

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of  
the HAILEY TREE COMMITTEE  
June 18, 2020  
GoToMeeting

**Call to Order:** 6:00pm

**Attendance:**

**City Staff:** Stephanie Cook

**Committee Members:** David Antilla, Katie Van Hees, Seth Gates, Jim Rineholt, Linda Ries, Kelly Siemon

**Guests:** Courtney Hamilton, 2 – 3 Unknown callers

**Approval of May Minutes:** 1<sup>st</sup> Jim, 2<sup>nd</sup> David: All approve

**Public Comment:** N/A

**New Business:**

Advocates Attic Building Addition Review

Guest presenter Courtney Hamilton presented an overview of the 2,757 Sq. Ft. addition to the existing building. There are two small trees in the City's R-O-W at the corner of River and Carbonate that are proposed to be removed. The species are a small chokecherry and a crabapple. There is also a maple behind the fence that is not in the R-O-W. HTC does not see a need to retain these trees.

The project proposal revealed three new trees being planted along River street where the new entrance to the building is proposed. No species were mentioned in the plan. HTC is recommending planting 3-inch swamp white oak that is a hardy tight crowned tree that would fit well. Depending on nursery availability other possible alternative species discussed include littleleaf linden and Norway maple. However, some members expressed concern that Norway maple has higher maintenance costs and according to the tree inventory there are over 94 Norway maples in Hailey.

Tree Care Budget

The HTC discussed the City budget of \$16,000 for tree care management. Due to the recent number of large tree failures (mostly spruce) it was determined that the cost of removing these high-risk trees is expensive and can quickly use up these funds. Due to the age of many street trees it is expected that the situation will only get worse and Hailey's current tree canopy will be reduced. There is a desire to not only replace these trees but to also plant additional new trees for long-term sustainability.

The budget amount also affects Hailey's Tree City USA certification. The current budget of \$16,000 does not meet the minimum requirement of \$2.00/capita for tree planting and maintenance. With a population of close to 9000 the Tree City USA minimum would be \$18,000. It was agreed that Linda will write a letter to Hailey City Council to consider increasing the 2021 tree care budget to \$20,000. This would meet the minimum to maintain Hailey's Tree City USA status and increase funds to plant more trees.

#### Recommended policy for developers

When developers are required to obtain an arborist to report on the current conditions of trees and those that need to be removed within the City's R-O-W it was suggested that they get more than one opinion. Having a second opinion would offer other alternatives and possibly save the city money and save trees that may be considered high value.

#### **Old Business:**

##### Title 18 – Watering Guidelines

Stephanie will continue to discuss this item with the city administrator (Lisa Horowitz). It was decided to wait on a motion until the water source is determined for watering new street trees.

#### **Staff Report:**

Stephanie gave us a heads up that Mountain Rides will be pruning some of the low branches at some of the bus stops. She will check on them to make sure they will prune correctly.

ArborFest was a success even though not too many trees were given out. Thanks to those members who braved the unpleasant weather!

#### **Discussion of topics for next meeting:**

**Adjourn:** 8:00 pm

**Next meeting:** To Be Determined