

Decorah Tree Board

April 9, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jeremy Brill at 5:32pm in the City Hall conference room.

Present: Jeremy Brill, Mark Faldet, Dick Guilgot, Peter van der Linden, City Forester Robin Sailor, and Parks and Recreation director Andy Nimrod.

MOTION by Guilgot, second by Faldet: to approve the minutes of the February 20 meeting as circulated. Motion carried.

The City Council will review recommended changes to the tree ordinance on May 7.

Sailor reported that 48 trees have been ordered for this spring's planting. Residents have reserved 21 trees thus far. Pick-up day will be May 11. Volunteer assistance is needed.

The grant proposal to The Trees For Kids program has been approved. Trees provided by the grant will be planted in May at Vennehjen and Swimming Pool Parks.

The Tree Board has more watering bags than will be needed for this spring's plantings, so the extras will be loaned to Parks and Rec.

Decorah has qualified for a Tree City USA Growth Award, administered by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and the Arbor Day Foundation.

There was a discussion about replacing boulevard trees lost to Emerald Ash Borer. There was consensus that more trees will be planted if the City takes the initiative to replace trees it has removed, rather than expect property owners to do so. Property owners should be informed in advance and given the opportunity to help select the species planted. The Tree Board will commit to water the trees the first year after planting and prune the trees as needed the first five years.

The Tree Board will meet again on Thursday, April 26.

The meeting adjourned at 6:52pm.

Peter van der Linden, Secretary