



Tree Committee Minutes
Tuesday, June 3, 2025 7pm
Green Isle City Hall

1. Call Meeting to Order at 7:00 pm – Meeting was called to order at 7:02 by Chair Harrison De Boer.
Present: Harrison De Boer, Katelyn Pederson, Sam LaRose, Cal LaRose, Craig Worm, Tim Spletzer
Absent: Shane Sheets
Staff Present: Consultant Amy Soeffker
2. Pledge of Allegiance – All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Approval of June 3, 2025, agenda – Motion by De Boer to approve the agenda, with the addition of Agenda Items under New Business, seconded by Cal LaRose. Motion carried.
4. Approval of May 6, 2025, minutes – Motion by Sam LaRose to approve the minutes, seconded by De Boer. Motion carried.
5. Old business
 - A. 2025 goals progress:
 - Finish tree inventory – This is mostly complete with the exception of having to be more specific on some trees and update as dead trees are removed.
 - Update on Medication plan for Emerald Ash Borer and tree removals -This was completed by L&T Tree Service on May 21.
 - Acquiring grants – Soeffker reported that there have been no DNR grant relating to trees in FY25. The group will look for some in FY26.
 - Community engagement and education – Trifold flyers are on the City website, Sam LaRose will check with Diane on getting them printed.
 - Recommended Tree List (do we have promotional materials) – De Boer reported that this is also on the City's website, with photos.
 - Maple
 - Oak
 - Hackberry

- Walnut
- Locust

B. Housing development tree requirements

- Update on inclusion in Sharda Enclave's development agreement (2 trees per lot is in the development agreement)
- Progress on adding to Zoning Code via CPIC – De Boer said he has worked on the Zoning Code, but it has not been reviewed by CPIC yet.

Worm brought up concerns that the City is denying helping a person with a tree that Xcel Energy will also not touch, while they are paying approximately \$350 for another person to have a branch removed. Harrison clarified that the Council said if the tree is in an easement, it is the homeowner's responsibility. Discussed followed on no longer allowing trees planted in right of ways. Is it the homeowner's responsibility for tree in the front yard right of way? Clarify the difference between easements, right of way, and setbacks as they relate to trees and homeowner vs. City responsibilities. Concerns from the group that the City is not being consistent when it comes to tree removals. Soeffker recommended a policy to address this. May include other homeowner duties like maintaining sidewalks and water/sewer connections. Soeffker recommended a City policy to clarify as it will help staff and Councilmembers remain consistent and make it easier for residents to understand.

Worm recommended creating an assessment for tree/sidewalk removal and possibility charging interest of around 2%.

De Boer recommended that the tree committee work on the tree sections of the policy and then it goes to CPIC to clarify other areas such as sidewalks and sewer/water. CPIC will then make a recommendation to Council.

- C. Hope Garden – Trees are being watered. Worm asked about the timing of putting in sidewalks as the cement truck will be in town. Sam LaRose said to check with Sarah Sheets.

6. New business

A. Agenda items

- 1) Recommendations on policy for tree removals
- 2) Update on which trees received maintenance/removal/planting

7. Adjournment – Motion by De Boer to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm, seconded by Cal LaRose. Motion carried.

Secretary Amy Soeffker

Chair Harrison De Boer