

Laurel Park-Tree Board Minutes for March 5, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 by Tom Canape in Council Chambers.

In attendance were Irv Wilke, Brent Edgmond, Renee Studiner, Paul Kober, Tom Canape, Richard Klose, Joe Holzwarth, and Jon Rutt.

Guests – Shannon Curry, Shane Dunn, and Cara Blaylock from Leadership Laurel

Public input – None

General Items

1. LPB Minutes for February 5, 2026 – Irv Wilke moved to approve and Renee Studiner 2nd the motion. Approved

New Business

2. Other Parks – Sprinkler done at Nutting Park. Paved loose gravel at Splash Park. Lions Park is a possible location for a Floating Island. Tree removed at Library because of wind damage. Possibly replace it with a memorial bench for Elsie Johnson.
3. Leadership Laurel wants to improve the Billie Riddle Splash Park with shade and benches. See attached proposal. Some ideas for the cemetery were referred to the Cemetery Board.

Old Business

4. Renting Riverside Park in August 2026 – Cancelled for this year.
5. Billie Riddle Splash Park Toilets –The Splash Park bathrooms are up in the air for now.
6. Park Board Budgets - \$50,000 Park Development. See attached sheet.
7. Riverside Park Campground/Other items – Not renewing Greg Lapp's job.
8. American Legion Building at Riverside Park – Nothing new
9. Riverside Hall/Lions Club – Drywall is up and the wiring is roughed in, paint done, and clean up next week. Payment discussed the city share and the Lion's share.
10. Laurel Rod and Gun Club Building – Nothing new
11. Tree Board Business – Joe reported that the grant department has been gutted and being rebuilt. October 6 is this year and the Foundation has \$2041.48.

Other Items

Discussion on using Exxon money for improving camp sites with power and water. Camp host ideas were discussed.

Next month's meeting will be on April 2, 2026.

Adjourn 6:42

Submitted Jon Rutt

Leadership Laurel Community Improvement Proposal

Project Overview

Shannon Curry
Shane Dunn
Cara Blaylock

Leadership Laurel is seeking to partner with the City Parks Committee to enhance two important community spaces:

1. Splash Park Area – Shade Structures & Benches
2. East Side of Cemetery – Tree Planting Initiative

Our goal is to collaborate with the City to ensure any improvements align with existing standards, long-term planning, and maintenance capacity.

1. Splash Park: Shade Structures & Benches

Identified Need

- High summer usage by families
- Limited shaded seating for caregivers
- Heat exposure concerns during peak temperatures
- Limited accessibility seating for elderly and mobility-limited visitors

Community Benefits

- Increased comfort and safety
- Encourages longer park use
- Supports community events and gatherings
- Improves ADA accessibility and inclusivity

Proposal Considerations

- Installation of permanent, commercial-grade shade structure(s)
- Addition of durable park benches
- Placement based on city standards and utility mapping
- Compliance with all safety and design requirements

Funding & Partnership

- Leadership Laurel prepared to assist with fundraising efforts
 - Open to cost-sharing discussion
 - Seeking guidance on approved vendors, permitting, and installation requirements
 - Committed to aligning with city maintenance standards
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2. East Cemetery Tree Planting Initiative

Purpose

- Increase natural beauty and long-term landscape value
- Provide shade and wind protection for visitors
- Enhance the overall experience for families

Planning Considerations

- Confirmation of irrigation lines and burial plot planning
- Approved or preferred tree species list
- Drought-resistant and native tree options
- Ongoing maintenance and watering plan

Potential Future Opportunity

- Exploration of a memorial tree program for community involvement
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Our Request

We respectfully seek:

- Guidance on feasibility
- City standards and requirements
- Recommended next steps
- Committee support to move forward in partnership

Leadership Laurel is committed to collaboration, responsible planning, and contributing positively to our community's public spaces.

1000 GENERAL
370 PARKS

Account	Object	Committed Current Month	Committed YTD	Original Appropriation	Current Appropriation	Available Appropriation	% (58) Comm.
460000	Culture and Recreation						
460430	Parks						
	110 Salaries and Wages	2,922.33	15,204.28	20,000.00	20,000.00	14,730.72	57%
	111 Overtime	0.00	742.15	200.00	200.00	-542.15	371%
	139 Vision Insurance	3.43	52.23	100.00	100.00	47.77	52%
	139 Dental Insurance	11.44	347.00	550.00	550.00	202.40	63%
	141 Unemployment Insurance	13.50	162.94	400.00	400.00	237.06	41%
	142 Workers' Compensation	77.75	1,910.53	4,300.00	4,300.00	2,389.47	41%
	143 Health Insurance	415.58	2,977.06	4,000.00	4,000.00	422.94	95%
	144 Life Insurance	3.55	42.34	150.00	150.00	107.66	23%
	145 FICA	223.22	3,550.36	3,800.00	3,800.00	1,249.64	61%
	149 ST/LT Disability	1.46	221.07	450.00	450.00	228.93	49%
	194 Flex Medical	170.00	1,227.17	2,200.00	1,100.00	622.83	24%
	211 Trees, Shrubs, etc.	0.00	1,500.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	1,500.00	30%
	220 Operating Supplies	0.00	11,307.00	13,000.00	13,000.00	1,692.00	87%
	226 Clothing and Uniforms	0.00	33.75	500.00	500.00	466.25	8%
	231 Gas, Oil, Diesel Fuel, Grease, etc.	0.00	2,421.11	3,000.00	3,000.00	578.89	24%
	233 Machinery & Equipment Parts	0.00	1,253.50	10,000.00	10,000.00	8,746.50	13%
	234 Tires/Tubes/Chains	0.00	22.70	2,000.00	2,000.00	1,977.30	1%
	210 Networking Fees	0.00	0.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	0%
	327 Advertising	0.00	21.00	100.00	100.00	68.00	33%
	330 Certification Renewal	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0%
	341 Electric Utility Services	0.00	1,444.13	2,500.00	2,500.00	1,055.87	28%
	342 Cellular Telephone	0.33	0.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	0%
	344 Gas Utility Service	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	0%
	350 Professional Services	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0%
	360 Repair & Maintenance Services	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0%
	365 Tree Pruning/Grounds Maintenance	0.00	9,400.00	13,000.00	13,000.00	3,600.00	70%
	366 Building Maintenance	0.00	204.45	1,000.00	10,000.00	9,795.55	4%
	470 Travel	0.00	0.00	200.00	210.00	210.00	0%
	477 Contracted Services	0.00	3,284.22	2,500.00	2,500.00	1,214.22	60%
	482 Gravel and Sand	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	0%
	532 Accommodation Tax	0.00	3,914.44	5,500.00	5,500.00	1,585.56	31%
	936 Parks & Recreation Facilities	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	0%
	950 Park Development	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	0%
	Account Total:	3,820.07	92,699.51	239,050.00	239,050.00	146,350.49	39%
	Account Group Total:	3,820.07	92,699.51	239,050.00	239,050.00	146,350.49	39%
	Organization Total:	3,820.07	92,699.51	239,050.00	239,050.00	146,350.49	39%
	Fund Total:	5,923.37	144,928.48	412,470.00	412,470.00	267,541.52	35%

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