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Hartford Tree Board Meeting
June 21, 2022
Minutes
Hartford Municipal Building
5:00pm

Mission: The Tree Board's mission is to plant and maintain public trees and advocate community tree stewardship.

Board Members Attending: Jeff Arnold, Kathy Lamb, Leif Smedman, David Barrell, Karen Watson

Others Attending: Scott Hausler, Director of Parks & Recreation

Meeting Called to Order 5:11pm

Minutes of the May 17th meeting were approved as amended (#4. Six trees were removed, but seven trees were planted.)

Business:

- 1) Tree Warden Report: Jim Henderson was absent.
 - A) The Board will ask Jim to propose a plan to treat the 5-6 ash trees at the entrance to HHS to protect them from the Emerald Ash Borer.
 - B) Jeff asked about unused funds available to the Tree Warden. Scott advised that unencumbered funds may be carried over to the following fiscal year. Accordingly, the TB supports that the Tree Wardens' funds in FY '22 be encumbered into FY '23.
 - C) The Tree Warden will review the Shade Tree plan and the funds available for FY '23-'24 and plan how the funds will be allocated, and then present it to Select Board.
 - D) It was agreed to pay the Tree Warden in quarterly installments beginning effective July 1st. The first payment will be made the end of September.
- 2) Outreach and Community Engagement: We had a successful Arbor Day sale, a spring ID walk, and a booth at the Quechee Balloon Festival. We did not have an adequate response for help with a skit at the summer day camp so will not

pursue, but the Board will plan a summer tree walk for early September. Exact date and location to be decided at our next TB meeting.

3) Evaluation of EAB treatment at Veterans and Ratcliffe Parks: Leif recommends we wait and see what happens before we can evaluate the success of the EAB treatment. We will continue outreach with our EAB educational programs.

4) Treasurer's Report: Dave estimates that after all outstanding expenses and revenues have cleared (t-shirts, tent, reimbursement to Jeff for booklet) we will have \$1,549. Dave also confirmed that the Tree Warden's budget, and expenses for ash tree removal are part of the Parks & Rec and Town budgets respectively.

5) Jeff suggests TB should alert the Select Board of funds that will be needed to treat / remove ash trees along town right of ways. This discussion was tabled until data can be collected (number of ash trees involved) before we make a recommendation to town and we review Brad Goodkoop's EAB presentation to the Select Board in 2019. His report identified 63 ash trees in town but it is unclear if this includes all five villages. Jeff will contact Brad.

6) The Quechee Balloon Festival booth was a lot of work. We made \$515. We'll check with festival organizers next year to see if we can get permission to take the booth down early. It was decided we will participate with a booth again next year if we can be there just on Saturday, and perhaps get some outside help.

7) Discussion about Key Auto Group parking lot and Hartford's Climate Action Plan that aspires "to reduce impervious surfaces by 2% by 2030..." The CEO of the auto business is John Leonardi. The Group employs 500 people and operates on the East coast from Maine to Florida. It may not be too late to write the CEO to see if there is any chance to expand the planned "landscaping" in the extensive parking lot. To be pursued at next meeting.

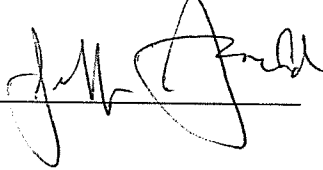
Karen thought we need something more 'global' like a town ordinance to ensure that at least future impervious surfaced proposals (concrete, asphalt...) are regulated. We may need an attorney to help draft this and tie it in with town's Climate Action Plan. New Select Board member Rocket appears to have an environmental law background so Karen will draft a letter to him but first circulate to Board members for input.

8) There is interest in continuing Knotweed removal at Watson and Lyman Parks. Jeff will suggest a workday date around the 2nd week of July.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Watson, Acting Secretary
For Clare Forseth

Signed By:  Dated: 7/19/22

