

**VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TREE BOARD
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
September 7, 2021**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The specially scheduled meeting of the Tree Board was called to order by Chair Scott Banke in Memorial Hall of the Memorial Building on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 6:00 p.m., roll call was taken.

Present: Chair Scott Banke and Trustees Matt Posthuma, Laurel Haarlow and Michelle Fisher

Absent: None

Also Present: Assistant to the Village Manager Trevor Bosack, Superintendent of Parks and Forestry John Finnell, and Village Clerk Christine Bruton

2. DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION

a) **626 Woodland Avenue**

Superintendent of Parks and Forestry John Finnell introduced the matter and explained that the contractor for this new home construction has made this request in order to repair and reuse the existing sanitary line. They explored other options to minimize disruption to the road and the area. Mr. Finnell noted there is a Landmark American Elm that would suffer if the sewer lines were relocated. Therefore, the better option is to remove the Ash tree on the parkway. Chairman Banke noted that there have been issues with the Emerald Ash borer for many years. Mr. Finnell agreed, noting this particular tree has been treated since 2011, and is in good condition. He noted the applicant will pay the \$5,000 fee to remove the tree, and install another after the work is complete. Following questions from Trustee Haarlow, he explained that the annual cost to treat this Ash tree is about \$25.00, and that for the sake of consistency in these matters, there is one fee charged, regardless of the size of the tree being removed, and a 1-1 tree replacement policy.

There were no further questions from the Board.

Trustee Posthuma moved to **approve the request for 626 Woodland Avenue**. Trustee Fisher seconded the motion.

Voice vote taken, all in favor. Motion carried.

b) **439 North Bruner Street**

Mr. Finnell introduced the matter and explained this is a non-traditional parkway; unmaintained, or in a natural state. It has not fared well, and the resident is requesting to re-landscape as a traditional parkway. He noted the Village has no financial investment in the current plantings. Chairman Banke confirmed that the applicant will bear the expense of all repairs and the replacement of trees; and Mr. Finnell added a lot of vegetation will be removed, and he believes the proposed plan is an improvement. Mr. Finnell noted the Village maintains parkway trees following expiration of any warranty on the tree. Discussion followed regarding the maintenance of parkway trees. Mr. Finnell said there would be a Village review of new trees for site lines. Chairman Banke noted the applicant is asking for a fee waiver since they are planting all the trees, and as their investment is substantial, he has no issue with fee waiver. Discussion followed regarding the fee.

Trustee Banke suggested approval pending Mr. Finnell's confirmation that a 3" inch redbud and 6-8' foot tall arborvitae are installed, per industry standards as a compromise for the fee waiver. The Board agreed.

Chairman Banke moved to **approve the request for proposed improvements and fee waiver for 439 North Bruner Street, subject to applicant having met the stipulations for the size of the trees.** Trustee Haarlow seconded the motion.

Voice vote taken, all in favor. Motion carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, Trustee Fisher **moved to adjourn the meeting of the Tree Board of September 7, 2021.** Trustee Posthuma seconded the motion. Voice vote taken, all in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
Christine M. Bruton, Village Clerk