

CITY OF OLNEY TREE BOARD  
OLNEY CITY HALL  
AUGUST 24, 2016  
7:00 P.M.

AGENDA #1 “CALL TO ORDER” The meeting of the Tree Board was called to order at 7:04 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, Bill Caulfield, Kelsie Sterchi, and Bill Page. Chris Simpson, Andrea McDowell, and Paige Abell were absent.

AGENDA #3 “APPROVE MINUTES OF TREE BOARD MEETING ON JUNE 22, 2016” Mrs. Sterchi moved to approve the Tree Board minutes from June 22, 2016, seconded by Mr. Caulfield. A majority affirmative voice vote was received to approve the minutes.

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

AGENDA #5 “TREE PLANTING RECOMMENDATIONS”

5-A “Street Tree Application: 1803 Sterchi Drive/Lenear” One application had been received from Ryan and April Lenear of 1803 Sterchi Drive for the new Street Tree Replacement Program. The application requested approval of an Armstrong Red Maple and Crape Myrtle.

Mrs. Sterchi had briefly spoken to the Sewer and Water Distribution Supervisors about utility lines in the area. The Sewer Department Supervisor knew that no sewer lines ran along Sterchi Drive. The Water Distribution Supervisor was aware of water lines along Sterchi Drive. Dependent upon on right-of-way measurements and J.U.L.I.E. results, the trees may not be permissible. Trees must be planted five feet away from any underground utility line.

Mrs. Sterchi had also measured the area by using the City’s GIS software. The length in front of the Lenear’s home was about 56 feet, not taking into consideration the fact that a mailbox was also located in the area. Small trees are to be planted at least 25 feet apart. She was unsure if there would be enough room to plant two trees.

Mrs. McKinney felt that the Crape Myrtle would not be too invasive to be placed near the mailbox. Planting the Crape Myrtle even 4.5 feet to the east of the mailbox would allow enough spacing for the Armstrong Red Maple to be planted.

Mrs. Sterchi drove by the property before coming to the evening’s meeting. She added that the tree shown on the GIS map was no longer there, so that would not be a factor in any new plantings.

Mrs. McKinney moved to approve the Street Tree Application for Ryan and Amy Lenear at 1803 Sterchi Drive, contingent upon J.U.L.I.E. findings, seconded by Mr. Page. A majority affirmative voice vote was received. Mrs. Sterchi would be in touch with the Lenears.

5-B “Update: Tree Identification Park” Mr. Page had heard that Donnie Watson was progressing well with the project. Mr. Watson’s mother was also checking in almost on a weekly basis at City Hall.

To date, Mrs. Sterchi reported that \$5,500.00 had been donated towards the project.

It was not yet certain on when Mr. Watson expected to begin planting. Mr. Page indicated that either September or October would be suitable for planting.

5-C “Donation of WalMart Gift Cards to Help Facilitate Tree Identification Park” A while back, Mr. Caulfield had two \$50.00 WalMart gift cards donated to the Tree Board. Mrs. Sterchi wondered if the Tree Board would be willing to donate the cards toward any necessary items for the Tree Identification Park that may be purchased from WalMart.

Mrs. McKinney had received some questions from some of the sponsors about how watering of the trees would be handled. She had been assuring the sponsors that the departments had been doing a wonderful job of helping to water the newly planted trees at Musgrove Park and E. Main Street. Only two trees had been lost out of all that had been planted.

Mrs. McKinney continued that the concern from sponsors was based off of concerns from the watering during the Adopt-a-Bed program. Mrs. Sterchi felt that if using water bags, watering would be much less of an issue than battling thick mulch with a hose.

Mr. Page wondered if any hard feelings would be created if he wanted to report a tree or area of trees that may be in need of attention in the future. Mrs. Sterchi did not believe so. She recommended to let City Hall no so a work order could be created.

Mrs. Sterchi moved to donate the two \$50.00 WalMart gift cards towards needs of the Tree Identification Park, seconded by Mrs. McKinney. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

Mr. Page asked if it was possible for donors to request a specific tree to be planted. Mrs. Sterchi thought that would be acceptable, especially since only two donors had made requests so far. The two requests received were for a Gingko and a Bald Cypress. Mr. Page knew the Gingko was not native to Illinois, but the Illinois should be able to grow in the hardiness zone of Olney.

AGENDA #6 “SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE” The next meeting of the Tree Board would be held on September 22, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.

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

Kelsie J. Sterchi  
City Clerk

