

**AGENDA  
CITY OF ST. CHARLES  
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING  
LOREN NAGY, CHAIRMAN  
THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023, 7:00 P.M.  
PUBLIC WORKS CONFERENCE ROOM, 1405 SOUTH 7TH AVENUE**

**1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance.**

**2. Roll Call.**

**3. Minutes – Review and Approval.**

- A. Motion to accept and place on file minutes of the March 9, 2023 Natural Resources Commission meeting.

**4. Old Business.**

**5. New Business.**

- A. Arbor Day Recap.
- B. Proposed Community Event – Comm. Stroud.
- C. Annual Election of NRC Chairman [City Code 12.20.040.C. Appointment of Members].
- D. Mike Linder, Kane County Board.

**6. Committee Reports.**

- A. Education Committee.
- B. Langum Woods Clean-Up Committee.
- C. Community Sustainability Committee.
- D. Single-Use Bag Committee.
- E. Greenest Region Compact Committee.
- F. Urban Forestry Management Plan Review Committee.

**7. Communications.**

- A. Motion to accept and place on file Public Services Division Tree Activity Reports for March and April 2023.

**8. Public Comment.**

**9. Additional Items from Commissioners and City Staff.**

**10. Adjourn.**

**Next meeting June 8, 2023.**

**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 (TDD), or via e-mail at [jmcmahon@stcharlesil.gov](mailto: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  
MARCH 9, 2023**

**1. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**2. Roll Call**

- 3. Commissioners Present:** Angela Churchill, Tom Galante, Heather Goudreau, Lee Haggas, Ryan Johnson, Laura Miller Hill, Suzi Myers, Loren Nagy, Pam Otto. **Student Members:** Jared Park, Deetya Solanki.

**Absent: Commissioners:** Meagan Provencher, Michael Stroud. **Student Members:** Morrighan Hayes, Callie Ramirez.

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

**Visitors Present:** John Rabchuk.

**4. Minutes Review and Approval**

Motion to approve and place into the public record the minutes of the February 9, 2023 Natural Resources Commission [NRC] meeting. Motion by Comm. Myers, second by Comm. Haggas to approve the minutes. Voice vote: unanimous; nays – none. Motion carried at 7:15 p.m.

**5. Old Business**

**A. Arbor Day Celebration**

Planning continued for the annual Arbor Day event on Saturday, April 29th:

- Student Member Solanki circulated a flyer for review for the parks clean-up. The flyer will be posted at the high school and include a QR [quick response] code to scan.
- Clean-up participants should bring their own gloves.
- Chair. Nagy reported the girl scouts are tentatively scheduled for the presentation of the colors.
- City staff reported Wasco Nursery is confirmed to donate a tree for the raffle.
- The stewardship award will be presented to Jon Duerr, a former member of the Tree/NRC Commission, former Director of the Kane County Forest Preserve District, botanist, and currently working on a plant survey of Langum Woods. Motion to nominate Jon Duerr as the recipient of the 2023 stewardship award. Motion by Comm. Churchill, second by Comm. Myers to nominate Mr. Duerr. Voice vote: unanimous; nay – none. Motion carried at 7:19 p.m.
- Student Member Solanki volunteered to speak at the event. Student Member Parks will also consider speaking.
- This will be the city's 25th year as a Tree City USA community.
- Comm. Myers requested that World Migratory Bird Day information be available to hand-out at Arbor Day.
- Mayor Vitek has been invited to attend and Chair. Nagy is awaiting her response.
- Chair. Nagy confirmed he will attend the April 17th City Council meeting to accept the Arbor Day Proclamation.
- Donated plants from Midwest Groundcovers will be picked-up by Public Works staff on Friday, April 28th.

**B. Rain Garden Presentation and Rain Barrels Sale Update**

Comm. Miller Hill confirmed the rain garden presentation is rescheduled for April 13th from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. A link for the rain barrel sale will be included in The Den newsletter, and on the city and NRC Facebook pages. Comm. Otto will facilitate publicizing the presentation and rain barrel sale through Kane County Connects. Rain barrels purchased through Upcycle will be available for pick-up from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Pottawatomie Park during the parks clean-up and Arbor Day celebration on Saturday, April 29th. Rain barrels will not be available to purchase on Arbor Day. City staff will email the link for purchasing rain barrels to members of the NRC as well.

**6. New Business**

**A. Kane County Sustainability**

Deferred in Comm. Stroud's absence.

**B. Open Meetings Act Training**

City staff distributed Open Meetings Act training information from the Illinois Attorney General's Office for NRC members with training to be completed.

**7. Committee Reports**

**A. Education Committee**

The Main Street window display is reserved for the NRC from May 1st to May 15th for World Migratory Bird Day. Comm Myers requested ideas from the NRC for the display. Comm. Miller Hill will assist setting up the window. Mr. Reineking will arrange to have the tower lights at City Hall out from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm. on Saturday, May 13th.

**B. Langum Woods Clean-Up Committee**

The NRC and city staff discussed joint clean-up efforts for winter 2023/2024.

**C. Community Sustainability Committee**

None.

