
MEETING NOTICE

The Tree Board of the City of Woodcreek, Texas will conduct a meeting at City Hall, 41 Champions Circle, Woodcreek, TX. The meeting will be held on September 12, 2022 at 4:30PM.

All attendees are encouraged to wear face coverings when a minimum of six-foot social distancing cannot be maintained. Smoking is not allowed anywhere on the property of City Hall.

The public may watch this meeting live at the following link:

<https://meetings.ipvideotalk.com/139697439>. The public may listen to this meeting by dialing one of the following numbers: 1(617) 315- 8088 or toll free at 1(866) 948-0772. When prompted enter Meeting ID:139697439.

A recording of the meeting will be made and will be available to the public in accordance with the Texas Public Information Act upon written request. This notice, as amended, is posted pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act (Vernon's Texas Codes Ann. Gov. Code Chapter 551).

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISH QUORUM

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any citizen shall have a reasonable opportunity to be heard at any and all meetings of the Tree Board in regard to: (1) any and all matters to be considered at any such meeting, or (2) any matter a citizen may wish to bring to the Board's attention. No member of the Governing Body may discuss or comment on any citizen public comment, except to make: (1) a statement of specific factual information given in response to the inquiry, or (2) a recitation of existing policy in response to the inquiry. Any deliberation of or decision about the subject of the inquiry shall be limited to a proposal to place the subject on the agenda for a subsequent meeting per Texas Local Government code Sec. 551.042.

Citizen comments will be allowed at the beginning of every meeting, or alternatively, before an item on the agenda on which the citizen wishes to speak is to be considered. All citizens will be allowed to comment for three (3) minutes per person and shall be allowed more time at the Chairperson's discretion. In addition, citizens may pool their allotted speaking time. To pool time, a speaker must present the names of three (3) individuals present in the audience who wish to yield their three minutes. Citizens may present materials regarding any agenda item to the City Secretary at or before a meeting, citizens attending any meeting are requested to complete a form providing their name, address, and agenda item/concern, but are not required to do so before speaking and presenting it to the City Secretary prior to the beginning of such meeting. Comments may only be disallowed and/or limited as per Government Code § 551.007(e).

Submit written comments by email to woodcreek@woodcreektx.gov by noon on the day prior to the meeting. Please include your full name, home or work address, and agenda item number. Written comments will be part of the official written record only. A recording of the meeting will be made and will be available to the public in accordance with the Texas Public Information Act upon written request

CONSENT AGENDA

All the following items are considered self-explanatory by the Board and may be acted upon with one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Member or Citizen so requests. For a Citizen to request removal of an item from the Consent Agenda, a written request must be completed and submitted to the City Manager.

1. Approval of Tree Board Meeting Minutes from August 8, 2022

REGULAR AGENDA

2. Discuss Status of the Application of the City of Woodcreek as a Tree City USA
3. Discuss All Items Associated with the Arbor Day Celebration to be Held at Camp Young Judaea on October 4, 2022 Beginning at 2:30PM

ADJOURN

The Tree Board may retire to executive session any time between the meeting's opening and adjournment for the purpose of consultation with legal counsel pursuant to Chapter 551.071 of the Texas Government Code; discussion of personnel matters pursuant to Chapter 551.074 of the Texas Government Code; deliberation regarding real property pursuant to Chapter 551.072 of the Texas Government Code; deliberation regarding economic development negotiations pursuant to Chapter 551.087 of the Texas Government Code; and/or deliberation regarding the deployment, or specific occasions for implementation of security personnel or devices pursuant to Chapter 551.076 of the Texas Government Code. Action, if any, will be taken in open session.

This agenda has been reviewed and approved by the City's legal counsel and the presence of any subject in any Executive Session portion of the agenda constitutes a written interpretation of Texas Government Code Chapter 551 by legal counsel for the governmental body and constitutes an opinion by the attorney that the items discussed therein may be legally discussed in the closed portion of the meeting considering available opinions of a court of record and opinions of the Texas Attorney General known to the attorney. This provision has been added to this agenda with the intent to meet all elements necessary to satisfy Texas Government Code Chapter 551.144(c) and the meeting is conducted by all participants in reliance on this opinion.

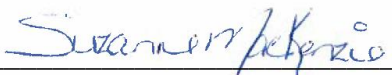
Attendance by Other Elected or Appointed Officials:

It is anticipated that members of other city board, commissions and/or committees may attend the meeting in numbers that may constitute a quorum of the other city boards, commissions and/or committees. Notice is hereby given that the meeting, to the extent required by law, is also noticed as a meeting of the other boards, commissions and/or committees of the City, whose members may be in attendance. The members of the boards, commissions and/or committees may participate in discussions on the same items listed on the agenda, which occur at the meeting, but no action will be taken by such in attendance unless such item and action is specifically provided for on an agenda for that board, commission or committee subject to the Texas Open Meetings Act.

