

**ANCHORAGE FORESTRY BOARD
JANUARY 3, 2022 - CITY HALL**

ATTENDEES Chair Jan Ruzich, Lucy Spickard, Paul Wessel, Ellen Welham, City Administrator Reneé Major, City Forester Andrea Hanlon, Director of Public Works Gary Burkhead

CALL TO ORDER Jan called the meeting to order at 8:45 AM.

MINUTES Copies of the December 2021 minutes were distributed for review. Lucy made a motion to approve the minutes; Jan seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

FORESTER REPORT Andrea Hanlon

- **Permits:** There were 7 permits in December for 41 removals of which 1 was an Ash. Andrea had reviewed and approved the removals of 21 trees on one property and 7 on another.

- **Tree removals in 2021:**

Removed by permit: 457 (137 permits)

Removed by Public Works: 28

Total removed: 485

Total of Ash trees removed: 56

- **Fines and appeals:** There were no fines or appeals in December.

- **Status of City issues:** Gary reported that Public Works has been preparing for snow expected later in the week.

HAZARDOUS TREES

- City Council has approved Podges' \$13,840.00 bid for the tree and stump removals. The City has worked successfully with Podges in the past. Although another company had presented a slightly lower bid, their experience with tree work was not clear.

- A list of the 27 trees to be removed was distributed to the Board.

- Several hazardous trees identified in the survey are on private property and ineligible for removal by the City. Reneé will inform those property owners by letter.

ARBOR DAY 2022 (March 23: Program and Giveaway; March 27: Giveaway of remaining trees)

- We expect the trees to be delivered on March 21.

- Dr. Bhatnagar of the U. of L. Christina Brown Envirome Institute is scheduled to speak. Ellen will communicate with his assistant nearer to the event regarding topics that he might address and his willingness to speak at a large indoor gathering in consideration of current pandemic conditions.

- As we expect a large crowd for the program, we may consider alternate locations that would provide more room for social distancing (e.g., the school cafeteria or auditorium) than would City Hall.

- Refreshments will not be served at the program.

- Jan will prepare the tree information flyer for *The Anchor Age*.

- Paul will obtain the banner and permit.

OLD BUSINESS

- Lucy, Nancy, and Reneé are developing a landscape plan for the area across from the post office.

- Lucy and Jan will research other states' ordinances regarding invasive plants.

NEW BUSINESS Jan distributed a sign-up sheet for the 2022 Board committees.

TREE CITY USA AND GROWTH AWARD Lucy Spickard, Jan Ruzich, Reneé Major

- Lucy, Jan, and Reneé reviewed and submitted the applications.

- Because there are new restrictions on the number of attachments, our entry did not include all of our projects.

THE ANCHOR AGE NEWSLETTER (February 2022) Ellen Welham

- Topics will include: (1) A reminder to residents to remove leaves and debris that clog drains when there is ice and snow, and (2) caring for trees in winter and if damaged by winter weather.

- Ellen will research the topics and consult Andrea for ideas.

CITY COUNCIL REPORT Jan gave the City Council report.

ADJOURNMENT Jan adjourned the meeting at 9:45 AM.

NEXT MEETING: 8:45 AM, Monday, February 7, 2022

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Welham