

Taylorville City Tree Board Meeting
September 17, 2013

Members present:

Barb Grabner Kerns
Kira Propst
Chad Lavin
Phyllis Wilson
Rhonda Kraft
Alderman Burtle

Also present:

Evelyn McBride

Chairman Kraft called the meeting to order on Tuesday, September 17, 2013 at 5:00 P.M.

First agenda item addressed was the tree removal request made by Evelyn McBride who resides at 504 N. Snodgrass. She has three large silver maple trees on the west side of her house. She requested the middle tree be taken down because of root related issues. She feels like the roots are too close to her house and causing her fence to heave up. There is also a dead limb lodged between two of the trees and she is concerned about it falling on a vehicle. She does not feel like she would have the resources to pay to have it taken down. All three trees are silver maples and quite large and very close together. All three trees appear to be healthy and strong in spite of being co-dominant. Chairman Kraft explained that the tree board did not actually have the power to grant or deny the removal request but we were only there to make a recommendation. It was explained that our standard policy is to not recommend a city tree be taken down unless it is dead or dying. It was also explained that city funds are very limited for tree removals. Chairman Kraft made a motion to recommend the tree not be taken down but to have the city come by and remove the dead limb that is lodged between the trees. Board member Wilson seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Second agenda item discussed was the replanting of Gingko trees on the square. Chairman Kraft stated that she is still waiting for an estimate from Tullis excavating for the curb work to enlarge the sidewalk cut-outs.

Under other matters, board member Kerns stated she is donating \$700 to the tree fund as part of the grant she received from Trees Forever Foundation. The money must be earmarked for specific trees so it was decided that the money will be used to replace several of the trees at the corner of McAdam & Route 29 that died because of the drought and heat of last summer. Board member Kerns is currently conducting a Tree Keepers course in Taylorville and would like to incorporate the replanting with her course curriculum.

Board member Propst made the motion to adjourn at 5:23 P.M. and board member Lavin seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

