



## **TREE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2026**

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

John Tamsberg, Chairperson, opened the meeting at 2:00 PM.

### **II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

### **III. ATTENDANCE**

**Present:** John Tamsberg, Heather Hasandras, Debbie Evans, Lisa Stattmiller-Ferrano, Kimberly Blair Chenoweth, Uma Bhatti

**Absent:** Kathy Siena

**Staff Present:** Will Gurney (Landscape Maintenance Superintendent), Michelle Diaz (Recording Secretary), Rebecca Warner (Assistant Recording Secretary), Michelle Garvey (Community Events Assistant Director)

### **IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

#### **A. DECEMBER 3, 2025 TREE BOARD MINUTES**

**A motion was made by Debbie Evans, and seconded by Lisa Stattmiller-Ferrano, to approve and adopt the December 3, 2025 Tree Board meeting minutes, unanimously passed by John Tamsberg, Heather Hasandras, Debbie Evans, Uma Bhatti, Lisa Stattmiller-Ferrano, and Kimberly Blair Chenoweth (6-0); with Kathy Siena absent.**

### **V. STAFF UPDATES**

#### **A. RECENT PLANTINGS & STATUS UPDATES – WILL GURNEY**

Will Gurney updated the Tree Board on recent plantings, projects, and miscellaneous items.

- There will be minimal plantings scheduled until May due to seasonal timing and water restriction concerns.
- There was significant frost damage observed throughout town. Once the plants have had time to recover, landscape replacements will be scheduled.

- The tree canopy study was completed mid-February, which included heat island mapping and detailed public/private breakdown. The current canopy coverage was better than anticipated.
- Wellington was awarded a grant for tree planting at Wellington Environmental Preserve.
- Landscape installations were completed at the new Aquatics Center, which features many native species.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

### A. EARTH/ARBOR DAY EVENT 2026

**A motion was made by Debbie Evans, and seconded by Uma Bhatti, to reorder the agenda item A. EARTH/ARBOR DAY EVENT 2026 to be before IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, unanimously passed by John Tamsberg, Heather Hasandras, Debbie Evans, Uma Bhatti, Lisa Stattmiller-Ferrano, and Kimberly Blair Chenoweth (6-0); with Kathy Siena absent.**

Michelle Garvey and Will Gurney provided details of the upcoming Earth/Arbor Day Event to the Tree Board.

- The event is scheduled for Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM.
- The Great American Cleanup will begin prior to the event at 9:30 AM.
- There will be a total of seven (7) vendors present at the event.
- Annual tree planting with Council will feature a Pink Cassia tree.
- Wellington Garden Club will host a plant sale concurrently with the event.
- F.L.O.W.E.R. Award winners' will be presented with their awards.

### B. TREE SEEDLINGS

Will Gurney updated the Tree Board on the details pertaining to delivering tree seedlings to local schools and providing them for the Earth/Arbor Day Event.

### C. F.L.O.W.E.R. AWARD NOMINATIONS

Tree Board reviewed and discussed nominations. There were three (3) nominations submitted at this time for the following properties:

1. 13519 Jonquil Place
2. 15430 De Haviland Court
3. 14236 Aster Avenue

**A motion was made by Kimberly Blair Chenoweth, and seconded by Lisa Stattmiller-Ferrano, to approve all three (3) F.L.O.W.E.R. Award nominations, unanimously passed by John Tamsberg, Heather Hasandras, Debbie Evans, Uma Bhatti, Lisa Stattmiller-Ferrano, and Kimberly Blair Chenoweth (6-0); with Kathy Siena absent.**

#### **D. TREE BOARD ANNUAL WORK PLAN 2026**

Tree Board reviewed and discussed the 2026 Tree Board Annual Work Plan.

The following revisions were made:

- Add bullet to Section C. Planning & Management, that states, “Make recommendations to Planning, Zoning, and Building Department, on proposed changes to the vegetation ordinance within Wellington”.
- Remove bullet from Section C. Planning & Management, that states, “Initiate Tree Canopy Study in 2024, complete in 2025”.
- Add bullet to Section A. Education and Public Relations, that states, “Implementing a program for a rain barrel giveaway for Wellington residents”.
- Revise the fourth bullet in Section A. Education and Public Relations, that adds, “...and plant the wildflower seeds”.

The amended work plan will be reviewed and finalized at the next Tree Board meeting.

#### **VII. COMMENTS**

Debbie Evans discussed a new area possibly being annexed by Wellington.

#### **VIII. ADJOURN**

**A motion was made by Kimberly Blair Chenoweth, and seconded by Heather Hasandras, to adjourn at 3:17 PM. The motion was unanimously passed by John Tamsberg, Heather Hasandras, Debbie Evans, Uma Bhatti, Lisa Stattmiller-Ferrano, and Kimberly Blair Chenoweth (6-0); with Kathy Siena absent.**