2018. Mrs. McKinney would have Mrs. Sterchi get in touch with the Street and Park Departments to see if one date would be better than another. Mr. Simpson noted that he would not be available on May 3, 2018.

Mrs. McKinney indicated that the \$20.00 donation had been received from Mike Winters from the tree(s) he received from the Trees Forever grant.

AGENDA #6 “ARBOR DAY 2018 EVENT IDEAS” A few trees were planted at Musgrove Park in 2017 for Arbor Day. Mrs. McKinney explained that some were not in good shape, and that deer had been getting to the pecan trees. Cages were suggested.

Mrs. McKinney had been told by Mrs. Sterchi that Ameren would again be granting the City \$2,500.00 to be used towards trees and tree care accessories not near any overhead utilities. It was suggested that the Tree Board may want to utilize the funds towards an Arbor Day event. Mrs. McKinney suggested that some of the funds go towards cages for the pecan trees in Musgrove Park.

Mrs. Abell suggested having the Trees Forever educational event correspond with Arbor Day plans.

Mrs. McKinney had also been thinking about re-instating the Community-Wide Trash Cleanup Day. Perhaps participants could be rewarded with a free tree.

Mrs. McKinney moved to hold a Community-Wide Cleanup Event for Arbor Day, possibly providing free trees to participants, to use the Ameren grant to purchase some protective products for trees, and to plant a few trees on public property, seconded by Mr. Simpson. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

AGENDA #7 “UPDATE: SECOND TREE CITY U.S.A. GRANT APPLICATION” Mrs. McKinney told the Board that Mrs. Sterchi had re-applied for another designation as a Tree City U.S.A. in December of 2017. Word had been received that the City of Olney had again been designated as a Tree City U.S.A.

AGENDA #8 “GENERAL DISCUSSION” Mrs. McKinney reminded the Board that there was a vacancy in the Tree Board upon Andrea McDowell’s resignation. The Board discussed a few names and would be in touch with the individuals to gauge their interest in serving on the Board.

Mrs. Abell asked for an update on the proposed Monarch butterfly garden. Mrs. McKinney had not heard any updates. Prior Board member Andrea McDowell was heading up the project with her Rotary Club, but the project may have fizzled out or not been feasible for the Club.

AGENDA #9 “SCHEDULED NEXT MEETING DATE” Mrs. McKinney suggested having Mrs. Sterchi get in touch with the Street and Park Department about potential dates for the Trees Forever educational event before scheduling another Tree Board meeting.

AGENDA #10 “ADJOURN” Mrs. McKinney moved to adjourn the Tree Board meeting, seconded by Mrs. Abell. A majority affirmative voice vote was received. The Tree Board meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Paige Abell  
Tree Board Member

