

## **Decorah Tree Board**

April 29, 2021

The electronic meeting, via Zoom, was called to order by Chairman Scott Timm at 5:32pm.

Participating: Mark Faldet, Tina Hall, Brent Parker, Drew Pellett, Scott Timm, Peter van der Linden, and City Forester Sam Hogenson.

MOTION by Parker, second by Hall: to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2021 meeting as circulated. Motion carried.

Hogenson requested that the Board help inform property owners about their responsibility to identify ash trees and plan to either treat or remove them. The Board agreed that a radio appearance would be an effective means of accomplishing this. Timm, Parker, and Hogenson will participate.

A grant from Black Hills Energy will support the planting of replacement trees in boulevards this fall. The Board set Saturday, October 23 as the tentative planting date.

Hogenson reported that the City has received a shipment of 51 trees. Twenty-one of these were purchased with the Alliant Energy grant for boulevard planting, which will be done by the Tree Board on Saturday, May 8. Five additional trees (Swamp White Oaks) are on back order. Planting sites have been selected and Hogenson will contact 811 to locate utilities. Hogenson is aware of some Middle School students who need to put in volunteer hours; he will invite them to dig holes in advance of the planting. Hogenson and Parker will then deliver the trees to the planting sites early on May 8. To allow for social distancing, available Tree Board members will each plant 4 or 5 trees, soliciting help from family or friends as needed. The Decorah Betterment truck will be available for watering trees after the planting.

Final plans for May 8 will be made at a special Tree Board meeting to be held Thursday, May 6 at 5:30pm via Zoom.

Hogenson reported that tree removals and pruning for street clearance will resume soon. Stumps in boulevards will be removed this summer.

The meeting adjourned at 6:23pm.

Next regular meeting: Thursday, May 27 at 5:30pm, in person at an outdoor location to be determined.

Peter van der Linden, Secretary