

**City of Kalamazoo  
TREE COMMITTEE  
Minutes  
July 2, 2019**

Stockbridge Main Conference Room  
415 E. Stockbridge, Kalamazoo, MI 49001

Members

Present: Perry Banta, Forestry Supervisor, COK  
Philip Dietrich, ECC Representative  
Orrin Dorr, Chairperson, Public Works Manager, COK  
Debra Nichols, Consumers Energy  
Chris Patchell, Parks & Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB)  
Steve Skalski, Asst. City Engineer Water Dept., COK

City Staff: Karen Rutherford, Recording Secretary

Guests: Anthony Ladd, Asst. City Eng., Public Works, COK  
Kermit Stutzman, Majority Builders  
Thomas Styf, Wolverine Building Group  
David Taylor, PlazaCorp

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Orrin Dorr called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Chairperson Orrin Dorr completed roll call and determined the aforementioned members were present.

**C. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Chairperson Orrin Dorr introduced the guests:  
Anthony Ladd, Asst. City Eng., Public Works, COK  
Kermit Stutzman, Majority Builders  
Thomas Styf, Wolverine Building Group  
David Taylor, PlazaCorp

**D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**By unanimous consent the Committee adopted its meeting agenda as presented.**

**E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (June 4, 2019)**

**Committee Member Chris Patchell supported by Committee Member Steve Skalski, moved approval of the June 4, 2019 Tree Committee Minutes. With a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

**F. NEW BUSINESS**

**4610 Lilac Lane – Village of Kalamazoo – Tree Removal Request**

Chairperson Orrin Dorr opened discussion for the tree removal at 4610 Lilac Lane.

Mr. Thomas Styf, with Wolverine Building Group, stated at 4610 Lilac Lane they plan to install a concrete sidewalk with an ADA walkway which is in line with the three trees and shrubs in the area. He is requesting to remove the three trees and small shrubs where the sidewalk will be installed. A discussion followed.

Committee Member Steve Skalski stated the first tree would be in the way of the ADA walkway and will need to be removed.

Committee Member Perry Banta asked if they had a replacement plan for the removal of the City trees. Mr. Styf responded they will be planting private trees but there are no plans for replacement of City trees.

**Committee Member Steve Skalski supported by Committee Member Phil Dietrich made a motion to remove only the one northern most tree and leave the remainder trees and plant two replacement trees across the street in the right of way area. With a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.**

**2839 Full Circle Dr. - Harbor Farmz – Tree Removal Request**

Chairperson Orrin Dorr opened discussion for the tree removal request at 2839 Full Circle Dr.

Mr. Kermit Stutzman, with Majority Builders, stated one tree has already been removed. A new drive will be added at the right side of the curve in the road and one tree had to be removed to install the drive. He stated they are willing to plant two for one. For water and sewer tie-ins they will not have to disturb any trees. Consumers will have to tie into the electrical lines under the road and he is not sure where that location is or whether any other trees will need to be removed.

Committee Member Perry Banta stated going up the drive the City did plantings a few years ago and there are tree planted on both sides of the drive that did not survive. He stated he is fine with those trees being removed. Additionally, if they need to remove any other trees he asks that they be replaced two for one. Mr. Kermit Stutzman asked if the trees could be planted in the fall when they would have a better chance of surviving and Committee Member Perry Banta agreed.

Committee Member Perry Banta asked that if a larger tree such as an oak is taken out than he would like a replacement oak planted.

**Committee Member Perry Banta supported by Committee Member Chris Patchell made a motion to approve the removal of the trees and re-planting two for one along the drive. With a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.**

### **Rose Street – PlazaCorp – Hilton Project**

Chairperson Orrin Dorr opened discussion for the tree removal for the Hilton Project by PlazaCorp on Rose St.

Mr. David Taylor, with PlazaCorp, stated on the northeast corner of the building there is a dying tree they need to remove. He stated they have plans to plant several plants. Three private trees have been removed so a buried 10,000 gallon tank could be removed. He stated Hurley & Stewart has a master plan for tree plantings on Rose St. but he does not know the specific plans. Committee Member Perry Banta stated given the decline of the tree, removal is warranted. A discussion followed.

Committee Member Perry Banta asked if there was any right of way space feasible to replant a tree. Mr. Taylor stated there is no space on their portion to replant a tree. Committee Member Perry Banta stated he could speak with Hurley & Stewart about planting trees on the back side in the court yard. A discussion followed.

Skalski stated there is no space to replant a tree in the surrounding area. With other projects going on it would not be feasible to plant trees at this time.

**Committee Member Steve Skalski supported by Committee Member Philip Dietrich made a motion to approve the removal of the tree and attempt to replant something at a later date. Additionally, the Committee requests PlazaCorp revisit their landscaping plans to consider taller species for canopy cover. With a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.**

### **G. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **GPS Location of Trees in Crane Park**

Chairperson Orrin Dorr opened discussion for the GPS location of trees in Crane Park. Committee Member Perry Banta stated there is no new information. They are still in the plaque QR code phase of the project.

### **H. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**I. COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

Committee Member Perry Banta stated the August committee meeting will most likely be at Harrison Facility but will confirm this when we issue the next committee meeting announcement. He stated the Committee will be revisiting the Winchell Neighborhood Consumers project and anticipates a larger turnout of residents.

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairperson Orrin Dorr adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m.

Submitted by: Karen Rutherford Date: 8-7-19  
Recording Secretary

Approved by: Orrin Dorr Date: 8/7/19  
Staff Liaison