

City of Grand Island

Tuesday, March 20, 2018 Study Session

Item C1

2018 City Tree Board Update

Staff Contact: Todd McCoy



City Tree Board Members

- Sob Loewenstein <u>President</u> term expires July 31, 2018
- Sryan Fiala Vice President -term expires July 31, 2020
- Steve Meyer <u>Secretary/Treasurer</u> term expires July 31, 2019
- Bob Thomas term expires July 31, 2018

- Leon VanWinkle term expires July 31, 2019
- Tarwin Wicht term expires July 31, 2019
- Barry Burrows term expires July 31, 2020



Sour Mission: To preserve, educate, and enhance the quality of life in the City of Grand Island by widely managing our community urban forest.

Monthly Meetings

- Second Tuesday at Noon
- City Hall, Public Works Conference Room

Projects

- 2017 Arbor Day Event at Engleman School
- South Locust Tree Assessment and Recommendations
- Members assisted with Hall County Veterans Memorial Park
 Tree Planting Project
- State Fair Fun Zone Tree Planting
- Grand Island Rotary Support

Grand Island

Hall County Tree Champion Program



Emerald Ash Borer Response Plan Development

- Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has been detected in Nebraska
- **The set of the set of**
- Considerations...

- Impact to City budgets
- Disposal of infected wood
- Tree replacement with diversity
- Public education



Grand Island

Tree Board Goals

ONE YEAR

- Continue Engleman annual tree planting
- Arbor Day Celebration
- Facebook posting tree info
- Update/Improve Tree Ordinance
- Advocate/promote Hall County Champion Tree programs
- When requested, assist/advise City on tree related issues

THREE YEAR

- Annual fall workshop
- City wide tree inventory
- Education at grade schools with trifold flyers
- Speak at groups, etc.
- GI TV Exposure
- Develop flyer for Sucks
 Lake Arboretum & Hall Co.
- Hold Tree Board Retreat
- Obtain 501c3 status
- Seek grants & other funding sources

FIVE YEAR

- **State Fair Booth**
- Speak at groups, schools, etc.
- Programs info regarding what, where and how to plant trees
- City Arboretum tours
- Educate our citizens on all things related to trees

Donations

Date	Description	Withdrawals	Deposits	Current Balance
6/19/2017	Business Contribution	-	25.00	25.00
10/18/2017	Private Contribution		30.00	55.00
11/17/2017	Private Contribution		50.00	105.00
11/17/2017	Business Contribution		500.00	605.00
2/19/2018	Private Contribution		200.00	805.00
2/19/2018	Business Contribution		200.00	1,005.00

Article IV. Trees in Public Right-of-Way

§24-11. Trees as a Community Concern

The Mayor and Council, or their designated representative, hereby determine that the selection, planting, maintenance, and removal of trees within the public right-of-ways in the City of Grand Island substantially affects the degree of pedestrian and vehicular safety, the location and maintenance of utility services, tree maintenance costs, the incidence of tree diseases, and the general appearance and beautification of the City; that removal of trees due to disease, private development, or public works improvements has resulted in a loss of their important contribution to man and his- people and environment, and therefore it is determined that such selection, planting, maintenance and removal of trees in public right of ways are a community concern over which the City must exercise control.

§24-12. Property Owners Have Primary Responsibility

Abutting property owners have the primary responsibility of planting, maintaining and removal of trees within that portion of the public right-of-way known as the parking or terrace, but the City shall retain the right to recommend the variety and location of trees that may be planted, may implement a street tree planting program, and parks planting program, and control removal of existing trees.

§24-13. Recommended Trees

The following The City Tree Board has the authority to recommend trees to be placed in the public rightof-way. Specific trees are recommended by the City Tree Board for planting within public right-of-way because of their superior resistance to insects and disease, maximum ability to resist wind or storm breakage, desirable life spans, and minimal maintenance requirements. The full spread as indicated shall be used for spacing purposes: (A) In all zoning districts except in locations where overhead utility lines are present.

Variety	Spread
Maple: sugar, black, red, Norway	
Hackberry	40 feet
Honeylocust (thornless)	40 feet
Bradford Pear (Ornamental Pear Varieties)	25 feet
Oak: red, scarlet, English, bur, pin	40 feet
Linden: American, European, Littleleaf	
Linden: Redmond	25 feet
Ash: White, green	 40 feet
Ginkgo: maidenhair (male variety)	40 feet
Black Walnut	40 feet
Ponderosa Pine	25 feet
Austrian Pine	 25 feet
Scotch Pine	 25 feet
Ohio Buckeye	25 feet
Kentucky Coffee Tree	30 feet
Catalpa	30 feet
Japanese Pagoda Tree	40 feet

(B) In business and manufacturing zoning districts, and in other districts in locations where overhead utility lines are present:

Variety	Spread
Maple: Trident, hedge, amur, tatarian	20 feet
East Redbud	20 feet
Hawthorn: lavelle, Washington	20 feet
Carolina Silverbell	 20 feet
Crabapple: fruitless	20 feet
Purpleleaf Plum	20 feet
Flowering Cherry	

Ash: European or mountain	20 feet
Saucer Magnolia	. 20 feet
Japanese Tree Lilac	
Amur Cork Tree	

Trees not included on the above recommended lists are prohibited within public right-of-way.

§24-14. Minimum Placement

The following standards for minimum spacing, location, area requirement and minimum size of seedlings shall be utilized for the placement of trees within the public right-of-way, greenways, and city parks: (1) Recommended trees shall not be planted closer than 20' the distance of their full spread, as set forth in §24-13, measured from center to center of each tree.

(2) Recommended trees shall not be placed closer than 40 feet from the corner of a curb at intersections or closer than $\frac{21}{2}$ three feet to the edge of a driveway or sidewalk.

