



Minutes
Tuesday, November 15, 2022, 4:00 pm
Commission Chambers, City Hall

Members Present: Jim Arthur, Bre Hohman, Kippie Loughlin, John Parker, Commissioner Waddington

Staff Present: Scott Kromer, Nate Leimeister, Elisabeth Sowecke

Old Business:

Minutes from July and September meetings were approved. Jim Arthur acknowledged seeing Forestry crews performing limb-up work on Water Street and thanked Mr. Leimeister. The crab apple trees are not ideal for pedestrians so they may be replaced in the future.

Ms. Hohman inquired about updates for tree species for the Columbus Avenue streetscape. Mr. Kromer indicated that he will seek an update.

Ms. Arthur indicated that he is happy with the 30 or so trees chosen for the 2022 Fall Planting as he saw them at the greenhouse.

Tree Stats (September 20th to November 15th):

35 Removed (including @ Oakland Cemetery)
86 Stumps Removed
55 Limb-Up
31 Complete Trims
2 Young Tree Training
21 Storm Clean-Up
31 Trees Planted

Training opportunities were discussed and Commissioner Waddington asked about the procedure for stump grinding and Mr. Leimeister indicated that he periodically batches removal by location and moves from neighborhood to neighborhood to efficiently remove stumps. Mr. Kromer clarified that we do attempt to target oldest stumps first. Forestry staff are making progress and the current average wait time for a trim or removal is approximately six months. Young tree maintenance was discussed.

Ms. Hohman questioned door hanger materials and Mr. Leimeister clarified the various door hangers used and described the new door hangers for tree plantings.

Mr. Leimeister shared that a new piece of equipment—an articulated loader—is now in-use and staff is very happy with it. Additionally, the new bucket truck has arrived and is being equipped by the Fleet department currently

New Business:

Ms. Hohman highlighted the importance of maintaining trees in light of stronger storms and she commended Sandusky Forestry for their efforts at addressing unhealthy older trees that are risky during high winds. Ms. Kromer thanked Commission for approving the purchase of the bucket truck because that will increase our efforts to trim and “thin out” healthy trees to decrease susceptibility to high winds.

Ms. Hohman recommended that Forestry staff access Green Fund support for future training opportunities for Sandusky residents to highlight and educate on the benefits of trees and tree maintenance.

The meeting can be viewed in-full here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MdfE5R4yjFY>.