CITY OF BAYFIELD
TREE BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, September 9, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was convened by B. Cozzi, City Forester and Chairperson of the Tree Board at 5:35 PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Beth Cozzi, James Egensperger, Bill Bland, Paul Delmain, and Jacob Geisler.

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Jane Edwards, Sherman Edwards, James Kuzzy, and Tad Paavola

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

The agenda for today's meeting was approved with the general consent of those present with the following additions: (1) the approval of the minutes of the meeting of July 8, 2026, and (2) under Old Business, the clarification of the status of the meeting of August 12, 2026 due to the lack of a quorum.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes of the meeting of July 8, 2026 with the following additions/corrections was approved by the general consent of those present. The corrected minutes are to include the addition under Old Business #1 which reads as follows: "Bill Bland's appointment to the Tree Board was also approved by the City Council at its June 2026 meeting." Mr. Bland is also to be noted as excused from this same meeting of the Tree Board.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

A financial report resulted in considerable discussion on the matter of an August expenditure of $5,274 for Other Contractual Services. It was suggested that this was the cost incurred for the removal of two or three trees. The work was overseen by the City of Bayfield Public Works Department. It is anticipated that a portion of this expenditure will be reimbursed by the property owner, who agreed to share the expense involved in the removal.

An anticipated expense is the attendance of several Tree Board members at the September 23, 2026 University of Wisconsin Madison Extension 2026 Urban Forestry Workshop in Black River Falls. James Egensperper and Paul Delmain plan to attend. An additional expense planned for the remainder of the current calendar year is the cost associated with the proposed tree planting later this fall. It may be necessary to utilize available Capital Improvement Plans funds to cover all or part of the fall planting.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. The meeting of the Tree Board on August 12, 2026 did not have a quorum present, so no business could be properly conducted.

2. Tool purchases by the Board were discussed. The proposed purchases would facilitate the volunteer efforts of pruning, trimming, invasive species removal, and other such activities.
3. Plans for several members of the Board to attend the upcoming 2026 Urban Forestry Workshop scheduled for September 23, 2026 in Black River Falls were discussed.
4. The City Forester has been responding to requests from City residents who have requested that the City right of way adjacent to their properties be considered as sites for this fall's tree planting. It is estimated that as many as 13 sites will be selected.
5. Plans for the Board's work detail scheduled for Saturday, September 12, 2026 were discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Potential utilization of available Capital Improvement Plans funds during calendar year 2027 was discussed. Unlike monies in the City's General Fund allocated to the Tree Board, unutilized CIP funds carry over to the following fiscal year.

FOLLOW-UP MEETING:

The next meeting of the Tree Board is scheduled for Wednesday, October 14, 2026 at 5:00 PM at the Bayfield Carnegie Library.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:09 PM with the general consent of those in attendance

Respectfully submitted,

Jacob Geisler