

**TREE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF PIQUA, OHIO
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2015 – 4:00 P.M.
ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE ROOM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Asbury, Diane Hart, Judy Terry and Jim Vetter

MEMBERS ABSENT: Regina Favorite

STAFF PRESENT: Bob Graeser

MEETING MINUTES

Diane Hart moved to approve the August 6, 2015 meeting minutes, and Judy Terry seconded the motion.

HAZARD, ASH TREE REMOVALS

Bob briefly spoke to the committee about the Hazard and Ash Tree Removal Project. This project will start in the beginning of October. All the property owners will be notified prior to the work commencing. Bob also discussed the reasoning behind the continued monitoring of these trees that are located in the right of way and the importance of it.

25A TREE REMOVALS AND REPLACEMENTS

The work will be performed by Tree Care Inc. immediately after completion of the Hazard and Ash Tree Removal Project.

The work will begin on the east end of 25A on the mound and proceed down the landscape mound to the west until all 117 trees are removed. Bob Graeser will be in charge of coordinating with Tree Care, and Barrett Paving to facilitate the completion of the 25A Phase III reconstruction project.

NEW BUSINESS

Bob discussed with the committee the need to start a new tree planting program. In the past several years, the City has removed many trees due to improper trimming practices and invasive pest infestations. As Bob discussed, these tree removals were a necessity in keeping the right-of-way safe for the residents of the City. Bob said he would like to begin to set aside funds to continue to plant trees in the public right of way. The end goal is to replace each tree being removed. The committee wants the property owner to have some part of the contribution of the planting of the tree to ensure they will promote the best opportunity for the trees sustainable growth. Bob said that he would speak to the City Manager about appropriating some funds to support this effort.

Jim Vetter asked about the Tree of Heaven treatments for this year, and the removal of the trees that were treated last year. Bob stated he would like to have an additional work day on a Saturday morning to do this work. A date can be scheduled at the October meeting.

Rob Asbury told the committee that he will be resigning from the Tree Committee for personal reasons.

ADJOURN

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Judy Terry, and seconded by Diane Hart.

Minutes prepared by Bob Graeser, Staff Secretary.