Minutes of the Centerville City Tree Board meeting held Thursday, December 6, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
in the Centerville City Hall Administrative Conference Room, 250 North Main Street, Centerville,
Utah.

MEMBERS PRESENT
Joy Chambers, Chair
Brooke Holman
Gary Smith
Gary Woodward
Scott Zeidler

MEMBERS ABSENT
Anne Linton

STAFF PRESENT
Bruce Cox, Parks and Recreation Director
Bill Ince, City Council Liaison, was excused at 8:10 p.m.
Mackenzie Wood, City Recorder
Connie Larson, Recording Secretary

INTRODUCTIONS
This is the first meeting of the Centerville Tree Board. Members of the Tree Board
introduced themselves.

PURPOSE OF THE TREE BOARD AND EXPECTATIONS
Bruce Cox, Parks and Recreation Director, explained city officials made an existing Tree
Ordinance that was emailed to each Tree Board member. The City Council is in the process of
making decisions on street trees and trees in park strips. There are sidewalks that need repair from
trees that have caused damage, and the costs of the damage must be addressed, and how it can be
avoided in the future. The purpose of the Tree Board is to be an advisory board to the City Council,
and to plan service and Arbor Day activities. Gary Smith explained that 20 years ago he was on a
committee that made an ordinance on what trees could be planted in Centerville, and it was not in
the Ordinance that was emailed to each member. Mackenzie Wood, City Recorder, will verify if
there is a record.

Bill Ince, City Council Liaison, displayed a tree stump where the roots had grown around
a pipe that was removed from a park strip. He said there is $500,000 worth of repairs from trees
causin damage in park strips with water pipes and sidewalks. Bruce Cox explained another issue
is “trip and fall” lawsuits, where cities have to pay medical costs when people are injured from
tripping on uneven sidewalks caused by tree roots. Bill Ince reported there is $100,000 available
to split the cost of fixing the sidewalk and removing the tree with homeowners, as opposed to
telling individuals it is their responsibility to fix the sidewalk themselves.
Letters were mailed to homeowners in October who have a sidewalk fault of one-inch or greater. Mackenzie Wood will send Tree Board members a copy of the Centerville City Sidewalk Inventory. By the end of February 2019, the Tree Board should be ready to give their recommendations to the City Council on new listings of trees for park strips, and suggestions on the Tree Ordinance.

Bill Ince reported he is on the Emergency Management Group, and he discussed trees that are less flammable than other trees. Trees that are less flammable are aspen, oaks, and maples, which can form a heat shield and damper during conflagrations. This list should be refined.

At 8:10 p.m., Bill Ince, City Council Liaison, was excused from the meeting.

**ELECT CHAIRPERSON**

Brooke Holman made a motion to nominate Joy Chambers as Chair of the Tree Board and Gary Woodward as Co-Chair. Gary Smith seconded the motion, which was passed by unanimous vote (5-0).

**REVIEW CURRENT TREE ORDINANCE**

Gary Smith will bring his recommendations for the Tree Ordinance to the next meeting from ordinances he has reviewed from cities around the Country. Bruce Cox displayed a plaque the City received for being a Tree City in 2012. An Arbor Day celebration must be held to be considered a Tree City, and the City Council must make a proclamation for an Arbor Day celebration.

Under the Tree Ordinance, there are five duties of the Tree Board. They are:

1. Recommend to the City Council and other departments, standards for the care, preservation, pruning, and planting of trees on public property and park strips.
2. Review and recommend appropriate changes and updates to the City Ordinances or Master Plan regarding trees on public property or park strips.
3. Recommend projects, policies, and funding allocations. Make recommendations for funding for any projects, and other measures, programs, or activities for the maintenance and management of trees within the City.
4. Carryout projects, programs, or activities regarding trees as directed by the City Council, including Arbor Day activities.
5. Initiate and promote involvement activities and contributions from the private sector for the development of trees within the City, including Arbor Day activities.

**DISCUSS PARK STRIP TREES AND SIDEWALKS**

Scott Zeidler will provide a Street Tree Regulatory Code at the next meeting, and the Sterling Code of Fires.
He will give a link to a document from Seattle that lists ideas for tree preservation. Mr. Zeidler asked if there is a Sidewalk Ordinance stating what trees are allowed parking strip trees, and how wide a parking strip must be before trees can be planted. Mackenzie Wood explained there is a standard for park strips, but some commercial areas have different rules since they have wider park strips.

**DETERMINE MEETING SCHEDULE/FREQUENCY**

The Tree Board will plan on meeting the third Wednesday of each month, with the exception of January. The other meetings for 2019 will be held on February 20th, March 20th, and April 17th.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next Tree Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 30, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

**ADJOURN**

At 9:00 p.m., Joy Chambers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Brooke Holman seconded the motion, which was passed by unanimous vote (5-0).