

ESSEX TREE COMMITTEE MEETING

Regular meeting held in conference room B of Essex Town Hall on April 5, 2016.

IN ATTENDANCE

August Pampel, Kenneth Bombaci, Nancy Hudson, Susan Malan, John Molloy, Mark Pratt, Judy Saunders.

August Pampel called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM

PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The balance in the Tree Committee Account is \$5226.35. Additional funding to be received from the Town of Essex is \$6000.00 on July 1, 2016

OLD BUSINESS

The creation of plaques to honor contributors to the Tree Committee is still in process. A new sheet to create more plaques has been bought. The price for the calligraphy was \$275.

The America the Beautiful grant from the State of Connecticut for 2016 was originally turned down due to the increasing number of communities submitting applications. After further analysis of the grant application however, the State awarded Essex the full \$3000 of the grant application. The funds will be used to plant 3" caliper trees. There was a discussion of tree prices.

NEW BUSINESS

An article in the Valley Courier newspaper by Judy Saunders provided a thorough description of the ravages of the "Emerald Ash Borer" in Connecticut. There will not be any Ash trees planted in Essex.

In a new provision of State law, all Tree Wardens in Connecticut are now eligible to attain an "Advanced Certificate for Tree Warden" August Pampel has already achieved the certificate.

Proposed bill 5258 will affect the question of responsibility when a limb from a tree falls onto an abutting property. The controversy is not yet resolved.

Landscaping work on the route 153/154 intersection in Essex will start shortly. The work will be paid for by the Essex Foundation.

The Essex Garden Club once again this year is donating \$600 to the ETC.

Arbor Day will be celebrated on April 29th this year with the planting of a tree on the grounds of the Essex Elementary School. This will be a joint project with the Essex Land Trust.

The next regular meeting of the Tree Committee will be held in May.

ADJOURNMENT

August Pampel adjourned the meeting at 10:57 AM