

Barre City Tree Committee

Date: 04/01/19

Scheduled Time: 6:00 pm

Location: Aldrich Public Library, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Committee Members Present: Conor Teal, Nate Ebert, Amanda Garland, Jeff Bergeron, Nicko Rubin

Committee Members Not Present:

Guest: John Snell, Mayor Herring

Call to Order: 6:05 pm by Member A. Garland

Changes to Agenda: None

Introductions: John Snell, Chairman, Montpelier Tree Board (~ 25 years).

1. Agenda Item: Budget Review

- North Main Street Tree Maintenance Fund (from Sempbrebon annuity) = \$10,000.00 (\$5,000.00 annual contribution)
- Started by City Council, didn't spend any funds last year, earmarked for north Main Street trees
 - General Fund Public Parks/Tree Maintenance budget = \$4,168.05 balance (\$5,831.95 expended from \$10,000.00 budget)
- Annual budget, can be used for tree removal.
 - Tuesday, April 16 Training for Pruning, would come out of General Fund Public Parks budget. Possible pruning work from North Main Street Tree Fund.
 - Attention towards Oaks splitting in Currier Park.
 - J. Snell recommends getting inventory on dangerous trees to help with budgeting.

2. Agenda Item: Main Street Trees

- Final tally and Species List
 - A. Garland says that if 10 trees can be planted for \$10,000 budget then we should pursue it.
 - N. Rubin says a dozen trees will cost around \$8500 but adjustments might be made depending on tree removal difficulty.
 - Species: J. Snell, says Montpelier is planting Elms, Freeman Maple, Kentucky Coffeetree, Ginkgo (Magyar Ginkgo have narrow spread), Poplar, Hornbeam, Swamp White.
 - Timeline for ordering trees: planting in Mid-May. J Snell also suggests tagging on orders to Montpelier to save delivery costs.
- Tree Guards
 - A. Garland says that Bill Ahearn, Public Works Director, said him and his team can weld them for ~\$225.
 - J. Snell asks how they are fastened to ground and J. Bergeron says it would be bolted into concrete. Snell recommends they not slope inward at the top.

- N. Rubin recommends keeping it at height of 18”.

3. Agenda Item: Pruning Plan

Wait until next fiscal season

4. Agenda Item: Partnership Updates

- Gwen Kozlowski for the June 1st BOR free trees event
- Energy Saving Trees event, Garland recommends having the committee support tabling. Third Year. Heat vulnerability Index. 2nd Year in Barre City. 10a - 1p. 150 trees, container grown. Gives 2 trees to people as supplies last. Needs help with collecting trees leftover from those who register but do not show up. J Snell recommends having a handout for planting instructions to give to customers.

5. Agenda Item: Words of Wisdom from John Snell

- Main advice: If you don't know, ask. Muddled along when should
- Worked with Parks department that had equipment.
- Having a dedicated volunteer group.
- Expertise of members allow for more projects to happen with support. Community plan of going door-to-door giving neighbors a choice of two trees, planted for free on their property along barren spots.
- Spent time and building relationship with DPW. Compromises needed.
- Prefers Planting Beds to Tree Guards.
- Landed \$15,000 Grant to handle EAB. Writing Grants. Run Ash Inventory downtown every year, if infested, grind it down.
- Said he will make available their resistance plan. Recommends on
- Will put Tree Committee in the loop on Montpelier plantings.

Next Meeting Agenda:

- Updates
- Main Street Trees
 - Final list and ordering update
 - Create step by step timeline of replacements, including action items for trees staying
- Emerald Ash Borer Planning
- Energy Saving Trees Event June 1st Planning
- Main Street tree subsoil investigation

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn at 6:55 pm by A. Garland and seconded by N. Ebert, passed unanimously.