

**Minutes
Town of Bath Tree Board
November 15, 2023**

Members Present: The Tree Board convened at 4:00PM. Members present were Tom Hall, Kate Lehman, Rebecca MacLeod, Lance Strait, and Andy Swaim.

Review of the Minutes: The minutes of the October 18, 2023, meeting was reviewed and approved by common consent.

Persons Before the Tree Board: Donna Coates, Craig Deane, Larry Landon, and Melissa Schod attended the meeting and took part in discussion.

2023 Demonstration City Grant: The 2023 DCG has been closed and reimbursement received.

2024 Demonstration City Grant: Board member Lehman reported on the scope of the grant. The proposed amount requested is approximately \$15,000.00. Four projects will be undertaken: 1) removal of dead trees that could pose a threat to public safety; 2) trimming of trees to prevent a risk to public safety; 3) soil amendment and fertilization to further the health of trees that have not done well; and 4) tree planting. This template can be used to create a 3–5-year plan, as required by the new ordinance.

Ordinance Change: The proposed Tree Board ordinance has been approved by the Ordinance Committee. The proposed ordinance will next be read at two meetings of the Town Council.

Tree Cleanup: Board member Swaim talked to David Yost and advised him that the volunteer mimosa tree in front of his shop will be removed. Also, the stakes and wire guides on the trees on West Congress will be removed.

Town Hall Tree Issues: There are trees behind Town Hall that may need to be trimmed or removed. It will first be necessary to determine whose property the trees are on. Access must be provided should it be determined that the trees need to be trimmed or removed.

Warren Street Tree Trimming: A tree at 27 Warren Street needs to be trimmed in order to provide a clear line of site to directional signs. Providing a clear view of all traffic signs is required by WV code. The new ordinance gives the Tree Board the authority to trim the tree. Before doing so, the Board will contact the property owners to advise them of our intentions.

Treasurer's Report: the Tree Board account had 2 credits: \$388.00 for the DCG 2023 reimbursement; and \$7.12 in interest. The balance of the Tree Board account is \$3649.34.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Tree Board will be on January 17, 2024 at 4:00PM.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00PM.

Minutes submitted by Tree Board member Swaim.