

City of Pierre
Arbor Committee Minutes
Tuesday, August 23, 2016

The August 2016 meeting of the City of Pierre Arbor Board was held at the City Hall conference room. Ron Schreiner called the meeting to order at 12:02pm. Those in attendance were Board Members: Ron Schreiner, Mark Smith, Chuck Humphrey and Tony Dorschner. Absent were Art Smith and Will Hansen. Also attending were Commissioner Steve Harding, Tom Farnsworth and Todd Kelly. Guest was Marcus Warnke from Dept. of Ag.

Motion by Smith second by Humphrey to approve the minutes of the July meeting. Motion carried.

The agenda will stand as presented.

Old Business:

City of Pierre EAB Response Plan

The board engaged in a review of the City EAB Preparedness and Response Plan as adopted by the City in 2013. Marcus Warnke who is a forestry specialist with the SD Dept. of Ag had reviewed the plan and offered his edits for improvements. It has been almost three years since adoption of the City plan and the treatment and response to EAB has evolved. Marcus went through each page of the plan. His suggestions were an address change to their Rapid City field office and he prefers to have trees in question of EAB to be referred to the Pierre office and they may in turn call in Dr. Ball from SDSU. Other edits were under the management section and were noted but nothing of major concern. Warnke suggested under the disposal of wood plan we make the trees available for urban use and not just burn all of them. Overall Warnke complimented the City on their pro-active plan. A new revised EAB plan will be coming out from the Department of Ag in January. Commissioner Harding suggested the board review that plan for any additions to the City plan. The board and Warnke agreed to meet again on the topic. Schreiner thanked Warnke for his review and input.

City Budget

Farnsworth reported budget discussions were ongoing and the 2016 operations budget was reduced to \$250 for the Arboretum maintenance and \$50 for Dutch Elm control. The 2017 budget was still proposed at \$1,000 for maintenance at the Arboretum and \$500 for Dutch Elm control. Commissioner Harding gave comments on the revenues and reserves for the City were lower than anticipated so cut backs in 2016 operations were taking place. Harding was hopeful the sales tax would pick up in the second half of the year to help in the shortfall.

New Business:

September Arboretum Work Day

The board discussed a day to put tree protectors on. Schreiner will coordinate with David Page to see if the boy scouts would be able to assist and let the board know the date.

Arboretum Fall Tour

The board set October 6th, a Thursday at 5:30 pm for the public open house and tour.

Fall Tree Order

The board discussed with Kelly replacements to order for the Arboretum. The Aspen are dead but Sugar Maple survived. Cedars are struggling that were planted on the west side. Kelly will review what is needed to be ordered. The board agreed to review the Class of 70 donation trees in the spring to see how they are doing, they may need to be replaced. Runnings' would guarantee them.

Discussion:

Kelly reported there are some DE trees to be removed yet but not many. Harding said fall tree trimming would probably take place again by Street Dept. when their construction schedule is done.

Meeting adjourned by Ron at 12:52pm.

Submitted by: Tom Farnsworth, Director

Next Meeting: Noon, Tuesday, September 27, 2016.