

Tree Commission Minutes of February 6, 2024

Minutes of the December 5, 2023 meeting were approved as reported

Public Forum/Resident Requests: The Commission welcomed Ms. Barbara Heyen, retired teacher and Prairie Restoration Advocate. Ms. Heyen gave a presentation on her trials, tribulations, and successes of embarking on a prairie restoration project on her family property in Hardin County, IL.

Ms. Heyen described the many hoops and relationships she built over the past seven (7) years to develop a multitude of management plans that are related to wildlife, monarch butterflies, quail, forestry, and prairies. Her advice was that this process is lengthy and requires many detailed notes, multiple meetings, and an ability to put the work in to orchestrate state and federal funds to be a better steward of the earth.

➤ New Business:

- Kurt Vonderhaar was selected to be the chairperson of the commission
- The commission recommended the removal of the pine tree at the corner of Washington & Broadway, on the Square. All voted in favor due to the tree starting to decline in health.

Requests of Commission Members:

- Tom Friedrich requested that the tree trunk of the pine tree be chunked up so that Street & Alley can deliver it to a resident that has mobility limitations. He said that he has received permission from Public Works Director, Joe Gillespie to have Clint be made aware so that his crew can transport it.
- Tom F. also asked if there would be a replacement tree put back in. Steve Pfettscher suggested that we (Tree Commission) choose an official “city tree” that the City Council can endorse.
 - This will be a discussion at the next meeting

Motion to adjourn at 5:00PM

Next meeting, April 2, 2024 @ 4:00PM in the KRC