

Devils Lake Shade Tree Committee
6-8-23

Present: Terry Thompson, Cathy Olson, Jason Pierce, Cory Meyer, Lindsay Overmyer, Helen Carlson.

A quorum was not present.

One bid was received from Angry Beaver in the amount of \$26,000 for the annual tree trimming. This year's trimming will take place south of Walnut St. A quorum was not present but it was the general consensus of those present to award the contract to Angry Beaver, not to exceed \$26,000. The area to be covered is large, but there are not as many trees as some of the other areas in town.

Old Business:

Jason said he has talked to the Mayor and Administrator about additional pay for the forestry work Cory Meyer has been doing for years. He is pushing for this additional funding to be added to the 2024 budget, either as a stipend for the season or extra money per month. He said the Administrator's argument is that the contractor is doing the trimming work and leaving less work for the forester. The Mayor has agreed to additional pay and will keep pushing for additional funding.

New Business:

Cory said the budget would allow for a percentage of sales tax or \$7,500 per year to address emerald ash borer concerns. We will work on that with the long range plan.

Lindsay said firewood is the biggest spreader of the emerald ash borer.

Cory stated a large percentage of the ash trees on the boulevards are nearing end of life. The College has a lot of ash trees. A survey must be done first of trees on boulevards and come up with a removal plan and replacement plan. When a long range plan is in place, it will be presented to the City Commission for approval. There may be grant monies available for removal and replacement of ash trees. He will put out traps next week.

Next meeting will be held at noon on July 13.

Lindsay asked if the trees on the east side of College Dr have been sprayed for needle cast and was told they had been.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Carlson
Recording Secretary