

City Tree Board
City of McGregor
April 27, 2022 5:30 p.m.

The City Tree Board for the City of McGregor met Thursday, April 27, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. at city hall. Keyes, Brooks, and Clark were present. Slocum and Pruett were absent. Also present was Maria Brummel on behalf of the park board.

The board discussed locations for three memorial trees. Two maples have been purchased in memory of Lucy Rodenberg Anderson that will be located on the highway side of Canon Park. A Burr Oak is on hold at Wagner Nursery that will also be placed in Canon Park on the Ann Street side in memory of Myron Guritz. Maria has several other memorial plaques to order so will try to get all sent in at once to save on shipping costs. Brooks will help with placement of the memorial plaques. There are two fir trees that are dead in Canon Park. These have been replaced twice already. There is some concern that there may be an old foundation below the location where these trees are planted. More investigation at the site will be done during spring inspection.

Board discussed the oak tree located in the city property by Danny Gingerich's home at 515 Buell Ave. The tree has been damaged by equipment and now must be removed. Some discussion had taken place about requiring the owner to plant a tree in one of the parks since the damage was caused during construction at his home. He had already expressed opposition to being told where the tree had to be planted. As an alternative to planting in a park the board is willing to remove the oak tree with the owner's agreement to plant two – three smaller trees in the public right of way on Buell. The space is limited so the recommendation is something like a service berry or a narrow upright crabapple. McManus will contact the owner with the proposed solution. Board would be happy to help with some recommended varieties that would be appropriate for the space available.

Lowelle Siegele at 1111 Buell Ave had contacted the mayor about some trees in his front yard that he would like to have removed and that perhaps there would be some salvage value as they are walnut trees. Lonnie Beisker at 1012 Tanglewood also has a large walnut tree in the front of his property that appears to be in city right of way. Keyes had looked at previously for some pruning. All of these trees will be looked at when the group does their spring maintenance inspection. May 25th at 5:30 was set for the inspection. Meeting location TBD.

Maria Brummel brought would like to meet with tree board at Determination Park to look at locations for the basketball hoop that was removed from Turner Park. She also stated there is interest in placing a bench in the northwest corner of the park behind the shelter house as the view there is so wonderful. There had been some previous discussion about a pickle ball court in place of the volleyball court. Research will be done on size requirements for half court basketball and also pickle ball court.

With business concluded, Brooks moved seconded by Keyes to adjourn.

Lynette L. McManus, City Administrator