

**AGENDA
CITY OF ST. CHARLES
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING
LOREN NAGY, CHAIRMAN
TUESDAY AUGUST 11, 2026 7:00 P.M.
POLICE DEPT COMMUNITY ROOM 1515 WEST MAIN STREET 1ST FLOOR**

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call.

3. Minutes – Review and Approval.

Motion to accept and place on file the minutes of the July 14, 2026 Natural Resources Commission meeting.

4. New Business.

- A. Motion to Support Pear Tree Replacement Program – Comm. Nagy**
- B. Consideration of Resident Beautification Contest – Comm. Provencher**
- C. Consideration of the Creation of a Vice Chair Position – Comm. Nagy**

5. Old Business.

- A. UP Railroad Bridge Update**
- B. Tree Protection Ordinance.**
- C. NRC Plan Commission Liaison.**

6. Committee Reports.

- A. Education and Outreach.**
- B. Engagement.**
- C. Advisory.**
- D. Ad-Hoc.**

7. Communications.

Deferred - Motion to accept and place on file Public Services Division Tree Activity Reports for July 2026.

8. Public Comment.

9. Additional Items from Commissioners and City Staff.

10. Adjourn.

Next meeting Tuesday, September 8, 2026.

ADA Compliance

Any individual with a disability requesting a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in a public meeting should contact the ADA Coordinator, Jennifer McMahon, at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting. The ADA Coordinator can be reached in-person at 2 East Main Street, St. Charles, IL, via telephone at (630) 377-4446 or 800-526-0844 (TTY), or via e-mail at jmcmahon@stcharlesil.gov. Every effort will be made to allow for meeting participation. Notices of this meeting were posted consistent with the requirements of 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq. (Open Meetings Act).

**MINUTES
CITY OF ST. CHARLES
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING
LOREN NAGY, CHAIRMAN
JULY 14, 2026**

1. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was convened at 7:00 p.m. by Chair. Nagy.

2. Roll Call.

Commissioners Present: Doug Denz, Tom Galante, Lee Haggas, Steve Leffler, Suzi Myers, Loren Nagy, Pam Otto, Brian Pohrte, Meagan Provencher, Nick Smith.

Commissioners Absent: Jeff Mengler.

City Council Liaison Present: Ed Bessner.

City Staff Present: Marcelline D'Argento, AJ Reineking.

Visitor: Lyla Blomquist

3. Minutes Review and Approval.

Motion to approve and place into the public record the minutes of the June 9, 2026 meeting of the City of St. Charles [City] Natural Resources Commission [NRC or Commission]. Motion by Comm. Leffler, second by Comm. Denz to approve the minutes. Voice vote: unanimous; nays – none. Motion carried at 7:02 p.m.

4. New Business.

A. Prospective Student Member.

High school student Lyla Blomquist introduced herself to all present and expressed her interest in joining the NRC. Ms. Blomquist is a senior at St. Charles East High School and is involved with several clubs, enjoys volunteering, and plans to study environmental policy at college. Chair. Nagy thanked Ms. Blomquist for her interest in the NRC and welcomed her as a student member.

B. Tree Protection Ordinance.

The Commissioners discussed a tree protection ordinance proposed for private trees in St. Charles, and the possibility of the City of Geneva passing a similar ordinance. Public support will be important for the ordinance to be passed. The proposed ordinance includes:

- Penalties for violations of the ordinance.
- A list of native and other trees to be protected.
- The diameter of trees to be protected.
- Possible permit requirements for private tree removals.

Next steps for the NRC include reviewing other municipalities' tree protection ordinances and contacting local tree care companies to discuss their work experiences in communities with such ordinances.

C. Touch A Tree Truck 2027.

Chair. Nagy reported that planning is in progress at the St. Charles Park District for Earth Day 2027. He noted the 2026 combined Park District Earth Day and

NRC Touch A Tree Truck event was well attended. Chair. Nagy requested the NRC's input regarding participating again in 2027. Motion to approve the NRC's participation to host a Touch A Tree Truck event jointly with the Park District's Earth Day celebration in 2027. Motion by Comm. Denz, second by Comm. Galante to approve the NRC's participation in the 2027 joint event. Voice vote: unanimous; nays – none. Motion carried at 8:04 p.m.

D. City Bee-Keeping Ordinance.

Comm. Pohrte reported honeybees are a non-native agricultural species of European bees that are displacing native bees. He explained that sufficient sources of water and nectar per hive are needed onsite to support bee-keeping. Comm. Pohrte offered to write an article for the City newsletter to share additional information on bee-keeping for residents. Comm. Haggas suggested that St. Charles consider becoming a Bee City. The Bee City community designation is sponsored by the Xerces Society and promotes the protection of native species. Comm. Haggas will review the Bee City application.

5. Old Business.

A. NRC Fundraising and Liaison(s) on Plan Commission.

Mr. Bessner reported he will have additional information on fundraising and the Plan Commission at the next NRC meeting.

6. Committee Reports.

A. Education and Outreach. – None.

B. Engagement. – None.

C. Advisory. – None.

D. Ad-Hoc. – None.

7. Communications. – Public Services Division Tree Activity Reports.

Motion to approve and place on file the Public Services Division tree activity reports for June 2026. Motion by Comm. Pohrte, second by Comm. Leffler to approve the reports. Voice vote: unanimous; nays – none. Motion carried at 8:10 p.m.

8. Public Comment. – None.

9. Additional Items.

A. Commissioners.

Comm. Smith reported on the response he received from the City's Communications Manager regarding possible NRC videos.

Comm. Leffler noted July 26 – August 1 is nitrate pollution awareness week.

B. City Staff.

Staff reported an application has been submitted for the NRC's participation in Scarecrow Weekend 2027 [in support of the City's Bird City Community designation].

Additionally, staff reported that the NRC's document sharing site is ready and is currently in review with Chair. Nagy.

10. **Adjournment.** – Motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion by Comm. Denz, second by Comm. Otto to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote: unanimous; nays – none. Motion carried at 8:38 p.m.

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