

MOBILE TREE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
August 17, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m., Tom McGehee presiding.

Tree Commission Members present: Tom McGehee, Burton Clarke, Marsyl Dees, Cleve Formwalt, and Dr. Maurice Holt

Ex-officio Member: Ron Jackson

City of Mobile: David Daughenbaugh, Jennifer L. Henley, and Dave Roberts

TREASURY REPORT:

As reported by Burton Clark, Treasurer, the balance is \$21,702.90.

PERMIT APPLICATIONS:

P-2004-13 1604 Carlisle Drive E – Remove 2 Popcorn Trees: David Daughenbaugh explained that the applicant was not present for the meeting and gave the Commission a brief history of the site. The applicant claimed that there was an issue with a leaking water meter. Dave Roberts of Traffic Engineering had visited the subject property and determined that there was not a line-of-sight issue. There was a brief discussion regarding who would pay for the removal of the tree. Ron Jackson mentioned that the Tree Commission had allowed removal of Popcorn Trees in the past. A motion was made to allow the removal of the trees at the applicant's expense. The motion carried.

C-2004-16 1951 Gloria York Avenue – Remove Water Oak: David Daughenbaugh indicated that there was an existing Water Oak on City right-of-way and there was some decay and cavities in the tree. The applicant had requested that the tree be removed via an SRO with the Action Center. A motion was made to remove the tree. The motion carried.

C-2004-17 803 Government Street – Remove Live Oak Tree: David Daughenbaugh stated that there was an existing Live Oak Tree at the subject property with some large cavities and decay. There was a beehive in one of the cavities. The City had tried to alleviate the issue regarding the bees over the years to no avail. He said that there was quite a bit of decay and deadwood. The adjacent property owner had contacted Urban Forestry via e-mail and a letter requesting removal of the tree. Ron Jackson stated that if the tree were removed the City would replace it. A motion was made to remove the tree and have the City plant a replacement. The motion carried.

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URBAN FORESTRY:

David Daughenbaugh stated that they were in the process of getting funding for the Old Shell Road site. Ron Jackson stated that they needed to edit the letter submitted by Tom McGehee and mail it out. He indicated that they would send a copy of the final letter to each of the Tree Commission Members.

David Daughenbaugh said that Urban Forestry was currently working on the plan for planting Oak Trees along Virginia Street, which should be ready by the fall. Ron Jackson said that they were hoping to meet with representatives of the stadium to see if they could plant some trees inside the facility as well.

There was a brief discussion regarding policies pertaining to tree trimming.

David Daughenbaugh said he had been in contact with Don Watson regarding a tree plan to plant 12-13 Live Oak Trees and some Crepe Myrtles on St. Stephens Road. They were looking to plant the Crepe Myrtles in the fall.

TRAFFIC ENGINEERING:

No report.

ENGINEERING:

No report.

ALABAMA POWER:

No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

P-2004-12 205 Church Street – Remove Live Oak Tree: Burton Clark had requested that this application be brought back up. He was concerned about the ground being so hard. He felt that by allowing one tree to be removed could mean that two other trees would have the opportunity to blossom. Cleve Formwalt was concerned that this would set a precedent. There was a brief discussion regarding this matter and the possibility of aerating the ground around the tree. Ron Jackson pointed out that when the tree was initially removed there would be a hole in the canopy, but it would eventually fill-in. A motion was made to allow the one center tree to be removed at the owner's expense with the recommendation that measures be taken for future aeration of the soil, fertilization of the remaining trees, and removal of the stump. Cleve Formwalt was opposed. The motion carried.

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NEW BUSINESS:

No New Business.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer L. Henley
Recording Secretary