

**Shade Tree Commission
Minutes
October 8, 2020 at 7:00 pm
Via Zoom**

Meeting Attendees: David Ingram, Jim Dyer, Lee Gregg, Nancy Walker, David Sincoff, Emilie Wood, Peter Kotses, David Riggs, Ann Bonner.

1. Title 33: Tree Permit, Right-of-Way Issues, Public Land
 - a. David Ingram walked the West Union St. project on September 22nd with the City Engineer, Jessica Aldine, and Ann Bonner. The City plans to reserve as many large shade trees as possible, particularly on the south side of the street. There are concerns that the contractors will not follow the requirements to preserve those trees and so Commissioners may be needed to help monitor the site on a daily basis once the project starts.
2. Title 37: Landscape Ordinance Issues
 - a. Menards will plant 370 large shade trees across the City. We need to provide site information and we can select the species. The City will have to water and maintain them. We need to review our potential site information and possibly use this as the base of a plan to trees over a number of years. There is no timeline for the planting of these trees.
3. Maintenance of the tree canopy
 - a. Plans – we need to develop a data base of planting sites.
 - i. West Union HDL center along the roadside of the site, hackberries, Kentucky coffee trees.
 - ii. Highway interchanges
 1. Interchange between Menards and the State Highway Patrol, clusters of trees
 2. Interchange at East State St. and 33 -will need to work with the State
 - iii. Elmwood, black gum, pin oak.
 - iv. Pick high impact sites
 - v. Plant enough to replace every tree removed and plant in addition between 20 – 50 more.
 - vi. Which City department should lead on the maintenance of trees in the City?
 - b. There may be no Fall Planting this year.
 - c. Currently, there are two unfilled vacancies in the City, one for a Head Landscaper the other for a Grounds Crew person. These are not posted currently.
4. Other business
 - a. Commissioners were impressed with the Tree Conference talks. We will post the links once they are available.
 - b. iTree website – the price increases according to details you want. David Sincoff is looking into the details.
5. Minutes of the September 10th, 2020
 - a. Motion to approve the minutes, by Nancy Walker, seconded by Jim Dyer. The minutes were approved without objection.
6. Next meeting is November 12, 2020 at 7:00 PM on Zoom