The City of Woodcreek is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Please call the City Secretary's Office at 512-847-9390 for information. Hearing-impaired or speech disabled persons equipped with telecommunications devices for the deaf may call 7-1-1 or may utilize the statewide Relay Texas program at 1-800-735-2988.

Pursuant to Section 30.07, Penal Code (trespass by license holder with an openly carried handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (handgun licensing law), may not enter this property with a handgun that is carried openly.

I certify that the above notice was posted on the 8th day of September, 2022 at 11:15AM.

By: 

Suzanne J. MacKenzie, City Secretary

TREE BOARD MEETING
August 08, 2022; 4:30 PM
Woodcreek, Texas

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Jones called the meeting to order at 4:31PM.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISH QUORUM

PRESENT

Chairperson Cindy Jones
Vice-Chair Monica Rasco
Board Member Jacob McElroy
Board Member Iris Ramos
Board Member Dorothy Tasian
Alt. Board Member Nan Simpson
Alt. Board Member Terri Burney-Bisett
Council Liaison Brent H. Pulley

STAFF PRESENT

Administrative Assistant Maureen Mele

PUBLIC COMMENTS

A public comment was offered by Pat Haggerton.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Tree Board Meeting Minutes from July 11, 2022

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Rasco to approve the meeting minutes from July 11, 2022. The motion was seconded by Member Tasian.

A roll call vote was held.

Voting Yea: Member Tasian, Vice-Chair Rasco, Member Ramos, Member McElroy, Chairperson Jones

The motion carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

REGULAR AGENDA

2. Swearing in of Terri Burney-Bisett as Alternate Member

Ms. Terri Burney-Bisett was sworn in as an Alternate Member of the Tree Board by Mayor Rasco.

3. Discussion of Tree City USA Requirements

The Tree City USA requirements were discussed and the Arbor Day event scheduled for Oct. 4th at Camp Young Judaea was confirmed. The application to be a "Tree City USA" does not open until Sept. 1st of this year.

4. Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Recommendation to City Council on Hiring a Part-time Certified Arborist and Amending an Ordinance to Reflect This Position

A motion was made by Member Ramos that the City Council consider these suggestions for the part-time arborist to be hired :

- i) the person must be certified through TCIA and be an oak wilt specialist,
- ii) preference is to hire someone local,
- iii) preference is for one company or one person to maintain consistency,
- iv) individual do an ongoing review of the trees.

The motion was seconded by Chairperson Jones.

After discussion, a roll call vote was held.

Voting Yea: Member McElroy, Vice-Chair Rasco, Member Ramos, Member Tasian, Chairperson Jones

The motion carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

5. Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Recommendation to City Council on Creating a City Map of Oak Wilt Hot Zones

A motion was made by Chairperson Jones to recommend to City Council to update the oak wilt hot zone map using Karl Flocke's old oak wilt map as a baseline and ask an arborist to update from there.

The motion was seconded by Member Tasian.

A roll call vote was held.

Voting Yea: Member Ramos, Chairperson Jones, Member Tasian, Member McElroy, Vice-Chair Rasco

The motion carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

6. Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Recommendation to City Council on Incentives for the Prevention of Oak Wilt

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Rasco to recommend to the City Council to:

- i) continue with education effort,
- ii) use bullet points in educational materials to compare the cost of the treatment of oak wilt vs. cost of losing tree, and
- iii) consider tree-of-the-year contest.

The motion was seconded by Member Tasian.

A roll call vote was held.

Voting Yea: Vice-Chair Rasco, Member McElroy, Chairperson Jones, Member Ramos, Member Tasian

The motion carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

7. Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Recommendation to City Council on Mailing Residents an Oak Wilt Brochure from the Texas A&M Forest Service

This agenda item was not addressed as the City Council had already decided to mail the oak wilt brochure to all residents.

8. Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Creating an Action Plan Regarding Oak Wilt with Recommendations for the City Council

A motion was made by Member McElroy to recommend to the City Council an action plan to address oak wilt as: recommend a part-time arborist, update the oak wilt map, education for residents, and links for recommendations. The motion was seconded by Chairperson Jones.

A roll call vote was held.

Voting Yea: Chairperson Jones, Member Tasian, Member McElroy, Vice-Chair Rasco, Member Ramos

The motion carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

9. Discuss Options and Activities for the Arbor Day Event Scheduled for Tues. Oct. 4, 2022 at Camp Young Judaea Beginning at 2:30PM

The plans for the Arbor Day Event scheduled for Oct. 4, 2022 at Camp Young Judaea from 2:30 - 4:30PM were discussed.

