

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES 8/20/2025

Circleville City Strategic Planning Committee convened in City Council Chambers 2nd Fl 127 South Court St, Circleville, OH on Wednesday August 20, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. Members present: Chair Sheri Theis, John Moats, Audrey Lukasak and Clerks Melissa Burns and Sarah Kolesar. Other Council members present: President Keller and Tom Klitzka.

Theis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Lukasak motioned to approve the Strategic Planning Committee meeting minutes from June 10, 2025. Moats seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business: None

New Business: Tree Commission Applicant Interviews:

Theis outlined that the Tree Commission holds meetings on the second Thursday of every month at 6:00 p.m., February through November. Theis explained that Tree Commission members and volunteers work directly with the City Arborist to plant and maintain trees throughout the City and parks. The Tree Commission receives funding through the Inflation Reduction Act, Urban and Community Forestry Grant, a one-million-dollar grant over five years. Theis highlighted that Tree Commission members also celebrate Arbor Day each April by planting trees with the Service Department and the Circleville Highschool FFA students. There are currently three openings on the Tree Commission, and Theis highlighted the importance of attendance as a quorum is required to approve purchase orders and approve meeting minutes, etc. Theis emphasized that volunteers are welcome to attend all meetings and to be involved in discussions and plans, though they will not hold an official vote. Theis explained that terms will be staggered as this will better suite the Tree Commission functionality and needs. There will be (1) one-year term, (1) two-year term, and (1) three-year term.

1. **Applicant #1: Joe Bradshaw:** Mr. Bradshaw stated that he and his family moved to Circleville about five years ago and would like to further explore the Community and to get involved. Bradshaw stated that he attended the previous Tree Commission meeting and decided to complete an application. Bradshaw noted that he could attend TC meetings except for October of this year.

2. **Applicant #2: Matthew Fosnaugh:** Mr. Fosnaugh stated that he teaches Science at Circleville High School and enjoys being outdoors and is interested in the Tree Commission to apply his experiences and skills and to be further involved in the Community. Mr. Fosnaugh noted that he does have family obligations and other coaching commitments that could conflict with some Tree Commission meetings.

3. **Applicant #3: Felicia Speakman:** Ms. Speakman stated that she was raised in Circleville and is an accounting manager for Ricart and is interested in joining because she admires the mission of the Tree Commission and would enjoy helping to elevate and make Circleville healthier and appealing. Ms. Speakman emphasized that she would not have any schedule conflicts that would hinder her from attending the meetings.

MOTION-ROLL CALL- VOTE: Theis motioned to recommend Matthew Fosnaugh to serve a one-year term. Lukasak seconded. (3 Yeas- 0 Nays). Motion carried.

MOTION-ROLL CALL- VOTE: Lukasak motioned to recommend Joe Bradshaw to serve a two-year term. Moats seconded. (3 Yeas- 0 Nays). Motion carried.

MOTION-ROLL CALL- VOTE: Moats motioned to recommend Felicia Speakman to serve a three-year term. Theis seconded. (3 Yeas- 0 Nays). Motion carried.

The three candidates for the Tree Commission will be recommended to the full Council at the September 2, 2025 meeting.

Other Business: Theis noted there are three members of the Historic Review Board whose terms are ending. Theis stated she reviewed each of their attendance and spoke with each of them, and all wish to serve an additional term. Candidates will be presented at the next City Council meeting on September 2, 2025, for approval.

Moats motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Lukasak seconded. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by: Sarah Kolesar, Assistant Clerk.