

1 Minutes of the Centerville City Tree Board meeting held Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 8:00 p.m.
2 at Centerville City Hall, 250 North Main Street, Centerville, Utah.

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4 **MEMBERS PRESENT**

5 Linda Porter
6 Sarah Stettler, Chair
7 Heather Taylor
8 Gary Woodward
9 Scott Zeidler

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11 **MEMBERS ABSENT**

12 Grant Chavez

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14 **STAFF PRESENT**

15 Lisa Romney, City Attorney
16 Mike Higgins, Parks Supervisor
17 Mark Marchant, Streets Supervisor
18 Connie Larson, Recording Secretary

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20 **PARK STRIP AND STREET TREE ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS**

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22 Lisa Romney, City Attorney, discussed the proposed Park Strip and Street Tree Ordinance
23 amendments to Chapter 11.02 (Park Strips) of the Centerville Municipal Code prohibiting trees in
24 park strips. The Park Strip and Street Tree Ordinance amendments were made after a tree study
25 was completed in 2016 of trees that are causing potential hazards on sidewalks and utilities.
26 Ninety-five percent of parking strips in Centerville are four feet wide. The current Code requires
27 residents to receive permission before planting trees in park strips, but this is not happening. Ms.
28 Romney displayed photographs of trees in park strips and the damage they are causing.

29
30 Lisa Romney reported that in 2016, a city intern walked every street in Centerville and
31 documented the trees that are damaging sidewalks. The city is liable if a person is injured on a
32 damaged sidewalk. The city has sprayed yellow paint on large cracks to warn pedestrians of a
33 potential hazard, but this does not solve the problem of trees raising sidewalks. The Tree Board
34 has made recommendations on trees in park strips in the last few years, and there has been success
35 in working with property owners to remove trees that are causing damage. The city has the
36 authority to make sidewalks safe by removing trees that are causing damage. The city is proposing
37 that trees must be planted at least ten feet back from the edge of the sidewalk.

38
39 In the 2016 study, there were 1,700 trees in park strips. When a street is going to have major
40 construction work done, the trees will be addressed at that time and the sidewalks too. Mark
41 Marchant, Streets Supervisor, reported the city is offering the Tree Voucher Program, where the
42 city will give a \$200 voucher to the homeowner if their tree must be removed. This will allow the
43 homeowner to buy a tree to plant elsewhere in their yard. The Tree Voucher Program has been well
44 received.

The recommendations made by the Tree Board in 2022 for park strips were discussed, and the City Council would like to make these suggestions mandatory. They are:

- Cost of removal of trees from park strips will be borne by the city.
- Homeowner will be given a voucher to purchase a new tree to replace tree removed from park strip.
- City will prepare a prioritization list of trees that need to be removed from park strips.
- 419 sidewalk faults that are one to three inches in height need to be repaired.
- It will be a Class C misdemeanor for violation of the Tree Ordinance.
- Street corners will require 50-foot site triangle. Driveways will require 12-foot site triangle.

Sarah Stettler asked if larger park strips can be required in new construction development. Lisa Romney explained a larger right-of-way would have to be required for larger park strips, which isn't what the city wants to do. There is a 30-foot landscape buffer required on Parrish Lane at this time. Staff is recommending that there will be no trees allowed in the public utility easements. If there is a tree in the easement, the property owner will be liable. There is no concrete or pavement allowed in park strips.

The Tree Board agreed they will review the other two sections of the Tree Ordinance Amendments before they give final approval for the Ordinance. Mark Marchant said the City Council wants the Tree Ordinance approved before fall planting begins. Staff wants all trees banned from park strips.

Gary Woodward made a **motion** to table discussion of the recommendations for the Tree Ordinance until the Tree Board meets again. Linda Porter seconded the motion, which was passed by unanimous vote (5-0).

REVIEW OF ART SHOW/AWARD CEREMONY AND WALKING TREE TOUR

Scott Zeidler reported the Art Show and Walking Tour went very well.

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

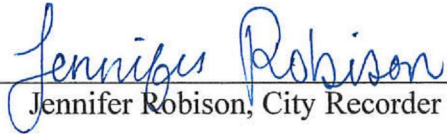
Minutes of the April 17, 2024 meeting were reviewed. Scott Zeidler made a **motion** to approve the minutes as amended. Gary Woodward seconded the motion, which was passed by unanimous vote (5-0).

NEXT MEETING

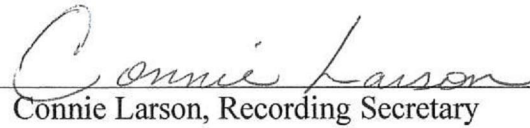
The next Tree Board meeting will be held when the Tree Board determines the date.

ADJOURN

At 9:40 p.m., Sarah Stettler made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting. Linda Porter seconded the motion, which was passed by unanimous vote (5-0).


Jennifer Robison, City Recorder

6-25-2024
Date Approved


Connie Larson, Recording Secretary

