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Sherman residents may be eligible for free tree trimming or removal

By David Prenatt

editorial@westfieldrepublican.com

SHERMAN — Residents of the Village of Sherman may be eligible for free tree trimming or removal services, board members learned at their regular meeting on Aug. 5.

Sherman Mayor Colleen Meeder told trustees that National Grid has contracted with a tree trimming and removal service to take down impaired trees that are near electric transmission wires.

Meeder said that trees must be evaluated before the tree service will trim or remove them. "Residents must call and request National Grid to send someone to inspect the tree and site for eligibility," she said.

In related business, trustees approved the village match, not to exceed \$2,500, for trees purchased or sponsored by residents or other stakeholders through the remaining 2020 calendar year.

Meeder said the response from residents has been very positive and the Tree

Beautification Committee is very pleased.

Meeder also told board members that the village is seeking a way to use the scale at the former Farmer's Mill property. The scale belongs to the village, but it is currently set in the ground, she said.

Meeder reported that the village cash reserves are \$66,000 more than they were last year at this time. She attributed much of this to the fact that the village was engaged in a street program last year, which used some of the cash reserves. "We're in a good cash position this year," she said.

In a related matter, the board approved a motion to name Fiscal Advisors & Marketing, Inc. as financial advisors for the village. The village will seek counsel from the company for matters regarding storm water, street equipment, and other financial advisory issues, with the exception of the water and sewer capital improvement project, Meeder said.

The board also approved the retainment of Trespaz &

Marquardt, LLP as the village bond counsel for the Village of Sherman's \$3.5 million stormwater project.

Meeder went on to share the report from Streets Superintendent Doug Crane who was not able to be present at the meeting. Work has been proceeding on replacing water lines on Kendrick Street, Meeder said. However, the project has been expanded to include the removal of old water lines, which were discovered underneath the current lines, she said.

Meeder also told board members that the drain in the fire hall parking lot is not functioning and is believed to have collapsed. Chief Wastewater Operator Jay Irwin said the fire department is considering filling in the drain and letting the water pass over the parking lot to the stormwater system.

Meeder also reported that the drainage work on Willow Street is halfway done. board trustee Donna Higgenbotham said she was "actually impressed" with the progress of the work.