Meeting called by: Michael O’Brien, Chair  Date: 10-25-18  Time: 5:30PM

Minutes

Agenda Item: Ordinance 35.101.18 and discussion of street condition report and opportunity for Council Members to input on street repair and repaving for 2019.

Points of Discussion:

- Council Hoey states that we need to amend current law to remove dead trees that is an immediate danger.
- Sergio Panunzio supports Ordinance 35.101.18 which shortens the period of time given to homeowner to have tree on their property removed after receiving a notice of removal for a diseased or unhealthy tree from 60 to 30 days.
- The current process is that if the owner does not remove a tree within 60 days, the city will send the owner a bill if the bill is not paid it will go on the tax bill.
- The Forester looks at the tree to deem if the tree is unhealthy and in danger of falling.
- For a tree on the borderline of properties we have our in-house Engineer review owner’s maps and review documents for liability.
- A large tree can cost $10,000.
- The City will accommodate any hardship. Panunzio states that he is open to give accommodation to residents and put the burden on property owner if they can get something in writing that they will fix the problem.
- City has identified 40,000 trees in the right of way that is unhealthy. City is looking to apply for grants through Cornell University.
- We are recommending urban trees when they are removed. They do not grow high and roots grow down.
- Jay Levine is the Forester.
- After public comment, Council Member Flynn made a motion to move Ordinance 35.101.18 (removal of dead or diseased trees from private property) out of committee with a favorable recommendation, which was seconded by Council Member Love. The motion passed unanimously.
- The street condition report by CDTA is completed every two years and by the time we received it, its three years old.
- The actual street repair is based on the latest pavement condition.
- We no longer have score 4 and 3 score street that is three years old.
- There is a crew (6 guys) trained in street maintenance and dedicated to roads and streets.
- In the past, we had a mix-match crew.
- The South Swan repair was done in-house.
- Panunzio stated that when he started there were 600 See-Click-Fix requests, today are 80.
- The Department of General Services (DGS) is making Brine (salt and water solution) in-house and DOT uses it on the road.