



Minutes

**Village of Spring Lake
Tree Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 3, 2019
(Note one day later due to Labor Day Observance)
7:00 p.m.
102 West Savidge Street (EOC Room)**

I. Call to Order

Roll Call: Curt Brower (Chair), Claire Groenevelt (Vice Chair), Darcy Dye, Erik Poel, Lee Schuitema and Susan Petrus (Village Council Liaison).

Absent: George Barfield.

Also Present: Chris Burns (Village Manager) and Maryann Fonkert (Deputy Clerk)

II. Approval of the Agenda: Motion by **Schuitema**, second from **Groenevelt**, to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 5 No: 0

III. Approval of the Minutes: Motion by **Poel**, second from **Schuitema**, to approve the June 3, 2019 and July 1, 2019 regular meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 5 No: 0

IV. Finance Report: **Burns** shared the finance report with the Board.

Motion by **Poel**, second from **Groenevelt**, to accept the Finance Report. All in favor, motion carried

Yes: 5 No: 0

V. Tree Removals/Trimming – Burns reported that they were about a month behind the normal schedule on assembling the list of trees to be removed or trimmed due to the merging of the two DPW's and that she had received several requests from residents wanting trees planted or trimmed after she had posted an announcement on Facebook asking them to contact her with their requests. **Dye** asked to have the arborist check a maple tree at Central Park for fungus and if it had a fungus, the maple trees around it would need to be treated. The **Board** discussed the list of trees for removal or trimming.

Motion by **Poel**, second from **Dye**, to approve the list of recommended Tree Removals and Tree Trimmings. All in favor, motion carried

Yes: 5 No: 0

VI. Tree Plantings – Burns shared that a Consumers Energy Tree Grant for 25 trees had been submitted and these trees would be added to the 44 trees donated to the Village by 3C. **Burns** said that with the 2 for 1 plantings, they were looking at planting about 100 2-inch trees.

VII. Arborist Approval – Burns explained that the Arborist they had been using had retired, so they were looking at a proposal from Lee Mueller, an arborist from Grand Rapids with the Davey Resource Group. **Burns** said that Darcy Dye was familial with Lee Mueller. **Dye** said that Mr. Mueller worked very well with the public and he was very competent and reliable. **Burns** and **Dye** both recommended Mr. Mueller but would get more proposals if the Board would prefer. **Schuitema** said that going through the proposal, he noticed that they had a very diversified staff.

Motion by **Schuitema**, second from **Dye**, to approve the use of the Davey Resource Group and utilize the lowest skills at the lowest hourly rate that suited the needs that would likely fluctuate. All in favor, motion carried

Yes: 5 No: 0

VIII. Consumers Energy Grant Update – Burns said she was hopeful that Consumers would look favorably on this tree grant that would pay half of the cost of the Tree Inventory project.

IX. Tree Inventory Grant Update

X. Miscellaneous –

- Willow Tree at Mill Point Park – **Burns** shared photos of the before and after trimming and how much safer and nicer it looked.
- High Water Tables – The **Board** discussed the predicted water levels for 2020.

XI. Parks & Recreation Meeting

1. **Mass Gathering Ordinance – Burns** shared that this Ordinance came about as a result of the damage to Mill Point Park during the Heritage Festival and that she would be sharing the draft with Council at their October meeting.

2. **Proposal from Progressive AE – Burns** reported that Council approved the proposal from Progressive AE for a couple of different scopes of service, but were holding off on the DNR Grant assistance since it was not due until April and they wanted to wait until the construction estimates and market analysis came in.

3. **Master Plan Update – Burns** reported that a phone survey would begin soon and that all five communities were participating in this update which had to be done by December of this year.

4. **Parks Updates –**

- Central Park – **Burns** said she was still getting complaint calls regarding Pickleball and, that since the DPW's had combined forces, the park had never looked better. **Burns** said that items that had been on a to-do list for some time, were now getting done.
- Mill Point Park – **Burns** reported that Mill Point still looked bad and that an event was being held over the weekend and the event holders were paying to pump the water out as best they could and what they couldn't pump out, the DPW would do what they could. **Burns** said the party was being held in the parking lot, not on the green space and that the boat launch would be closed for the event.
- Lakeside Beach – **Burns** shared that, surprisingly, people had been using the beach all summer.
- Whistle Stop Playground – **Burns** reminded the Board that there would be an Artist Reveal for the murals on September 12th. **Burns** also shared that a request had been received for a bathroom or port-a-potty near Whistle Stop. **Burns** said that considering the amount of traffic the park gets, she felt they should consider budgeting for a port-a-potty for next season. **Burns** said that she wanted to get feedback from the Admiral Station first though.
- Lakeside Trail – Nothing at this time.
- Tanglefoot Park – **Schuitema** asked if Tanglefoot Park would be open next summer. **Burns** said that she did not have an answer to that until the Market Analysis comes back and Council made a decision.

5. Miscellaneous –

- **Petrus** asked if some kind of communication could be sent out to explain to people why needed repairs were not being done at this time due to the high-water table. **Dye** suggested signage at the different parks acknowledging that the Village was aware of the issues and that repairs would be made when water levels allowed. The **Board** discussed these ideas and agreed.
- **Burns** reported that the Ottawa County Marine Patrol had stepped up patrols on the lake to enforce no wake zones and measure distance boats were traveling from docks and had written several tickets.
- **Burns** reported that a tree came down on a truck and camper that was located on one of the Village lots where the property line went to the middle of the street. **Burns** said the tree was behind the sidewalk so, per legal opinion, the home owner was responsible for the cleanup but had the tree been between the sidewalk and street, even though still on the home owners property, the Village would take the responsibility to clean it up.

XII. Adjournment

Motion by **Poel**, second from **Schuitema**, the meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 5

No: 0

Curt Brower, Chair

Maryann Fonkert, Deputy Clerk