

WELLSBORO SHADE TREE COMMISSION

OCTOBER 17, 2011

MINUTES

Peter Herres called the meeting of the Wellsboro Shade Tree Commission to order in the John E Dugan Fire Station/Municipal Building at 7:02pm. All who were present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Those present were Peter Herres, Vicki Fox and Scott Nichols. Absent were Howard Rutledge and Robert McCarthy.

MINUTES: The minutes from September 19, 2011 were approved as written. Scott Nichols made the motion to accept and Vicki Fox 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed.

PERMITS: Rickard Black – 140 Main Street – remove sugar maple – hazardous tree  
WECO – removing a maple tree from 25 Meade Street – hazardous tree  
WECO – removing tree from cemetery entrance – hazardous tree

A motion to approve and accept this permits into record was made by Vicki Fox and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott Nichols. Passed.

STUMP REMOVAL PROGRAM: In the last meeting the committee wasn't sure there were enough stumps around to give the crew a full days work. We now are looking at the three permits just issued, one by the courthouse, one by the green, one on Waln Street, one at 3 Central Street, one across from Blacks and one maybe by the pool. We could have up to a dozen stumps. There are also two small stumps at the B & B on the Green. Howard and Pete will ride around and look for more. Peter also mentioned that there was a hazardous tree between the school parking lot on Nichols Street and the Habitat house. There are lines under it and Pete would ask WECO if they would consider cutting it down.

BIDS: Pete reported that there were two proposals given to cut down the three trees on Central Ave and the one tree on Waln Street by Denny Electric. All of the trees are on properties owned by Laurel Realty. Cal Simmons was contacted and was pleased to see that they would qualify for the program. There was a proposal to cut the trees down made by Dincher and Dincher for \$1900.00. The second proposal was made by Robert Davis in the amount of \$1575.00. A motion was made by Vicki Fox to accept Bob Davis's proposal and was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott Nichols. Dincher and Dincher had also given quotes for pruning. They would charge \$40.00 per tree that was under 4" in diameter and \$75.00 per tree that was over the 4" diameter. We may have some money left over in the budget to trim up the trees on the block by Dianne Eaton and the block by the Baptist Church. We can do what we can this year and do the rest in January. Our portion of the

hazard tree removal would be around \$800.00. Pete will look at the budget to see what is left. Scott Nichols made the motion to go ahead with the pruning and Vicki Fox 2<sup>nd</sup>.

SPRING TREE PLANTING: Pete reported that the grant program that we thought was not available this year has become available and that he sent in the necessary paperwork and we were eligible for 20 trees. Pete then asked if they could be held until the spring planting and they also granted that request.

CHARLESTON STREET BEAUTIFICATION: Joan Hart if we could do something with the creek bed by Kevin Borden's shop. There is a curb there and the bank could be cleaned up and trees planted far enough away for the bridge that it wouldn't be impacted when the bridge is straightened out somewhat in the next few years. There could be 3 to 4 trees planted and maybe more once the bridge is replaced. There is a Hendrix line that goes on an angle through there so the trees need to be a medium height tree. Vicki had asked how the bridge would be straightened. Pete commented that it would be angled differently. He had talked with Kevin Borden and he did not have a problem with us going in and cleaning it up. There are some black walnut trees there but they are in bad shape. Pete will talk to Bob from WECO to see if they could pull the larger trees out and we could go in with string trimmers to take out the rest. There is about 100 – 150 feet in length. They just put new sidewalks in down to the Wellsboro House in that area. We won't be able to plant on the other side because there is no room. Vicki asked if we should wait until the bridge is done and Pete responded that we wouldn't be near bridge. Mark Dieffenbach knows what they are going to do with the bridge. We could order in the spring – there would be no cost for 20 trees. Vicki asked if another 20 trees could be planted using grant monies. Pete responded that the grant only came in the fall. A motion was made by Vicki Fox to pursue the concept and Scott Nichols 2<sup>nd</sup>.

We are now planting more trees that are being taken down. A lot of the hazardous trees have been taken down in the Main Street area. Dr. Terry does have two bad trees yet and there is a utility line there also.

Vicki Fox also brought up that Norris Street has branches hanging – looks like it has been hit by the street sweeper. Pete that Norris Street should be the next street to be pruned. Bryden Street also needs limbing up to avoid being hit by the snowplows. We could do Central Avenue now and the others early next year.

Vick Fox made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Scott Nichols 2<sup>nd</sup>. Meeting adjourned.

The minutes were submitted by Teresa Marshall.