

CITY OF OLNEY TREE BOARD  
OLNEY CITY HALL  
MARCH 26, 2015  
7:00 P.M.

AGENDA #1 “CALL TO ORDER” The meeting of the Tree Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 300 S. Whittle Ave., Olney, Illinois with Chairman Greg Eyer presiding.

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

AGENDA #3 “APPROVE MINUTES OF TREE BOARD MEETING ON FEBRUARY 12, 2015” Mrs. McKinney moved to approve the Tree Board minutes from February 12, 2015, seconded by Mrs. Abell. 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 “MUSGROVE PARK”

5-A “Execution of Approved Sugar Maple Planting Along Silver Street at Musgrove Park”

Mrs. McKinney had spoken with Park Department Supervisor Frank Bradley and an order had been placed with Warren County Nursery of McMinnville, Tennessee. Delivery was expected in April. Warren County Nursery offered the best pricing of \$32.00 per tree and \$800.00 delivered.

Mr. Eyer asked what cultivar the ordered trees were. The cultivar would determine spread and color. Warren County Nursery had not indicated a specific cultivar. In correspondence after the meeting, Warren County Nursery indicated that the trees ordered did not have a specific cultivar.

Arbor Day 2015 was scheduled for April 24. Mr. Eyer thought that the tree planting could take place that day at 10:00 a.m. A news release informing the public of the planting could be submitting requesting citizen assistance. A majority of the Board could be available to help with the planting.

Mr. Simpson asked what planting equipment would be needed and if the City would be willing to loan what was needed. Mrs. Sterchi felt confident that Mr. Bradley would allow the Board to borrow planting equipment. Mr. Eyer suggested wheelbarrows, shovels, and tarp. He also would need to know of a place where excess dirt could be hauled.

Mr. Caulfield recommended talking to nursery on their recommendations for caring for the trees.

5-B “Propose Plan for 5 Extra Sugar Maple Trees to Be Planted at Musgrove Park or in Alternate Location” Mrs. Sterchi told the group that 25 sugar maple trees were actually being delivered. Mr. Eyer offered that more trees could be added along Silver Street with no trouble. Mrs. McKinney thought another option would be to speak with the Street Department about using the

extra trees to replace some that they had recently taken down. Mr. Eyer then mentioned that the right-of-way area near TrustBank could be prime location.

Mr. Eyer moved to reserve the Tree Board the option to utilize the extra five trees along Silver Street or to suggest another area at the next meeting if need be, seconded by Mr. Simpson. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

5-C “Adjust Bald Cypress Planting Recommendation at Musgrove Park” At the March 9, 2015, meeting of the City Council, Mr. Bradley indicated that after performing more research, he did not support the recommendation of planting Bald Cypress Trees in the detention ponds. According to his research, planting such trees in low lying areas could make the trees produce “knees” that would make mowing extremely difficult. Mr. Bradley would still support planting Bald Cypress trees if they were in another location.

Mrs. McKinney felt there was great potential to plant the Bald Cypress trees near the soccer area. Mr. Bradley had received a quote from Keller’s Landscaping & Nursery for five-gallon size Bald Cypress trees at \$11.00 each.

If still wanting to plant in the detention areas, Willow trees could be another option.

Mr. Eyer thought that the northwest end of the City Park could use more trees. In addition to any other issues Mr. Bradley may have, Mrs. Sterchi requested holding off on planting in that area because the large 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations in 2016 were set to take place in the City Park in hopes that extra space could be used for parking.

With no decision being made at this meeting, the Board would still plan on purchasing up to 16 Bald Cypress trees in order to have the money spend in fiscal year 2015/2016. The trees could be stored at Keller’s or at Mr. Eyer’s until a planting plan was established. Mrs. McKinney would speak with Mr. Bradley about purchasing the trees.

After purchasing both the Sugar Maple and Bald Cypress trees, Ameren grant money would still be available to use.

#### AGENDA #6 “BOARD DISCUSSION”

6-A “Review of City Tree Plan and List Recommendations/Areas of Concern”The Board had spoken about some recommendations at the prior meeting. The topic was revisited to allow more time for Board members to evaluate the City Code.

Mr. Eyer still felt strongly about having a Tree Board member evaluate a City tree before removal. Mr. Eyer thought the evaluation would be of benefit by finding other possible alternatives and potentially saving the City money and time. Unless needing removal specifically for City related business, calls to evaluate the need of removing a dead or dangerous tree could first fall onto the shoulders of the Tree Board.

Mr. Caulfield mentioned that such a procedure had been in place in the past. The problem then came when recommended and necessary removal was not taking place. At that point, liability was created by knowing about the problem and doing nothing to resolve the problem.

Mr. Eyer offered to speak to Street Department Supervisor Tom Umfleet about reinstating the policy of having a Tree Board member evaluate a City tree before removal.

6-B “General Discussion” The Board reverted back to discussion related to items 5-A and 5-C. Accessory products for the trees could be purchased. Mr. Eyer mentioned water collars. Four water collars that could hold 20 gallons were about \$50.00 on E-Bay.

Mr. Eyer moved to purchase 16 Bald Cypress trees and enough water collars for the Sugar Maples and Bald Cypress trees, seconded by Mrs. McKinney. A majority affirmative voice vote was received.

Mr. Caulfield wondered if tree tape would be necessary to protect from sunscald, and also wondered if some barrier should be used to protect the bark from damage. Mrs. McKinney felt that the water collars would provide a fair amount of protection on the new trees for quite a while.

The Board would like to purchase Willow trees for Musgrove Park. The item would be placed on the next agenda.

Mrs. McKinney would like to replace trees along streets. The item would be placed on the next agenda.

Mr. Caulfield took a moment to thank the Tree Board members for their research and effort.

AGENDA #7 “SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE” The next meeting of the Tree Board would be on Thursday, April 23, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA #8 “ADJOURN” Mrs. Sterchi moved to adjourn the Tree Board meeting, seconded by Mr. Eyer. A majority affirmative voice vote was received. The Tree Board meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Kelsie J. Sterchi