

6. **Letter to City Council** – The Chair referred to the letter he sent to City Council with a copy to members concerning Deer/Market Street improvements.
7. **Report from AJ Dupere regarding Haymarket Square Trees** – AJ reported that it has passed the season, they have already fed and gone. They were leaf curling worms which will not kill the tree, but causes some defoliation. This infestation did not kill the now dead tree in Haymarket Square. Until the dead tree is dug out of the ground AJ will not know what killed it. Suggested leaf cleaning around the base as there's the potential to winter over and check it out in June or July.

8. **Old Business:**

Wibird/Middle Streets - Black Walnut – AJ reported the Black Walnut is on private property, the two Norways were planted by the City causing conflict to the Walnut which is still growing well. Part of the Norway should be pruned for curb/sidewalk access as low limbs are hanging. The Norways are healthy. It is a tight spot with a silver Maple across the street reaching all the way across the street on top of these trees. Pruning the Norway would help the Black Walnut, giving it more space, and other pruning should be done as well. Recommended pruning the Norway.

9. **New Business:**

I-Tree Storm Proposal - Fred Borman, Rockingham County Forester for UNH Cooperative Extension doing a Master's in Public Administration Program has proposed a cap stone project. Mr. Borman explained he and AJ had done an I-Tree training in June and has been looking for a cap stone project for his MPA. Portsmouth being the only tree City USA in Rockingham County and a gateway to the state and on the coast, would like to coordinate one of the programs within the I-tree inventory programs. Because of the timing this needs to be done by May 2011. The idea of doing a complete street tree inventory for Portsmouth would take one or two years. Because of being on the coast felt the I-tree Storm would be a good start to eventually doing an inventory of street, park trees for Portsmouth. This involves doing a pre-storm analysis of a sample segment of street trees for the streets within the City. A 2% sample is done ahead of any kind of a natural disaster keeping this information on file which can be incorporated into the City's Emergency Response Plan. After a wind/hurricane storm, go back and reinventory those same street segments giving you a fairly good estimate of the amount of debris and the cost of removal so you can then go to FEMA, if designated a natural disaster area, with very reliable figures on what it would cost the City to clean up the storm debris. A GIS City-wide street map would be needed in order to use the plot generator to determine which segments of streets would be inventoried, then have a training session to train inventory people to go out and do the inventory trees within the right-of-way and trees within 50ft of the right-of-way so that in a storm situation trees within 50ft of the right-of-way would blow down in the right-of-way. Then go back and reinventory after the storm. The tree species is not necessary for storm, basically calculating the diameter of the trees and number of trees. Sampling 2% of 135 miles of streets would take approximately 2.5-3 hours using volunteers to do one segment. The more volunteers, the less time it would take.

The City Manager suggested having a crew of City staff along with a crew of volunteers. Steve Parkinson suggested department wide not just one certain group in Public Works, someone from Engineering, Administration, Highway, Water /Sewer for a cross section of employees. This is just determining the post disaster estimates.

Mr. Borman would like to have the training within the next month or so, hopefully do the inventory before winter and then over the winter do the reports and make a presentation of the findings of the report to the City.
Steve Parkinson will be the contact.

10. OTHER BUSINESS:

Mechanic St. Pumping Station - Dick Adams referred to availability of water for the arborvitae trees. Everett Kern will look into this.

Rock St. Park – Row of Arborvitae trees – Everett Kern stated that the Police Department requested they be removed.

Steve Parkinson stated this area has become, among other activities, a neighborhood drinking location in the evening hours and this row of trees restricts the view into the park from the street.

The City Manager stated there are a lot of concerns from the neighborhood. The City Manager asked for a formal letter from the Police.

11. Next Meeting - Wednesday, October 13, 2010

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Boucas