(3) Recommended trees shall not be planted closer than the width of its full spread to a standard or pole, measured from the center of the tree to the center of the pole.

(4) Recommended trees shall not be planted when at least five six feet of space between curb and sidewalk or other obstruction is not available.

(5) Recommended trees shall generally be planted equidistant between the curb and street edge of a conventional sidewalk or equidistant between the property line and edge of a curb-type sidewalk, unless specifically directed differently on the required permit in order to avoid conflict with existing or proposed utilities.

(6) Recommended trees shall be planted in an area containing at least nine square feet of ground for each tree listed in §24-13(B) and no impervious material shall be placed nearer than thirty inches to the center of a tree listed in §24-13(A).

(7) It is suggested, but not mandatory, that for best results of successful tree growth and minimum tree mortality that trees with the following minimum heights be considered for planting in the public right-of-ways:

(a) Six feet to eight feet for those trees listed in §24-13(A);

(b) Five feet to six feet for those trees listed in §24-13(B).

(7) No tree shall be planted closer than 10 feet from any fireplug.

Injuring prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for any person to willfully, maliciously or wantonly cut down, destroy, by girdling or tapping, or otherwise injure any tree within the city, that is not owned by such person, unless permission to do so has been granted by the owner of such tree.

Roots obstructing sidewalks, sewers, etc.

Trees and shrubs growing upon the lot line partially on public ground and partially upon the abutting property, or wholly upon the abutting property, but so close to the lot line as to interfere with the making of any public improvement, or so that the roots thereof interfere with any sewer or drain, shall be deemed an obstruction under this chapter. Such roots may be removed by the City at the expense of the owner, after the owner shall have failed or neglected after notice to do so.

Clearance over streets and walkways.

Property owners are responsible for trees on their own property as well as trees on the public right away that abuts their property. Clearance over streets and walkways shall be the responsibility of the abutting property owner. A clearance of 8 feet must be maintained over walkways and a clearance of 14 feet must be maintained over streets and alleys.

§24-15. Unlawful to Top

It shall be unlawful, as a normal practice, for any person, firm, or municipal department to top any tree within public right-of-way. Topping is defined as the severe cutting back of limbs to stubs larger than three

inches in diameter within the tree's crown to such a degree as to remove the normal canopy and disfigure the tree. Trees severely damaged by storms or other causes, or certain trees under utility wires or other obstructions where other pruning practices are impractical may be exempted from this section at the determination of the Parks & Recreation Director or his/her appointed representative. ANSI A300 pruning standards should be used.

Declared nuisances; removal generally.

Diseased trees that are dead or dying are hereby declared to be a public nuisance, and shall be removed by proper disposal methods recommended by the Nebraska Forestry Service.

Notice for removal.

If trees on private property are found to be infected or in a dead or dying condition, the City shall give to the owner, tenant, agent or occupant of the premises where the same are situated, written notice by publication or personal service of the existence of such disease or of the dead or dying condition of such trees or parts thereof and require the removal. Such notice shall also notify the owner of the premises that if such tree is not removed after twenty-one day notice, that such failure to remove shall subject the owner to a fine.

§24-16. Violation of Selected Trees

When in the judgment of the Parks & Recreation Director or his appointed representative(s) it has been determined that a violation exists due to any trees not specifically listed in §24-13 herein being within the public right-of-way, or that other trees are improperly planted or maintained as provided herein within the public right-of-way, action may be directed to correct the violation with all or part of the costs thereby incurred assessed to the abutting property owners.

§24-1716. Penalty

Failure to comply with any section of this Article shall be unlawful, and shall be punishable in accordance with §1-7 of the Grand Island City Code.

Article V. Tree Board

§24-1817. Tree Board Established; Membership

There is hereby created and established a Tree Board for the City, which shall consist of seven (7) members, citizens and residents of the City, who shall be appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the City Council. The City of Grand Island Parks and Recreation Director and Hall County Extension Officer shall be an ex-officio members of the City Tree Board.

§24-1918. Term of Office of Members of Tree Board

The terms of the seven (7) persons appointed to the City's Tree Board shall be three (3) years, except that the term of two (2) of the members appointed to the first Board shall be for only one (1)year and the terms of two (2) members of the first Board shall be for two (2) years. If a vacancy shall occur during the term of any member, his or her successor shall be appointed for the unexpired portion of the term.

§24-2019. Compensation of Members of Tree Board

Members of the Tree Board shall serve without compensation.

§24-2120. Duties of Tree Board; City Tree Plan

It shall be the responsibility of the Tree Board to study, investigate, counsel, and develop and administer a written plan for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal and disposition of trees and shrubs in parks, along streets or in other public areas. The plan will be presented annually to the City Council and, upon the Council's acceptance and approval, shall constitute the official comprehensive city tree plan. The Board, when requested by the City

Council, shall consider, investigate, make findings, report and recommend upon any special matter or question coming within the scope of its work.

The duties and responsibilities of the Tree Board shall be as follows: (1) To beautify the appearance of the City of Grand Island by promoting and encouraging the responsible planting, care, replacement, and maintenance of trees in the City.

(2) To conduct fund raising activities, the proceeds of which shall be designated for the planting of trees, shrubs, and bushes.

(3) To plan and sponsor activities in celebration of Arbor Day.

(4) To provide educational materials and programs to the public concerning the planting and care of trees.

(5) To make recommendations to City Department Directors concerning landscape plans for any new or existing public facilities constructed by the City.

(6) When requested by the City Council, to consider, investigate, make finding, report, and recommend upon any special matter or question relating to trees.

§24-2221. Organization and Meetings of Tree Board

The Tree Board shall choose its own officers, make its own rules and regulations and keep a journal of its proceedings. A majority of the members shall be a quorum for the transaction of business.