

## **Decorah Tree Board**

October 25, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jeremy Brill at 5:33pm in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Present: Jeremy Brill, Mark Faldet, Dick Guilgot, Scott Timm, and Peter van der Linden.

MOTION by Timm, second by Faldet: to approve the minutes of the October 4 meeting as circulated. Motion carried.

Brill reported that the Tree Board has expended \$420 of its FY 2019 budget. The City has spent \$14,113 of the \$40,000 budgeted for tree removal.

The Decorah Rotary Club has secured a \$2,500 Rotary district grant. This grant and a \$2,500 contribution from the Club will be used as matching funds for a grant proposal to Black Hills Energy for tree planting along Short and Mechanic Streets.

MOTION by Guilgot, second by Faldet: to cooperate with Rotary in applying for a grant to plant trees along Short and Mechanic Streets. Motion carried. Brill will prepare the proposal.

At its October 4 meeting, the Tree Board identified 88 spots along Short and Mechanic Streets where trees can be planted. During discussion at today's meeting, the Board selected the trees as follows. Tall trees: sycamore, honey locust, hackberry, Kentucky coffeetree, American linden, ginkgo. Short trees: flowering crabapple, Japanese tree lilac, American hornbeam.

City Manager Chad Bird then joined the meeting briefly. He said it was OK for the City (rather than Rotary) to be the recipient of the grant. He also said that the City staff can pick up the water bladders placed around newly planted trees last spring.

After Bird departed, there was a discussion about whether or not City Code should contain a formal process for citizens to appeal a decision of the City Forester. There was consensus that such a provision should be added.

The Board needs to prepare a list of prohibited trees. Brill will create a Google Doc for members of the Board to comment.

Adjourned at 6:48pm.

Peter van der Linden, Secretary