

**TREE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
CITY OF PIQUA, OHIO  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2013 – 6:30 P.M.  
MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT COMPLEX – TRIANGLE CONFERENCE ROOM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Larkin Cornett, Regina Favorite, Steve Trostel, Brenda Vetter, Don Ruffner, and Judy Terry

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Bob Graeser

SPECIAL GUEST: Bethany Royer of the Piqua Daily Call.

**MEETING MINUTES**

Brenda Vetter moved to approve the November 1, 2012 meeting minutes and Steve Trostel seconded the motion.

**ITEM NO. 1 ST RT 36 BEAUTIFACATON PROJECT**

Bob Graeser showed the committee the updated St. Rt. 36 Beautification Project plans from Edsall and Associates.

Bob reviewed the detailed plans for the landscaping portion of the work that is scheduled. He mentioned to the committee that the trees selected were of a durable variety. This type of landscaping was selected because of the small foliage characteristic which will result in a lower than normal maintenance requirements for leaf removal for these trees.

The committee discussed some additional questions that included: How was the City prepared to maintain these areas? And who was going to water all the additional plantings in the landscape beds? Bob explained that this project is utilizing all of the ground water, as a green initiative to reclaim the water runoff to water the landscaping zones creating a "Bioswale". These Bioswales will naturally water these areas under normal rain events. The ground covers in these areas are uniquely designed to completely fill the bioswales with a lush colorful variety of plantings, after a couple of years of maintenance.

Bob mentioned that the project is scheduled to start this summer; he said that when the project is complete, it will be one of the nicest city entry ways in the region.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Steve Trostel mentioned that he would like to consider the implementation of Earth Day in conjunction with Arbor Day. He provided a piece of literature from Homer Glen, Illinois, where they have been able to merge the two days into a festive community event. Some of the events include; a petting zoo, jumping pillow, pony rides, antique vehicles, craft market and more. Bob said that this would be a huge undertaking to try to achieve for this year. Bob stated that additional consideration must be given to the manpower it

would take to organize an event, such as this, with limited recourses. Earth Day will be celebrated on Monday, April 22, and Arbor Day will be recognized on Friday, April 26, 2013.

Chairman Larkin Cornett briefed the committee on the advancement of the Asian Longhorned Beetle; he also added that we have not had any effects in our region.

Don Ruffner decided that he would not re-apply to the tree committee for an additional term. Mr. Ruffner's term will expire in March 2013.

**ADJOURN**

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Don Ruffner and seconded by Judy Terry.

Next meeting will be Thursday February 7, 2013

Minutes prepared by Bob Graeser, Staff Secretary.