

**TOWN OF ORONO
TREE BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER , 2023 AT 5:00PM**

**IN-PERSON
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
59 MAIN ST, ORONO, ME 04473
MINUTES**

1. Roll Call & Introductions

Present: Co-Chair Tim White, Jayme Titus, Terri Triandafillou, Associate members James Stewart and Cindy Blease, and Environmental Services Coordinator Megan Hess.

Absent: Co-Chair Dave Thompson, Jennifer Dann, Jason Clarke, Kenny Fergusson, and Public Works Director and Tree Warden Rob Yerxa.

2. Agenda Review

3. Approval of Minutes of September 12, 2023 Board Meeting

Motion by Terri Triandafillou and seconded by Jayme Titus to approve the minutes. All voted in favor of the minutes as noted, 5-0.

4. Grants Update

- **Invasive Plant Control Practice Plans (IPCPP)**

- i. High School Lot - *Plan Completed*. The plan was given to the Board to look over. Treatment options will be discussed next spring and will be similar to the strategy at the Colburn lot.
- ii. Colburn Lot Treatment: Megan informed the Board that Legacy Tree Lot Services will start the removal of buckthorn sometime next week. Megan is going to work with the Board to make educational posters to stake up during the work period and will send them to the Board for review.

5. Tree Warden Update & Tree Evaluations:

- **Tree Evaluations & Maintenance Update**

- i. *42 Hillside: Oak Tree*. Terri and James said that the tree looks pretty good however it is in a bad placement to fail. Jayme and James said that it is a neat tree and has history so it is a hard decision to take it down. Tim said that if a professional arborist said it needs to come down, then it should come down. The Tree Board would like to get a report from the arborist before making a decision. Does the contractor want it taken down in one year or in three years?

ii. *Mill St & Pine Street Gardens Pruning*: The Board trusts the Beautification Committee to prune the trees as needed. If it is pruned so much that it needs to be removed, they would like to plant and replace it with something more suitable for the area.

- **Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Management Plan** - Everyone has been able to review the plan and we are ready to add this to the Forest Management Plan.
- **Urban Forest Management Plan** - *Review with a goal to accept at the next meeting*. There are a couple of suggestions to identify the three types of urban forestry that the Town deals with. Terri thinks it is good to keep the plan general and said it can be submitted as is. Tim stated that we should get the draft back out to people to review this month and have final edits due by the November meeting. The Board is planning to take the final Urban Forest Management Plan to the Town Council at the December 4th meeting.

6. Monthly Tree Board Activity Update

- **Chairperson Update**
- **Tree Board Calendar Review**
 - i. *October Tasks*:
 1. *Article Suggestions for Observer (Due Nov 3)*: The BTM articles are due. James had the idea to create neighborhood clipping parties.
 2. *Orono Energy Efficiency Fair (Oct 7th, 9am-3pm)*: The Board will leave materials on a table to hopefully attract some volunteers for planting events and volunteers for people to plant trees in their yards.
 - ii. Dave would like to become an associate member and promote James to a full time member. We are waiting to talk to Rob to decide how to do this or see when Dave's term is up.

7. Adjournment

- Next Meeting Tuesday, November 7, 2023 at 5:00 pm

Cindy Blease motioned to adjourn and Jayme Titus seconded. The Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan Hess
Environmental Services Coordinator