

Tree Commission Meeting Minutes
December 2, 2025 – 4:00 PM
Korte Recreation Center

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at **4:00 PM**.

A motion to open the meeting was made by **Tom Friedrich** and seconded by **Jill Lawson**.

Roll Call

Present:

- Thomas Friedrich
- Jill Lawson
- Linda Montayne
- Kathryn Comish
- Larry Brammer

Absent:

- Mindy Stoff
 - Kurt Vonder Haar
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Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by **Linda Montayne** and seconded by **Jill Lawson** to approve the minutes of the **October 7, 2025** Tree Commission meeting.

Requests from the Community

- None
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Unfinished Business

- Public Works has hired **Brian Korte** to redo the landscaping around each “Welcome to Highland” sign, and **DigitalArtz** is planning to restore the sign structures.
 - Plans are in place for **Andrea Garson**, a master gardener who maintained the Plaza Park planter boxes this year, to plant the flower pots around the Square next year. She also planted the six boxes in Plaza Park across from the Square this year.
 - Discussion was held regarding the Boy Scouts possibly hosting a clean-up day at Silver Lake Park. Brad contacted several leaders, but no initiative was taken. A possible lake-shore cleanup may be organized for spring.
 - The Commission agreed that the Optimist selling Christmas trees on the Square was a great idea.
 - The **Pioneer Newspaper** will continue to be used as a tool to distribute information to the public regarding Christmas tree recycling.
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New Business

- Tree planting at the Square will take place once the Christmas decorations are removed. Planned species include:
 - *Zelkova Serrata* ‘Green Vase’, 2” B&B
 - Tulip Tree ‘Emerald City’, #15 Gallon (great fall color)
 - *Nyssa Sylvatica* ‘Tupelo Black Gum’, 2” B&B (no gum balls; exceptional fall color)
 - The evergreen on the southeast corner was scheduled for replacement, but is not possible due to electrical lines now located within the city easement.
 - **Jim Miller** is going to repair the split on maple tree with a metal ancor system to see if we can continue to save the tree.
 - Two of the three trees at the cemetery have been removed; the final tree will be removed once several consecutive workable days are available. Plans are also in place to plant **bald cypress** trees in areas where trees have been lost over the past several years.
 - The arborvitae at the library will no longer be transplanted to Glik Park due to the cost, the size of the tree spade required, and the close spacing of the trees (rot system) at the library
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Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by **Kathryn Comish** and seconded by **Larry Brammer**. The meeting adjourned at **4:58 PM**.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, February 3, 2025

Korte Recreation Center

2026 Meeting Dates

- **Tuesday, February 3**
- **Tuesday, April 7**
- **Tuesday, October 6**
- **Tuesday, December 1**