



Urban Forestry Committee Meeting
August 9th, 2022
West Fargo City Hall – West Training Room

Members Present: Dave Schacher, Dave Janssen, Mike Opat, Mary Beth Odegaard, Barry Johnson, Roben Anderson

Others Present: Chad Zander

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 PM

The first item on the agenda was the introduction of Roben Anderson as the City Commission Representative, followed by committee introductions.

Mike Opat made a motion to approve the minutes from April 12th, 2022. Barry Johnson seconded the motion, motion carried.

The first item of old business was an update on the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), Chad Zander gave the update. Chad had several handouts with the updated counties in the US as well as a map of the tri state area with infected counties. The SLAM strategy was discussed as well as some chemical treatments.

The next item of new business was a public event recap. Chad gave the update. He noted that the forestry booth was setup at the City of West Fargo Street Fair and West Fargo's Night to Unite. Both events were very well attended and had good attendance at the booth. Chad noted that 41 people signed up for the tree at the street fair and 51 people signed up at Night to Unite. He also noted that the department will continue to participate in those events. He also noted that remainder of the public outreach budget will be used to purchase more outreach materials and booth items.

The next item on the agenda was the Forest Service grants, Chad gave the update. He noted that the city did receive the two grants that were applied for. The contracts have been signed, the trees ordered and the notifications sent out. Chad did note he received feedback form several residents and was able to accommodate their requests. The tree planting grant will be from Main Ave to 7th Ave. from Sheyenne St. to 1st St. and the program development grant will be in the Francis and Morrison St. area and will include 9 trees getting removed from under power lines.

The first item of new business is the community orchards. Chad noted that after several discussions with city staff, that the Lodoen Center orchard has some issues with shallow pipe(s). A new option for an orchard in Charleswood was discussed with Josh Mathern from the parks. After the discussion, a new site was picked in Charleswood on park land. Chad noted that this would require an MOU (memo of understanding) with the park district for maintenance. Dave Janssen made a motion to proceed with the project and MOU, Barry Johnson seconded the motion, motion carried.

The next item of new business was the Long-Range Planting Plan. Chad noted that since the department started working with engineering department on the Capital Improvement Plan, that he wanted to develop and approve a long-range planting plan as a guiding document. The long rage planting projects were discussed and a motion

to approve the plan was made by Mike Opat, Mary Beth Odegaard seconded the motion. Motion carried. Chad will forward the plan to engineering.

The next item of business was the 2023 Arbor Day celebration. Chad noted that he would like committee member to start thinking about who they may want to honor next year.

The next item of new business was the Cartegraph Dashboard. Chad gave a short demo of the software and its capabilities. The work management portion was discussed and a demo of the tree inventory and asset management, was also shown.

The first miscellaneous item that was discussed was the summer utility bill insert, Chad noted that the insert was sent out in the June bills.

The next miscellaneous item discussed was the Xcel Energy Gas Main Project. Mike asked what if any were the effects of the project. Chad noted that three trees did die that were along the route. The assessed value of those trees was collected from Xcel Energy. Chad also noted that the warranty on the trees runs until Fall of 2023. The trees will continue to be monitored until then.

The next meeting will be November 8th, 2022. It was noted this was a voting date and the meeting date may be changed.

Barry Johnson made a motion to adjourn, Dave Janssen seconded. Meeting was adjourned.