

CITY OF FIFE TREE COMMISSION NOTES
Monday September 17, 2012
City Hall Council Chambers 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order:

Chair Coddington called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm

Notice of Quorum/Roll Call:

Quorum Present

Members Present: Chair Coddington, Vice Chair McDonald, Fietz, Geddes

Members Absent/Excused:

Staff Present: PRCS Director, Kurt Reuter and PRCS Office Assistant, Brenda Garcia-Brown

Review of 6/6/12 meeting minutes

The Commission reviewed the minutes of the March 14, 2012, meeting. McDonald moved, seconded by Fietz, to approve the June 6, 2012, meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments:

None

Commission Reports:

None

Director Reports:

Director Reuter said he is currently working on the Tree City USA application. We will have no problem meeting our expenditure requirements, thanks to the public works department and the trees being planted as part of a transportation improvement project. Director Reuter will draft a budget that shows the expenditures including staff time. Coddington asked when trees are planted on 70th will we utilize the Urban Forestry Management Plan and tree inventory data. Director Reuter said that is the plan at this time. However the plan is not yet adopted by the council. The streetscape that has been used in other projects will be a design similar to the Valley Avenue project. Once the Urban Forestry Management Plan is finished and the final recommendations go to council for approval, he will be meeting with Community Development staff to determine out what elements of the Urban Forest Management Plan will be submitted as City of Fife Comprehensive Plan Amendments for 2013. Fietz asked, with some of the bigger projects we've doing, are we following the recommendations in regards to tree species.

New Business:

Urban Forestry Management Plan

Our consultant, Micki McNaughton, was in attendance to present an update on the Urban Forestry Management Plan. The plan has undergone "technical review" by a panel to ensure we are in compliance with state law, the latest in urban forestry research, and industry standards. There are some remaining items she has been asked to do further research on from that panel. This is the preliminary draft that is going to be presented to the council. She gave a brief overview and explained that the plan was written in three sections.

She reviewed the planning and operations sections. She discussed why urban forestry planning is so important. She gave some examples such as enhance public welfare, protect public safety, protect the city's investment in the urban forestry resource and manage liability/risk to avoid future costs through proper preventive care. Director Reuter stated we have a fair number of trees that still need to be inventoried. She suggested it would be a good idea to look at the current inventory data and get the remaining data recorded and implemented into our plan. McDonald commented the report is very comprehensive and touches all points. He believes the council will be quite pleased with it. Coddington commented on the recommendations and the standards, saying they were very clear however some areas may need to be a bit clearer. For example, home owners not thinking they are held to the same standards as the city. He also believes setting standards for homeowners would be a good idea and a valuable tool to establish.

Old Business:

2012 Work Plan Recap

The 2012 work plan is going well. The Arbor Day Event was completed and successful. The Tree City USA Application will be completed and submitted by October 31, 2012. We are nearing the end of the Urban Forestry Management Plan project and it will be presented to council in September. We will look at helping with the development of the spreadsheet in 2013. It would be a good idea to look at it in December and begin to lay down the ground work for the next year. There are some great resources that have been brought to our attention to research for 2013.

Spreadsheet and Activities Review

Notes have been kept, but not a lot has been done with the annual planning worksheet. We will go into detail on the spreadsheet at the December 5, 2012 meeting.

Other Business:

March 6, 2013 Agenda Items

Work Plan Spreadsheet Activity Review
2012 Work Plan Final Review
2013 Work Plan Draft

Closing comments:

Director Reuter thanked the commission for attending this make up meeting. He reminded the commission to please put the next meeting of December 5, 2012, on their calendars and to plan on attending. He also thanked Micki McNaughton for attending and giving the presentation.

Adjournment:

Geddes motioned to adjourn the meeting, Fietz seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, March 6, 2013, 7:00 pm Fife City Hall Council Chambers