10. Discuss Potential Grant Application for Oak Wilt Prevention from TPWD and/or LCRA

Council Liaison Pulley reported that a private company, GrantWorks Inc., is evaluating grant options and will recommend whether or not it is advisable to apply for these grants.

11. Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Reusing the Wood from the Dead Trees in City Right-of-Way

A motion was made by Chairperson Jones that if a contracted person is willing to remove a dead live oak, not red oak, in the city's right-of-way for their own use without charging the city, the city will use them instead of hiring a contractor to remove the tree. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Rasco.

After discussion, a roll call vote was held.

Voting Yea: Vice-Chair Rasco, Member Ramos, Member Tasian, Chairperson Jones, Member McElroy

The motion carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

ADJOURN

Chairperson Jones adjourned the meeting at 6:44PM.

Cindy Jones, Chairperson

Suzanne Mac Kenzie, City Secretary

Tree City USA Standards (from *Tree City USA at arborday.org*)

To qualify as a Tree City USA community, you must meet four standards established by the Arbor Day Foundation and the National Association of State Foresters. These standards were established to ensure that every qualifying community would have a viable tree management program and that no community would be excluded because of size.

Four Standards for Tree City USA Recognition

STANDARD 1

A Tree Board or Department

Someone must be legally responsible for the care of all trees on city- or town-owned property. By delegating tree care decisions to a professional forester, arborist, city department, citizen-led tree board or some combination, city leaders determine who will perform necessary tree work. The public will also know who is accountable for decisions that impact community trees. Often, both professional staff and an advisory tree board are established, which is a good goal for most communities.

The formation of a tree board often stems from a group of citizens. In some cases a mayor or city officials have started the process. Either way, the benefits are immense. Involving residents and business owners creates wide awareness of what trees do for the community and provides broad support for better tree care.

STANDARD 2

A Tree Care Ordinance

A public tree care ordinance forms the foundation of a city's tree care program. It provides an opportunity to set good policy and back it with the force of law when necessary.

A key section of a qualifying ordinance is one that establishes the tree board or forestry department—or both—and gives one of them the responsibility for public tree care (as reflected in Standard 1). It should also assign the task of crafting and implementing a plan of work or for documenting annual tree care activities.

Qualifying ordinances will also provide clear guidance for planting, maintaining and/or removing trees from streets, parks and other public spaces as well as

activities that are required or prohibited. Beyond that, the ordinance should be flexible enough to fit the needs and circumstances of the particular community.

For tips and a checklist of important items to consider in writing or improving a tree ordinance, [see Tree City USA Bulletin #9](#).

STANDARD 3

A Community Forestry Program With an Annual Budget of at Least \$2 Per Capita

City trees provide many benefits—clean air, clean water, shade and beauty to name a few—but they also require an investment to remain healthy and sustainable. By providing support at or above the \$2 per capita minimum, a community demonstrates its commitment to grow and tend these valuable public assets. Budgets and expenditures require planning and accountability, which are fundamental to the long-term health of the tree canopy and the Tree City USA program.

To meet this standard each year, the community must document at least \$2 per capita toward the planting, care and removal of city trees—and the planning efforts to make those things happen. At first this may seem like an impossible barrier to some communities. However, a little investigation usually reveals that more than this amount is already being spent on tree care. If not, this may signal serious neglect that will cost far more in the long run. In such a case, working toward Tree City USA recognition can be used to reexamine the community's budget priorities and redirect funds to properly care for its tree resources before it is too late.

STANDARD 4

An Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation

An effective program for community trees would not be complete without an annual Arbor Day ceremony. Citizens join together to celebrate the benefits of community trees and the work accomplished to plant and maintain them. By passing and reciting an official Arbor Day proclamation, public officials demonstrate their support for the community tree program and complete the requirements for becoming a Tree City USA!

This is the least challenging—and probably most enjoyable—standard to meet. An Arbor Day celebration can be simple and brief or an all-day or all-week observation. It can include a tree planting event, tree care activities or an award ceremony that honors leading tree planters. For children, Arbor Day may be their only exposure to the green world or a springboard to discussions about the complex issue of environmental quality.

The benefits of Arbor Day go far beyond the shade and beauty of new trees for the next generation. Arbor Day is a golden opportunity for publicity and to educate homeowners about proper tree care. Utility companies can join in to promote planting small trees beneath power lines or being careful when digging. Fire prevention messaging can also be worked into the event, as can conservation education about soil erosion or the need to protect wildlife habitat.