Tree Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 11, 2009 at 5:30 PM
Giles Dow Room at City Hall, 381 E Main, Stoughton, WI

Members Present: Todd Fossum, Tim Carter, Jay Schotzko, Tim Berndt, Darren Marsh, Dean Tangeman, Craig Wood, Randy Nelson and Rick Gullickson

Absent & Excused:

Absent: Pat Ready and Josh LaPointe

Guests: None

Call to order: Meeting called to order by Fossum.

1) **Approval of minutes from May 14, 2009 meeting:** Motion by Tangeman seconded by Schotzko to approve minutes. Motion carried 5-0.

2) **Correspondence:** *Erdahl* stated that the City contracted with the firm Stafford Rosenbaum LLP for a new City Attorney which will begin July 1, 2009 through Dec 31, 2012. *Brendt* stated that he had planted the tree for Jerry Olsen. *Marsh* informed the Committee that the County Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) plan was complete and is now posted to the County website. *Schotzko* stated that he had visited the EAB site in Victory, WI and saw other trees in the area that had the disease and stated the residents weren't even aware of what is was or what to do.

3) **Stoughton Tree Ordinances Review:** Page one Ordinance 64-14 Street trees was reviewed with changes made in section a, c, d and e. It was suggested that the park row tree specifications need referenced to the ordinance. Also discussed was the need to set a penalty for tree issues and decide on what formula to use to assign a dollar amount value for a tree. Kelli Tuttle from Bluestem Forestry also submitted a rewritten and expanded version of the tree ordinances which will now be reviewed for suggestions in updating the current ordinances.

4) **2009 Tree City USA / Growth Award:** The Committee asked that *Erdahl* verify with Jeff Roe from the Department of Natural Resources that the forester position qualifies as the specific job title states forester/machine operator.

5) **Tree Selections and Prohibited Plantings:** Tabled to July meeting to gather more information. The list should include both the latin and common names.

6) **Tree Inventory – Ash Count:** The count from the Tree Inventory stated 813 ash trees on public property; which is inaccurate as there are 100+ trees that were missed at Race Track Park and other woody areas. This would affect the ratio of how many Ash trees there are on private properties.

7) **Future Agenda Items:** Tree Ordinances, Growth Award Update, Tree Inventory, and Prohibited Tree selections, Japanese Knotweed

Motion by Tangeman seconded by Marsh to adjourn meeting at 6:45 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted, Vickie Erdahl - Staff Member