**Minutes**

**Town of Bath Tree Board**

**March 20, 2024**

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

Review of the Minutes: The minutes of the February 21, 2024, meeting were reviewed and approved by common consent.

Persons Before the Tree Board: Craig Deane attended and took part in the discussion, as did Bob Hannah. Hannah, the WV DoF Urban Forester, attended by Zoom.

Three-Year Plan: Visa member Trinity Lee is currently working on the plan, using the Comprehensive Plan created by Bartlett Tree Experts.

2024 DCG: Invoices and match have been submitted for a partial reimbursement.

Tree City USA Application: Our application was approved at the state level and has been forwarded to the Arbor Day Foundation.

Fairfax Green Spruce: Craig Deane’s recommendation is a red rather than white spruce as a potential replacement. He has volunteered to remove the ivy before Bartlett begins its treatment.

EquiTree Grant: Bob Hannah explained some of the rules about writing a proposal for this program. No match is required. The work can be done over a two-year period. A Financial Risk Assessment must be completed. Bids must be solicited for projects greater than $10,000.00.

Baltimore Alley: Property owner Keith Bartlett will cut up the fallen tree. The public works crew will remove debris. The town is working to resolve the insurance issue.

Arbor Day: Board member Swaim will arrange for an Arbor Day Proclamation to be issued by the Town Council at the April 16 meeting. Arbor Day will take place on April 27 from noon to 2:00; various trees and shrubs will be planted at the east end of the Depot lot as part of the brownfields remediation plan.

Source of Communications: Board member Strait raised the issue of having a designated source of communication from the Tree Board. Board members will use this email address rather than their personal address when doing Tree Board work.

Washington Street Trees: Craig Deane has completed removal of stakes and ties on the Winter King hawthorn trees planted on South Washington Street.

Potomac Edison Shrubs: Board member Strait gave the Tree Board a dozen red chokeberry shrubs obtained from Potomac Edison. They will be planted in a yet to be determined location.

Treasurer’s Report: During the past month the Tree Board had 2 credits: $5600 fronted by the Town of Bath and $4.01 in interest. There was one debit: $5600 to Tree Works for removal and trimming of trees listed in the 2024 DCG. The current balance is $1353.64.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Tree Board is April 17, 2024, at 4:00PM.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05PM.

Minutes submitted by Tree Board member Andy Swaim.