

**Village of Essex Junction  
Tree Advisory Committee  
Minutes of Meeting  
January 21, 2020**

Members Present: Nick Meyer, Warren Spinner, Steve Rivard, Rich Boyers

**1. Call To Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 by Nick.

**2. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve April meeting minutes was made by Nick, second by Rich.

**3. Potential 2020 Planting Sites**

Nick suggested a street planting near ADL as one potential planting site. In past years the committee has prioritized Village gateway streets and this site would be a good addition. It could potentially accommodate about 20 trees. Warren reviewed the plan for ash tree replacements off of West Street.

**4. Emerald Ash Borer Management Grant**

Warren indicated that the grant was submitted. The Village and Essex Town submitted the grant together. It is a \$15,000 grant with a \$15,000 match of in-kind services.

**5. Crescent Connector Update**

Nick indicated that there are signs that the connector project is getting closer. The railway easements appear to be almost in place. Once the road project begins there will be no federal or state money allocated for landscaping. Warren indicated that Robin Pierce asked the committee to advise on the project. He also shared that Dubois and King Engineering Consultants met with Robbin. Warren spoke to the landscape architect from Dubois and King who will share a plan set for review. Warren also met with Rick Hamlin (municipal engineer). Warren shared his concern that the current planting pockets 5' x 12' have insufficient soil volume when it really needs 5' x 60'. The site plan for the adjacent property, the Flanders Black Rock site, includes a substantial landscape plan with a limited public right away. With this project it will be important to work with private landowners to plant on private property. Warren and Nick will meet with Dubois and King on 1/22 to review the plan.

**6. Tree Nursery Update**

Warren indicated that we will be planting 60 trees at the nursery at a cost of \$1124. This was an additional 20 trees than was originally planned.

**7. Committee Vacancy**

Nick indicated that there is currently a vacancy on the committee which needs to be posted. Steve suggested it would be helpful to find someone who is comfortable working with the budget. Rich volunteered to write up the responsibilities for a committee member.

#### **8. Tree City USA Application**

Warren indicated that he completed and just submitted the application.

#### **9. Budget**

Nick shared that there is \$6900 left in the budget. It will be closer to \$5000 after the tree nursery expenditures.

#### **Adjournment**

Rich made a motion to adjourn at 6:45, Second by Steve.