RSTC Minutes for August 17th, 2017

1. Meeting called to order at 1805 hours by Mr. Kissinger, Jr.

2. Attendance:
   a. Lester Kissinger, Jr. – City Arborist, Shade Tree Administrator
   b. David Moodhart – Member
   c. Robert Reimer – Member, Acting Chairman
   d. Jeff Thompson – Support
   e. Kelly Christman – Member – Absent
   f. John Slifko – Council Member / Volunteer
   g. John Denick – Support – Absent
   h. Thomas Ryan – Member

3. Guests:
   a. None

4. Review of minutes from July 20th, 2017
   a. Motion to approve made by Mr. Moodhart, seconded by Mr. Reimer. (3y,0n)
   b. A second motion was made to approve all minutes back to January, 2017 by Mr. Moodhart, seconded by Mr. Reimer. (3y,0n)

   a. Removals – 11
   b. Pruning – 2
   c. Planting – 0

6. Arborist Report
   a. Classes Attended – None
   b. 10 – Notifications for hazards, pruning, or violations sent out to the property owners
   c. 0 – Adopt-a-Tree Agreements
   d. 0 – Invoices to property owners
   e. 5 – Invoices for In House work totaling $ 8,200.00
      a. Invoices pertain to emergency calls, removals, storm clean up, pruning, varies other jobs performed by the department.
   f. 1 – Contractor Invoices received totaling $ 6,527.00
      a. Invoices pertain to Ash Tree Removal contract with money coming from CIP Funds.
   g. 2 – Letters of interest received for the Fall Adopt-a-Tree, total of 6 on file

7. Request for Variance in having to replant
   a. 358 N. 11th Street requesting
      i. The variance was denied. Mr. Reimer states a valid reason was not supplied to support the request. Just cause you rent and don’t live here doesn’t justify not having to replace a hazardous tree.
ii. Motion was made Mr. Moodhart, seconded by Mr. Reimer to deny the request. (3y,0n)

iii. Mr. Kissinger states a letter for the variance denial will be sent to the property owner along with an Adopt-a-Tree interest letter

8. Review of Zoning Plans
   a. None

9. Emerald Ash Borer UPDATES
   a. Ash Tree Removal and Stump Grinding will continue into Sept.

10. Urban Forest Management / Master Plan
    a. Tabled during the September 2016 meeting

11. Old Business
    a. Mr. Kissinger reminded everyone of the project for tree trimming for the VSU (video surveillance unit) due to issues hindering the signals from communicating panel to panel. A preliminary field inspection has been completed with 92 trees needing work spread out over 44 different site locations throughout the City. A scope of work will be drafted and the solicitation of prices will be obtained. The VSU has asked this work taking place in a timely manner since it’s a priority from them.
      i. (4) Contractors were solicited with prices due by 3pm on August 18\textsuperscript{th}, 2017
      b. Mr. Kissinger stated he has been working to lift the tree canopy throughout City Park. Currently working to correct line of site issues and obstructions of the roadways / walkways.

12. New Business
    a. Mr. Slifko asked if there will be a fall hazardous tree inspection done this year. Mr. Slifko states he strongly believes this should be continued. Mr. Reimer agreed. The commission will establish a date for sometime late September, early October to conduct their annual review.
    b. Mr. Kissinger spoke about the current Spotted Lantern Fly quarantine in place for the City as of August 12\textsuperscript{th}, 2017. Mr. Kissinger advises he is working with Dana Rhodes from the Dept. of Ag and will be working with management to discuss matters moving forward. Mr. Kissinger states he will be receiving signs and pamphlets from the state to be displayed.

13. RSTC Observations / Concerns
    a. Mr. Moodhart stated he appreciated the trimming of the tree at the Triangle across from the former Burger King. The tree has been identified as Phellodendron amurense - Amur Cork Tree which is invasive to our area and is a rare find in the City.
b. Mr. Moodhart voiced concern of a dead tree in front of the downtown post office 51 N. 5th Street. Mr. Kissinger states the tree has been removed with the stump scheduled for next week and that the Post Office has complied with his notice.

14. Motion was made by Mr. Reimer to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Ryan.
   a. Meeting adjourned @ 1945 hours