

FROM: Nashville Tree Board

April 25, 2006

TO: Nashville Town Council  
P O Box 446  
Nashville, IN 47448

SUBJECT: TREE BOARD MINUTES

The Nashville Tree Board met on Thursday, April 20, 2006, at 8:30 a.m. at the Nashville Town Hall. Present were Bruce Gould, Cathy Paradise, Roger Bush, Phyllis Carr, and newly-appointed member Matt Baldwin.

Members were presented with a copy of the recently-passed Nashville Tree Ordinance. Roger advised that the town budget for trees this year is \$600.00 and that some of the money had already been spent to buy trees for the Mainstreet Project since the trees provided with the project were determined to be an unsuitable specie of street trees and will be located elsewhere in the town. One of the project trees will be located along the treelawn at 222 W. Main Street (Billy Salmon) and the remainder will be located on east Washington Street. The Democrat will be invited to photograph the planting on Washington Street in order to provide publicity for Arbor Day and help fulfill the Tree City USA requirements.

Concern was expressed over the town stock of Bradford Pear trees and their susceptibility to wind damage when mature. Pruning was discussed and Matt, a certified tree arborist, advised that the trees should not be topped but rather thinned out within the body of the branches to allow wind to pass through the tree. Before the next meeting, an inventory of maturing Bradford Pear trees will be taken and Matt will provide a cost estimate per tree to thin the branches. A recommendation to the Town Council will most likely be made after the next Tree Board meeting that the Town's tree budget should be spent on maintenance of existing stock.

Cathy Paradise is working with a state-level agency to provide assistance in performing a tree inventory. John Davis and Matt Baldwin also offered to participate in taking the inventory. Blown up maps are already available. Although computer programs exist to track town trees (species, age, general health, etc.), the cost of a program may be more than the town would want to pay. Roger Bush is seeing if some other existing programs could also track the tree inventory.

Town employees should receive some basic tree maintenance training since they often work around and with town trees. The training should be very general in nature. We will discuss this more at the next meeting. Extensive training material is already available at little or no cost.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 13, 2006, at 8:30 a.m. at the Town Hall.

Respectfully,  
Bruce Gould