

Approved



## CITY TREE BOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, March 28, 2023

5:30 PM

Athletic Complex

3301 West 1st

Joplin, MO 64801

***MEMBERS PRESENT:***

Lauren Cople, Kristi Brown, Robert Dopp, Michael Luse

***ABSENT:***

Christian Woods

***GUESTS:***

Paul Bloomberg  
Mark Farnham  
Jon Skinner

***MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:***

Lauren Cople called the regular meeting to order.

***APPROVAL OF MINUTES:***

Lauren Cople made a motion to approve the minutes with a second by Kristi Brown.

***OLD BUSINESS:***

Paul mentioned to the board that we did an RFP for an On-Call Arborist. Outer Oaks was awarded the bid and has been working on getting tree assessment for some of our parks. The plan is to inventory 3,000 trees in the Spring and hopefully 3,000 more in the fall. This is a three-year contract with the City. A report is sent to Paul of what recommendations they suggest. What trees need to be removed, what trees they would recommend and what trees just need pruned. Paul said this was very nice to have when a huge Sycamore tree just recently fell at Wild Cat Park. The city didn't have the equipment to cut the tree down. We contacted Outer Oaks, and they had the tree removed and cleaned up in about four days. Our parks staff did make a bench out of some of the log. This tree has been around for about 120 years.

He told the board that we did get the MDC Community Forestry Cost-Share Grant. He said this grant would cover 90% of the project and the city

would only cover 10% of the cost. However, we also have Tree City USA that we can use this as part of our \$2 per capita. We will be working with Jon Skinner on getting him the invoice and the documentations he is needing before the deadline on June 1, 2023.

Paul let the board know that Greg Bertoncino has ordered the Crape Myrtle for the Junge Blvd project. We ordered the Crape Myrtle through Ozark Nursery and have a watering contract with them for two years.

He also mentioned that Parks and Public Works have been working on taking out the Bradford Pear trees on Main Street. We have removed and replaced nine trees this year. The trees are being replaced by Japanese Ivory Silk Lilac and Spring Snow Crabapple trees. We reminded the board that we do have a contract with Ozark Nursery for these trees which included two years of watering, also.

***NEW BUSINESS:***

Paul told the board that the Arbor/Earth Day Celebration will be on April 22, 2023, from 10:00am – 2:00pm at Wildcat Park. It is always a Star Wars theme but will be called the New-Earth this year. This will be the fourth year for the event to be held at this location. We will have vendors, food vendors, music, games, and Liberty will do the tree giveaway. He said that on April 17, 2023 the Mayor will read the Arbor Day Proclamation during their City Council meeting.

***REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:***

None

***ADJOURNEMENT:***

Michael Luse made a motion to adjourn, second by Lauren Copple.

Nakia Endicott, Accounting Specialist

*N. Endicott*