

Excerpt from the unapproved minutes of the February 9, 2016 Municipal Tree Commission meeting:

Discussion & possible action on a minimum charge for forestry work performed on private properties with ordinance violations

C. Scheinoha reviewed the labor and equipment costs with the commission. He recommended a charge similar to what is done for noxious weed removal, which is about double the actual cost in order for it to be a punitive-type charge. The hope is that the property owner will take care of the issue themselves or hire a private contractor to complete the work, so that forestry staff can focus on other forestry work not related to private property. T. Holschbach said that if labor resources were not limited, this could be viewed as revenue producing task. For noxious weed violations, property owners are charged \$300 for up to one hour of work, whether the crew is there 15 minutes or the entire hour. Additional hours would be done on a cost-recovery basis. N. Levendusky made a motion to implement a \$300 charge for up to one hour of work for forestry work performed on private properties with additional hours to be charged on a cost-recovery basis. T. Holschbach seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. C. Scheinoha will draft something for the Park and Recreation Committee similar to the noxious weed ordinance.