

**Shade Tree Commission
Minutes
June 11, 2020 at 7:00 pm
Athens City Council Chambers**

Meeting Attendees: David Ingram, Lee Gregg, John Kotowski, Jim Dyer, Asst. Service Dir. Andrew Chiki, Code Dir. David Riggs

1. Title 33: Tree Permit, Right-of-Way Issues, Public Land
 - a. 64 Elmwood – request for dead wood pruning, permit submitted to dead wood prune.
 - b. 66 Elmwood – dead tree, permit submitted for removal
2. Title 37: Landscape Ordinance Issues
 - a. Don Wood – no final plan received, Code Dir. Riggs will review and report back.
 - b. Menards – no final plan received, Code Dir. Riggs will review and report back.
3. Maintenance of the Tree Canopy
 - a. David Ingram met with the mayor after the March STC meeting to discuss possible tree pruning resources.
4. Other business
 - a. Asst. Service Dir. Andrew Chiki is aware of the requirements for Athens to maintain our Tree City USA status.
 - b. Fall Planting – Andrew said there are no formal plans yet.
 - c. Andrew reported two possible tree issues that he will investigate.
 - d. Andrew will investigate taking the pdf form for a tree permit and turning it into a form that can be filled out online.
5. Other
 - a. Lee Gregg asked about the process for a developer to plant trees in the City in lieu of planning them on their site, once the Tree Commission has accepted that it is not possible to plant enough trees on the site to comply with Title 37. David Ingram explained that the Shade Tree Commission would be part of the process in that they would recommend to the Service Safety Director that the sites proposed by the developer are good sites, or not as the case may be. Hopefully, the Service Safety Director would respect that recommendation. The advantage to the developer would be that they may be able to plant trees at a lower cost to themselves than the City would charge them for planting the same trees.
 - b. John Kotowski asked Code Dir. David Riggs about the landscape plan for Menards since they have clearly planted trees on the site to some plan. Code Dir. Riggs confirmed he would follow up with them regarding their plan.
 - c. Code Dir. Riggs reported that Morrison-Gordon School will submit their landscape plans for our comment. David Ingram said that the Commission would welcome those plans and make comments on the understanding that they have no obligation to follow them since the Schools are a separate political sub-division.
6. Minutes of the March 12th, 2020
 - a. Motion to approve the minutes, with corrections, from Jim Dyer, seconded by John Kotowski. The minutes were approved without objection.
7. Next meeting is July 9, 2020 at 7:00 PM on Zoom