

1 Minutes of the Centerville City Tree Board meeting held Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 8:00 p.m.
2 at Centerville City Hall, 250 North Main Street, Centerville, Utah.

3
4 **MEMBERS PRESENT**

5 Heather Taylor, Chair
6 Keith Roper
7 Brandon Henderson
8 Sara Stettler
9 Barbara Allen

10
11 **STAFF PRESENT**

12 Michael Higgins, Parks Supervisor
13 Brian Plummer, City Council Liaison

14
15 **MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

16
17 Minutes of the March 18, 2026 meeting were reviewed. Chair Taylor moved to approve the
18 minutes with suggested changes. Barbara Allen seconded the motion which passed unanimously
19 (5-0).

20
21 **ARBOR DAY REPORT**

22
23 Chair Taylor reported on the March 28th tree planting event at Community Park, a
24 collaborative effort involving the Parks and Recreation Department, Tree Utah, and volunteers
25 from Goldman Sachs. The event was especially notable for welcoming families with children age
26 five and under, a first for the organization. Several board members participated in the tree planting,
27 and Michael Higgins later reported that the trees are doing well overall, with initial irrigation issues
28 now resolved and expected rainfall providing additional support.

29
30 Chair Taylor noted challenges with soil conditions near the pickleball courts where clay
31 soil was extremely compacted and difficult to work with. She expressed concern about those
32 specific trees' survival chances but remained optimistic.

33
34 **COMPILE TREE BOARD'S URBAN FORESTRY GUIDE**

35
36 The Tree Board reviewed progress on its urban forestry guide, with Chair Taylor noting
37 that Brandon's task to take the updated tree list to USU Extension had been delayed while she
38 finalized revisions. Barbara Allen shared research on trees and shrubs suited for wet soil
39 conditions, drawing from multiple university extension sources. Recommended wetland-tolerant
40 trees included bald cypress, river birch, red maple, swamp white oak, black gum, sweet gum, and
41 hackberry, along with shrubs such as button bush, silky dogwood, summer sweet clethra, and
42 winter berry. The board discussed removing weeping willow from consideration due to
43 maintenance concerns, while also debating the value of various elm species.

44

1 Chair Taylor outlined the guide's intended structure, which will include tree care
2 information, a vetted recommended tree list, wetland tree guidance, educational material on the
3 benefits of trees, and introductory language developed by the board. The guide is intended as a
4 practical resource for city staff, planners, and developers, though without formal legislative
5 authority unless referenced in the city's general plan. Discussion also touched on integrating the
6 guide with the city's new water-wise landscaping requirements, particularly park strip policies.
7 Board members emphasized the need to educate residents on attractive drought-tolerant
8 alternatives and discussed ideas such as park strip incentive programs to encourage early adoption.
9

10 **REVIEW ADDITIONS TO THE PROPOSED CENTERVILLE GENERAL PLAN**

11
12 Chair Taylor reported that after reviewing the updated general plan, she found it difficult
13 to identify appropriate places to incorporate Tree Board language, despite previously suggested
14 locations. She now favors focusing energy on creating a comprehensive urban forestry guide while
15 seeking city council support to reference it in the general plan for added authority.
16

17 Brian Plummer confirmed that referencing a separate Tree Board document in the general
18 plan would provide the desired legislative backing while allowing the board to maintain control
19 over their specialized content.
20

21 **FOLLOW-UP ON TREE VOUCHERS SENT BY STREETS COORDINATOR**

22
23 Chair Taylor reported that Streets Coordinator Marc Marchant quickly distributed tree
24 vouchers by email to all 19 eligible households across seven addresses the day after receiving the
25 board's finalized list, and she commended his prompt response and continued coordination. The
26 board then discussed the importance of follow-up outreach to ensure the vouchers result in
27 successful plantings, noting that some properties may have limited space to accommodate multiple
28 trees.
29

30 Board members divided follow-up responsibilities to provide more direct support to
31 specific households. The board estimated that if 17 of the 19 vouchers lead to planted trees,
32 combined with the 32 trees recently planted at Community Park and one additional fruit tree
33 reported by a citizen, they would reach 50 trees - one-fifth of their broader goal of planting 250
34 trees as part of the city initiative.
35


36 **AMERICA250 TREE BOARD INITIATIVES**

37
38 The board discussed recognition options for tree planting participants, with Sarah Stettler
39 reporting discounted pricing of about \$500 for 250 yard signs with stakes through a local printing
40 contact. Members also considered ribbon decorations and commemorative bricks, with Brian
41 Plummer suggesting that if bricks are used, they could be incorporated into a central memorial-
42 style display rather than placed individually. The board agreed to gather additional pricing and
43 information before final decisions are made.
44

1 Chair Taylor reported progress on the “You Have a Beautiful Tree” nomination program,
2 noting that the city will create an online nomination page to streamline submissions. Board
3 members committed to identifying initial nominees within the next few days so recognition letters
4 can be sent, with the goal of completing several nomination rounds before July 4. The meeting
5 concluded with plans to continue tree voucher follow-up, finalize recognition materials, and
6 advance work on the urban forestry guide.

7
8 **ADJOURNMENT**

9
10 At 8:59 p.m., Sara Stettler made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting. Keith Roper seconded
11 the motion, which was passed by unanimous vote (5-0).
12
13

14 
15 _____
16 Jennifer Robison, City Recorder

06/17/2026

Date Approved

