

Memo

To: Village Board
From: Chris Clark, Director of Parks, Recreation, & Forestry
Re: Authorization to Contract for Ash Tree Removals
Date: June 15, 2021

Background Information:

The Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department is seeking authorization to utilize existing funds to contract removal of ash trees infested with emerald ash borer. Village staff will continue to perform removals of the ash and other trees however they are getting overwhelmed and behind on this task. We are looking to get estimates to remove the ash within the street right of ways in Tree Management Units 1-5, which are north of highway 172. This would equate to approximately 1/3 of our ash street tree population, 125 of 425 trees.

Previous Information/Action:

I gave the Board a verbal report on the status of the public ash trees within the village at the May 18th, 2021 meeting. In that report, I stated that the village has about 550 ash trees on public property excluding natural areas. Of those, 425 are located along streets within the right of way. I also stated that the Village of Ashwaubenon has contracted the removal of a portion of their ash trees at a cost of \$81,540 for 375 trees. Using these figures we could estimate a cost of \$121,000 to remove all 550 trees.

Budget Item/Funding:

There is existing funding available within the Forestry Operations budget (EAB Fund and Tree Removals) to remove a portion of the trees this year.

Staff Recommendation/Request:

Staff is seeking authorization to utilize existing funds to contract for ash tree removals.

Attachments:

- Ash Tree Location Map

