

## Tree Committee

January 7, 2014

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Richard Howells.

**Roll Call of Officers:** Officers present were President Richard Howells and member Tom Peterik. Member Kim Sells resigned as of today. A quorum was established.

**Open Meeting Law Compliance Check:** This meeting is in compliance with the Open Meetings Law of the State of Wisconsin.

**Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag, Moment of Silence:** All in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence.

**Approval of Minutes – November 12, 2013** – A motion was made by Howells and seconded by Peterik to approve the minutes from November 12, 2013. Ayes – Howells and Peterik, noes – none, abstain – none. Motion carried.

### **Agenda Items:**

- **Emerald Ash Borer – Questions and Concerns** – Peterik compiled a power point presentation going into deeper detail regarding the DNR's response to the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) and how we are going to resolve this issue. He commented that this is a worldwide problem so this is not specific to Wisconsin or even the United States. Some concerns that Peterik researched were how long will the EAB be around, are there any native predators or to the EAB, does the EAB only go after Ash trees or will they go after other trees, what sort of recovery efforts have been made to revive the Ash tree, how are the state and federal lands taking care of the problem, and what is being done to replace the Ash trees.
- **Tree Committee Budget Concerns** – The committee reviewed the amounts for the 2014 budget the tree committee recommended in the budget workshop. The amount recommended was \$5,200.00 and the amount adopted for the final 2014 budget was \$2,200.00. Howells mentioned that over \$100,000.00 needed to be cut from the final budget so every department took a hit. This will not impact the Urban Forestry Grant or the preemptive process to remove the EAB in the Village. The committee would like to see some long term planning implemented and followed for the tree committee. Howells commented that budget cuts are a part of our life and that we need to find a new way to go about the budget process.

**Motion to Adjourn:** A motion to adjourn at 9:23 pm was made by Howells and seconded by Peterik. Ayes – Howells and Peterik, noes – none, abstain – none. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaity Olsen  
Village Clerk

Approved by Tree Committee 02/04/14