

**TREE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF PIQUA, OHIO
THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2013 – 6:30 P.M.
MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT COMPLEX – TRIANGLE CONFERENCE ROOM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Larkin Cornett, Steve Trostel, Brenda Vetter, and Don Ruffner,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Judy Terry, and Regina Favorite

STAFF PRESENT: Bob Graeser

MEETING MINUTES

Don Ruffner moved to approve the January 3, 2013 meeting minutes and Brenda Vetter seconded the motion.

LAST MEETING

Bob Graeser took a moment to thank Don Ruffner for his many years of dedicated service to the Tree Committee. Don was a part of the tree committee for over ten years, and the committee will miss his involvement and dedication to the Tree Committee. Bob graciously thanked Don, and presented him with a parting gift for his years of dedication.

ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE

Larkin Cornet briefed the committee on the latest advancements with the Asian Longhorned Beetle. Larkin added that there are systemic treatments in isolated areas to try and manage the movement of this latest pest in the region.

The committee will have to review our area in the spring to see if any insects have migrated into the Piqua area.

CLARK AVENUE

Bob mentioned to the committee that he received a notice from Tree Care that the Emerald Ash Borer treatment on Clark Avenue should be completed by the first part of the month of April.

Bob said that he is working with the finance department to see if the 39 trees on Clark Avenue can be treated again this year. He also mentioned that we will not know the effects of the treatment until mid to late summer to assess the effectiveness of the soil drench applications.

BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

Bob Graeser mentioned to the group the difficulty the City has experienced with the Ohio Department of Transportation regarding the State Route 36 Beautification Project. After several meeting and conference calls an agreement has been established, that eliminates

all the trees within the median. However, the trees along the pavement edge were able to be kept in the project plans, Bob was glad that they were able to come to reasonable conclusion for such a monumental project such as this one.

Bob said that in the median there will moderated height ground cover that will replace the trees that will require little maintenance after it is established, according to the design Architect. Bob said that the early maintenance would be done by the Public Works Department.

OTHER BUSINESS

Bob said that he hopes to have the Arbor Day Celebration with the Nicklin Learning Center this year again. He said that he would have more information at the next meeting.

1500 trees by 2015

City manager Gary Huff would like to enlist all citizens to plant a tree to promote a more lush urban forest. His goal encourages citizens to plant these trees in private property and record this planting with the City so we can monitor the overall increase for the next three years. The City projects that would include tree plantings would also be included in this tally.

ADJOURN

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Steve Trostel and seconded by Brenda Vetter.

Next meeting will be Thursday April 4, 2013

Minutes prepared by Bob Graeser, Staff Secretary.