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2 Minutes of the Centerville City Tree Board meeting held Wednesday, June 23, 2025 at 8:00 p.m.  
3 at Centerville City Hall, 250 North Main Street, Centerville, Utah.  
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5 **MEMBERS PRESENT**

6 Barbara Allen  
7 Brandon Henderson  
8 Keith Roper  
9 Sara Stettler  
10 Heather Taylor, Chair  
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12 **STAFF PRESENT**

13 Brian Plummer, City Council Liaison  
14 Tyler West, Parks Supervisor  
15 Connie Larson, Recording Secretary  
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17 **MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

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19 Minutes of the April 16, 2025 meeting were reviewed. Barbara Allen made a **motion** to  
20 approve the minutes as written. Sara Stettler seconded the motion, which was passed by unanimous  
21 vote (5-0).  
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23 **REVIEW BOARD MEMBER GOALS**

24  
25 Brandon Henderson

26 Brandon said he joined the Tree Board to be able to have a platform to help other people  
27 to learn how to approach a tree as a citizen of Centerville. Trees can be intimidating, and  
28 he learned the wrong way how to take care of trees. Brandon feels he can get information  
29 out through modern means on the care of trees, and how to assess and what to do with a  
30 tree. He would like to help citizens identify trees and help them learn about pruning trees.  
31 There are polarizing opinions on what is best for a tree in certain situations, and he would  
32 like to help people know better how to care for trees.  
33

34 Barbara Allen

35 Barbara said she would like to work with Bruce Cox, Parks and Recreation Director, on  
36 why some of the trees at the Community Park are dying and what can be done to help the  
37 trees.  
38

39 Keith Roper

40 Keith would like to do outreach with the Utah State University Extension Services.  
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42 Sara Stettler

43 Sara said she would like to have a plan of no tree deficits in Centerville.  
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45 Heather Taylor

46 Heather would like to educate citizens on best practices for planting and watering trees.

**REVIEW “TREE CITY” CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

The following are requirements to be certified as a “Tree City:”

- The city must have a Tree Board or Parks Department that meets regularly.
- There must be someone who is legally responsible for the trees in the city.
- The Tree Board and city must manage the trees together.
- There must be a published Tree Care Ordinance with clear guidelines for removing trees from the parks and open spaces. (This is not clear and needs more work. Lisa Romney and Marc Marchant have been working together with the City Council and Tree Board on this issue.)

Brian Plummer, City Council Liaison, explained the mayor makes appointments to the Tree Board, and the City Council Liaison makes a recommendation to the mayor. It is ultimately getting a consensus on trees. Trees are important to people, and there is a way to help citizens with their trees and how to plan for the future with trees. What do citizens want for their trees and neighborhoods, and what is the balance when trees need to be removed for utilities. The Tree Board is also a Tree Conservation Board. Moving forward, there needs to be a two-blanket ordinance that would allow the city to remove trees in park strips that have been there for 30-years. Mr. Plummer suggested an ordinance be offered that would protect trees at a certain point. Growth is happening and how much will it affect our neighborhoods and does this include trees? Is there an alternative for trees that should not be a financial burden, and should the homeowner have a say? The west side of I-15 is probably going to be developed, and trees could be a part of this development.

Heather Taylor explained the Tree Voucher Program. If the city takes out a tree because of a city requirement, the homeowner can be given a voucher towards a new tree. She said the local nurseries told her they have received very few vouchers for new trees. Brian Plummer said the tree voucher program is a good option, but he feels it has not been communicated very well. Marc Marchant from the Streets Department would like to have all trees in the park strips removed. The Tree Board discussed other options for trees, such as topping the roots, and hoping the roots will not grow down. Brian Plummer suggested identifying trees that are significant that people may not want to be removed.

Heather Taylor said in Logan, where there are problems with a tree and a sidewalk, they are installing floating rubber concrete. This is an expensive process, but it can save a legacy tree. The Tree Board discussed being informed by Marc Marchant prior to when he is going to remove trees on a street, so that they could talk to the homeowners first. Brian Plummer explained that, ultimately, if Marc Marchant has determined a legacy tree must be removed, it depends on how the City Council wants to approach protecting the tree. Some cities, including Centerville, own the sidewalk and have control on what can be planted in park strips.

1                   **COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM**

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3                   Tyler West, Parks Supervisor, explained the Community Forestry Program includes the  
4 pesticide treatments of trees for black scale disease which attacks pine trees and anthrax on the  
5 London Plane trees. He said trees are planted to replace trees that have died. Bruce Cox has said  
6 that some of the trees at the Community Park have died because of this disease, and 40 percent of  
7 the trees at this park are damaged due to children beating on the trees. Barbara Allen talked about  
8 the trees in the southwest corner of the park by the Willow tree where the water collects, and they  
9 do not seem to be doing well. Mr. West said there is a soil problem on the west side of the park,  
10 and trees that do not do well, are not planted again. There are fertilizing injections that can be given  
11 to trees in the bark, but this is a band-aid approach and a constant treatment that must be done  
12 every year. There are not a lot of trees that would be eligible for this treatment at the Community  
13 Park. The Rotary Club planted some trees by the bowery, but they were planted wrong, and they  
14 had to be replanted. Mr. West said when a tree is taken out, an attempt is made to plant a tree  
15 elsewhere in the park. Heather Taylor asked Tyler West to provide her with a report on how much  
16 money is being spent on the Community Forestry Program in Centerville.

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18                   Tyler West said that Bruce Cox, Parks and Recreation Director, has suggested a tree audit  
19 take place in the city. It has been ten years since the last tree audit was conducted, and it was  
20 surprising how many sidewalks and park strips were damaged by trees.

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22                   **ARBOR DAY OBSERVANCE AND PROCLAMATION**

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24                   Heather Taylor explained the mayor is responsible to make the proclamation for Arbor Day  
25 observance. Last year, Mayor Wilkinson declared April to be Arbor Month. Recognition for Arbor  
26 Day was done with the Art Contest this year. The Parks Department also plants trees during April.

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28                   **NEW BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED**

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30                   Heather Taylor said there should be seven members on a board with staggered terms of  
31 three years, and currently there are five board members on the Tree Board. According to Roberts  
32 Rules of Order, boards are to meet once a month. Heather Taylor will send out an email to each  
33 Tree Board member on specific initiatives and places the Tree Board needs to focus. These  
34 initiatives will be discussed at the July meeting.

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36                   **DUTIES OF THE TREE BOARD**

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38                   Duties of the Tree Board:

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40                   • Recommend to the City Council, and other departments, standards for the care  
41 preservation, pruning, and planting of trees on public park property and park strips.  
42                   • Review and recommend appropriate changes and updates to the city ordinances or the  
43 Master Plans regarding trees on public properties for the park strips.  
44                   • Recommend policies, projects, funding allocations, and other measures, programs or  
45 activities for the maintenance and management of trees within the city.

