

## **Minutes of Perrysburg Street Tree Commission**

**Meeting Held November 3, 2025**

### **CALL TO ORDER - 9:00 AM**

Chair Scott Kirby called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

### **ROLL CALL**

Commission members present were Christine Ardley, Mark Easterling, James Hagen, Scott Kirby, Dan Ledyard, Rob Ross, and Kali Sawaya (7). Michael Deal was absent (1). Also present were Casey Kenworthy, Public Information Officer, and Lauren Rush, Natural Resources Manager.

### **APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 6, 2025 MEETING MINUTES**

Mark Easterling moved to approve the October 6, 2025 meeting minutes as written. Seconded by Kali Sawaya, and the minutes were unanimously approved (7-0).

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Tree City Recertification and Growth Award Application due the First Week of December**

Dan Ledyard said that he and Kali Sawaya will collaborate on this and submit it before December.

#### **Stakes and any Wrapping (pipe) from Previous Years' Plantings Should be Scheduled for Removal**

Dan Ledyard noted that this is done for the most part.

#### **Fall Planting/Winter Pruning Plans**

Dan Ledyard added that North Branch Nursery is digging and prepping to plant trees.

#### **ODNR Northwest Ohio Urban Forestry Seminar Report**

Dan Ledyard stated that the seminar featured some pretty good speakers and added that there was further discussion regarding the invasive Kudzu species with history and how to combat it. Lauren Rush said that it was interesting to hear the other presentations. Mark Easterling said that they briefly discussed Hogweed, and Christine Ardley said that it causes a chemical burn on the skin. Lauren Rush noted that the plants along Buttonwood Park (Hull Prairie Road) look invasive, but they are not; she added that there was a presentation on diseases that deer carry.

#### **Fountain Point Phase 2 Plantings**

Mark Easterling noted that Phase 2 of Fountain Point will include one tree on every lot except corner lots. He added that trees have been shifted, so refunds will not be needed. Dan Ledyard stated that there is one lot that features a pedestrian ramp with a

streetlight and a fire hydrant, so there is no room for a street tree. There was a brief discussion about the detention ponds, and Lauren Rush added that they are oversized. Dan Ledyard said that they are looking at planting Crab Apple, Shingle Oak, London Plain, River Birch, Sycamore, and Elm trees for this neighborhood, and Mark Easterling added that they have not completed the calculation for the corner lots yet. There was further discussion about issues with River Birch. Mark Easterling added that there is an existing gas pipeline easement on site that will affect the layout of the plantings. He added that he will map out to see what the Planning & Zoning Division has already issued street tree permits for.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Coventry Pointe Plat 5 Street Tree Plans**

Mark Easterling said that he will look to see if there are any obstructions with the Street Tree Plan for Coventry Pointe Plat 5.

### **Prunings/Removal Report**

Dan Ledyard reported 11 removals, 9 tree trims, 50 tree stumps (fill and restoration), and 11 pickups and hangers. He added they are hoping to finish the soil and seeding, then move on to the tree trims and removals.

### **Leaf Pickup**

Rob Ross stated that Leaf Pickup began on October 20th and that it has not been as heavy. He said that DPS collects leaves from 9,000 to 10,000 yards on average, and takes those pickups to Renewed Outdoors. Lauren Rush noted that water quality and leaf collection go hand-in-hand and added that leaves are a great resource instead of yard waste.

### **Downtown Revitalization Project Update**

Dan Ledyard said that almost all of the planters have been filled and that the landscaping will be installed next. He added that there isn't any irrigation in the boxes and confirmed that North Branch Nursery will not plant until the leaves have dropped. Dan Ledyard added that Tom Harr (Staff Engineer) had them reduce the drain line down to four (4) inches. Casey Kenworthy stated that paving is scheduled for this week, and Dan Ledyard said that the work is to be wrapped up by Thanksgiving.

There was further discussion about the previous hanging baskets being too heavy and DPS looking at self-watering options. Rob Ross added that the city is continuing to work with the Country Garden Club on the landscaping beds, and Mark Easterling asked if there is a more salt-resistant species, to which Rob Ross agreed.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Kali Sawaya and Dan Ledyard briefly spoke about coordinating their schedules to complete the Growth Award Application.

Lauren Rush added that there is a small workshop in Findlay, Ohio on Friday, November 14th, for professionals and Saturday, November 15th, for homeowners to discuss Forest Patch Management for birds.

Lauren Rush referenced the native planting habitat along Findlay Street and added that mowing of that habitat would be better scheduled for late spring. She said that signage and a perimeter fence around these native plantings may help to balance the aesthetics, and Dan Ledyard said that he will have Casey Kenworthy put something out on social media.

There was further discussion amongst the Commission about the hack and saw method for the Tree of Heaven species. Rob Ross also referenced egg scraping on the trees to remove the spotted lanternflies.

Kali Sawaya referenced the need for public education tools, and Dan Ledyard suggested a video of Lauren Rush be posted to Facebook for such education. Kali Sawaya also suggested an article be published in the Perrysburg Messenger Journal, and Lauren Rush said to plan for public education at the end of the month.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Alfaro  
Recording Secretary

Next meeting is scheduled for December 1, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.