**D. Single-Use Bags Committee**

Chair. Nagy reported the committee met with the city's Finance Department. Mr. Reineking reported he is in the process of obtaining information from other communities that have implemented similar ordinances. Chair. Nagy noted the Village of Northbrook recently passed a single-use bag ordinance.

**E. Greenest Region Compact Committee**

Comm. Myers noted the city and NRC's initiatives with rain barrels, the bicycle and pedestrian plan and reduction in the use of single-use plastic bags meet GRC criteria in various categories.

**F. Urban Forestry Management Plan Review Committee**

Review in progress.

**8. Communications – Public Services Division Tree Activity Reports**

Motion to approve and place on file the Public Services Division tree activity reports for February 2023. Motion by Comm. Galante, second by Comm. Churchill to approve the reports. Voice vote: unanimous; nays – none. Motion carried at 7:55 p.m.

**9. Public Comment**

John Rabchuk was present on behalf of the River Corridor Foundation of St. Charles [RCF]. Mr. Rabchuk shared information on the RCF's plans to improve the river frontage and bicycle path on the east side of the Fox River from the pedestrian bridge north to Illinois Street. Mr. Rabchuk reported 90,000 visitors per year use this section of the path. Three proposals to develop designs have been received. The RCF will either pay for or find grants for all work to be completed. One concept is to cantilever the path out over the edge of the river similar to the paths in Batavia and Elgin. The goal is to have the project completed by the end of 2024. Comm. Myers noted the pedestrian bridge has been determined to be historically significant and asked if it would be changed in any way. Mr. Rabchuk noted the pedestrian bridge would be taken into consideration with the RCF's plans. Comm. Johnson invited Mr. Rabchuk to meet with the NRC again when the concept plan has been selected.

**10. Additional Items**

**A. Commissioners**

Comm. Johnson reported on Bell Bowl Prairie, a six-acre remnant gravel prairie located at the site of the Rockford airport. Several endangered species inhabit Bell Bowl Prairie. There are approximately 50 acres of gravel prairies remaining in Illinois. The Federal Aviation Administration recently determined planned road construction at the airport could proceed, going through the prairie. Comm. Johnson proposed implementing protection from development for Langum Woods at some point in the future.

**B. City Staff**

Mr. Reineking reported on the city's changeover to LED streetlights in follow-up to the February NRC meeting. Conversions have resumed after an approximate two year break during the pandemic.

Mr. Reineking reported Mayor Vitek will continue the Mayors Monarch Pledge previously signed by former Mayor Rogina. The city plans to plant a new pollinator garden at the north end of the municipal center property.

**11. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion by Comm. Churchill, second by Comm. Haggas to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote: unanimous; nays – none. Motion carried at 8:04 p.m.



<b>TREE REPORT TOTALS APRIL 2023</b>
<b>TRIMMING - 154</b>
<b>REMOVALS - 6</b>
<b>EMERGENCY REMOVALS - 11</b>

**TREE REMOVAL DATA**

<b>WORK</b>	<b>ZONE</b>	<b>SPECIES</b>	<b>DBH</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
Remove Tree	SW	Maple Amur	9	rotted
Remove Tree	SW	Maple Norway	24	condition
Remove Tree	NE	Pear Bradford	21	condition
Remove Tree - Contractor	SW	Maple Norway	19	deadwood, rot
Remove Tree - Contractor	SW	Maple Norway	16	50% crown dieback, broken/cracked limbs
Remove Tree - Contractor	NE	Oak White	33	severe cracks in trunk
Remove Tree - Emergency - Contractor	NE	Maple Amur	10	storm damage
Remove Tree - Emergency	NE	Blue Spruce	12	tree uprooted in storm
Remove Tree - Emergency	NE	Cherry Black	25	storm damage
Remove Tree - Emergency	SE	Pear Chanticleer	6	rotted at base - broke from wind
Remove Tree - Emergency	SW	Pear Redspire	9	storm damage
Remove Tree - Emergency	NE	Pear Aristocrat	7	split trunk - storm damage
Remove Tree - Emergency	NE	Maple Crimson King	11	removed to repair water main break
Remove Tree - Emergency	FW	Pear Callery - 'Autumn Blaze'	6	storm damage
Remove Tree - Emergency	NE	Maple Norway	13	storm damage
Remove Tree - Emergency	NE	Maple Norway	16	storm damage
Remove Tree - Emergency	SW	Maple Norway	22	storm damage

**CITY OF ST CHARLES - PUBLIC SERVICES DIVISION  
 TREE MAINTENANCE REPORT**

<b>SUMMARY FY 2022/2023</b>	<b>MAY</b>	<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUG</b>	<b>SEPT</b>	<b>OCT</b>	<b>NOV</b>	<b>DEC</b>	<b>JAN</b>	<b>FEB</b>	<b>MAR</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Trimming	22	59	80	284	46	20	32	108	169	174	328		<b>1,322</b>
Removals	14	10	70	24	30	14	7	20	0	1	8		<b>198</b>
Emergency Removals	0	2	0	1	9	1	3	0	0	0	1		<b>17</b>
Plantings	150	0	0	0	0	0	165	0	0	0	0		<b>315</b>

**COMMENTS**

Zone Trimming NW Quad continued