

City of Charlevoix
Shade Tree & Parks Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 8, 2022 - 10:00 AM
2nd Floor Conference Room, 210 State Street, Charlevoix, MI

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Hodgson called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

Members present: David Bertinelli; David Levy; Jennifer Muladore; Perry Hodgson
Also present: Mark L. Heydlauff, City Manager; Pat Elliott, DPW Superintendent; John Griffith, Electric Department Director

2. Approve Minutes of August 11, 2022

A. Draft Minutes

Motion by Levy, second by Muladore to approve minutes of August 11, 2022.

Motion carried.

3. Old Business

A. Powerline Trimming Update

Mr. Griffith updated the Commission on power line trimming standards. He provided a revised draft of the specs that will be used to bid the work. The Commission questioned certain species for full removal and concurred they would be appropriate (including cotton wood, poplar, and silver maple). Homeowners will get notice but the Commission recognized that this is an important effort to maintain the reliability of the system.

B. Park Avenue Improvements Update

Mr. Elliott discussed the updates and improvements on Park Avenue. There is additional pruning that will take place this fall in support of view corridors; work has been done in Water Tower Park as well.

C. Fall Tree Planting Final Count and Calendar

Mr. Elliott has a list of 50 trees for planting this fall. A few residents have expressed they do not want a tree planted and this will be noted for the list. He also has had conversations with Hoffman Nursery for better dialogue on what is stocked and what they may stock in advance for the requests for the future. The Commission will plan staking at their next meeting.

D. Tree Removal Request: 112 Belvedere Avenue

Chair Hodgson opened discussion of the tree removal request for 112 Belvedere Avenue. The requesting party, Jim and Sandy Plagens, desire one maple tree be removed from the right-of-way. Pursuant to Ordinance 152.04, the Commission can grant the removal request and require the requesting party to pay all costs for removal and planting of additional trees not less than two trees per one removed. The Commission discussed the pros and cons of the request. They expressed concern about cutting healthy trees since their mission is to preserve and add to the canopy of the City; they noted very few shade trees along Belvedere Avenue. They appreciate how the Plagens have followed the correct process and how additional trees planted could

benefit the City in this area.

Motion by Hodgson, second by Levy to approve the request and require the planting of two trees in the right of way at 112 Belvedere Avenue and four additional trees elsewhere in the City.

The Commission continued discussion of the motion and discussed whether to set a standard on these kinds of requests for equivalent diameter at breast height for replacement. They also felt that tree species planted in this area should be height appropriate to provide shade but not to unnecessarily obstruct views.

Motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Heydlauff advised that a formal letter informing the Plagens of the decision would advise them of the conditions stipulated by the Commission. Once they pay all costs for the request, work could begin.

4. New Business

5. Public Comment

The floor was opened for public comment. None were heard.

6. Adjourn

Chair Hodgson adjourned the meeting at 11:17am.