

**FEBRUARY 26, 2018 TREE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF EDGERTON**

Ramona Flanigan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Adam Gould, Sara Beckwith, Barb Bublitz, and Bill Sachse.

Excused: Barb Steponkus

Others Present: City Administrator Ramona Flanigan, Public Works Director Tom Hartzell, Alderperson Matt McIntyre, Brian Wahl from the DNR and The Edgerton Reporter

Flanigan confirmed the meeting agendas were properly posted on Friday, February 23, 2018 at the Post Office, Edgerton Library and City Hall.

The board members introduced themselves and spoke about their interest in the committee. Brian Wahl the DNR Urban Regional Forestry Coordinator attended the meeting to give any assistance in executing the goals of the board.

ELECT CHAIR: A Gould/Bublitz motion to nominate Sara Beckwith as chair passed, all voted in favor.

COMMITTEE OBJECTIVES: The board was provided some examples of mission statements. The examples should be reviewed and discussed to create a mission statement to be voted on at a future meeting. The board will be the advocates for the forestry for the City of Edgerton. Ramona asked Brian about the benefit of doing a tree inventory. Brian said the DNR suggests that all communities do this. Tom Hartzell stated that he would like to see education for staff and citizens on tree preservation. After discussing the examples, the board stated they would like to combine some of the examples and also add verbiage to include education. The staff will draft a statement from the suggestions from the board and discuss at the next meeting.

CURRENT TREE ORDINANCES: Our current ordinance states the Public Works Director has control over our trees. A copy of the ordinance was provided to the board. Flanigan went over a few highlights of what our ordinance includes. She also discussed items our ordinance does not include. The board should look over the ordinance and direct staff to prepare any ordinance amendments to cover changes to the current ordinance if needed.

FUNDING: The 2018 budget includes \$3,000 for tree replacement. This will cover approximately 23 trees. Currently the city has available \$4,878 for tree purchases which includes some funds carried over from 2017. The City also budgets \$6,000 for treatment against the Emerald Ash Borer and stump removal.

TREE CITY USA APPLICATION: The board was provided the standards for becoming a Tree City USA. This can provide better opportunities for grants to expand the funds available. In future meetings the board can decide if they want to pursue a Tree City designation.

FUTURE PROJECTS: The Edgerton Rotary Club has expressed an interest in funding the installation of trees around the baseball diamonds and a tree lined entrance at Race Track Park. If the board is interested in pursuing this opportunity they should discuss the possibility of having a professional create a planting plan to ensure the correct trees are planted in the best possible location. Staff will check into creating a planting plan and who the board can contract to do that. Ramona will communicate with the Rotary Club the interest in the project and try to get a monetary commitment from that group. The board also discussed a possible bare root

gravel bed to try to stretch the dollars available for trees. Brian provided the board with some information on how the gravel bare root beds work.

NEXT MEETING & AGENDA ITEMS: Next meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2018 at 6:00 pm. Future agenda items include:

- a. Mission Statement
- b. 12 Month Goals
- c. Rotary/Racetrack Park Project
- d. Plant trees at Vet's building

Being no other business before the Board, a Beckwith/Gould motion to adjourn passed, all voted in favor.

Ramona Flangan/wjl
City Administrator