



## **Agenda**

### **City of Charlevoix Shade Tree & Parks Commission Regular Meeting**

**Thursday, September 8, 2022 - 10:00 AM**

**2nd Floor Conference Room, 210 State Street, Charlevoix, MI**

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- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call**
- 2. Approve Minutes of August 11, 2022**
  - A. Draft Minutes
- 3. Old Business**
  - A. Powerline Trimming Update
  - B. Park Avenue Improvements Update
  - C. Fall Tree Planting Final Count and Calendar
  - D. Tree Removal Request: 112 Belvedere Avenue
- 4. New Business**
- 5. Public Comment**
- 6. Adjourn**

**Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation to fully participate in these meetings should contact the City Clerk's Office at 231-547-3250 or by email [clerk@charlevoixmi.gov](mailto:clerk@charlevoixmi.gov). A 24-hour notice may be needed for certain accommodations. An attempt will be made to grant all reasonable accommodations requests.**

# **Charlevoix Shade Tree & Parks Commission**

## **Approve Minutes of August 11, 2022**

**Title:** Draft Minutes

**Date:** September 8, 2022

**Presented By:**

**Background:**

**Recommendation:**

**Attachments:**

1. 2022.08.11 Shade Tree Draft Minutes

**City of Charlevoix**  
**Shade Tree & Parks Commission Regular Meeting minutes**  
**Thursday, August 11, 2022 - 10:00 AM**  
2nd Floor Conference Room, 210 State Street, Charlevoix, MI

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chair Hodgson called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

Chair Perry Irish Hodgson

Members Present: David Bertinelli, David Levy, Jennifer Muladore

Members Absent: None

City Staff Present: Sarah Dvoracek, City Clerk; John Griffith, Electric Department Director; Pat Elliott, Public Works Superintendent

**2. Approve Minutes of April 14, 2022**

**A. Draft Minutes for April 14, 2022**

Motion by Levy, seconded by Muladore to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2022 meeting as presented.

**Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

**3. Old Business**

**A. Status of Edgewater Resources Management Plan Development for Ferry Beach**

Mr. Elliott stated that he and Kent Knorr, the Recreation Director, met with Edgewater and toured the parks and facilities. They discussed other potential recreational activities. Mr. Elliott stated Traver Wood (from Site Planning Development) would provide his expert opinion but he recommended hiring a contractor to complete an entire tree inventory. Discussion was held regarding removing the willow trees from the park and other options were discussed, such as other species of trees to plant in the area.

**B. Status of Lake Michigan Beach Park Improvements**

Mr. Elliott stated the goats have finished and overall the program is very successful. The City hopes to continue to bring back the goats next year.

Mr. Elliott stated the beach park improvements are underway. The view corridor trimming has been completed. However, there are enough funds in the budget to trim more of the area and Drost agreed to return before winter and finish.

**C. Update on 2022 Right-of-Way Tree Planting**

Chair Hodgson asked Mr. Elliott to provide any updates on the Right of Way Tree Plantings. Mr. Elliott responded he had only received one response from a resident stating they didn't want a tree. The DPW is on target for fall planting, the bid will be published soon. Chair Hodgson suggested a follow-up letter recommending that residents water the trees. Muladore stated other cities have provided a water credit or incentive to water plants and trees there are planted in the ROW. Mr. Elliott suggested recommending to residents that only 10 to 15 gallons of water a week would help the tree thrive and that would not increase

their water bill by a substantial amount.

#### **4. New Business**

##### **A. Tree Removal Request: 112 Belvedere Avenue**

Chair Hodgson stated the Commission can request the homeowner pay for the tree removal. The homeowner would be required to plant at least two trees at the choice of the Commission, including the location. The homeowner is requesting the tree removal to improve the view from their home. The Commission discussed the request and the overall tree health in the area and along the corridor. Mr. Elliott suggested several types of trees for possible replacements, such as kousa dogwoods, tulip trees, locusts, or lilac trees.

Discussion was held regarding suggesting a plan to methodically plant shade trees along the corridor and to methodically plant trees that will not potentially block homeowners' views. The Commission requested City staff communicate with the homeowner and the state that the Commission is taking their request under consideration and a decision will be made at their next meeting on September 8th.

##### **B. Electric Line Clearance Specifications**

Mr. Griffith explained the Electric Line Clearance Specifications and he stated he had received guidance from MSU. Mr. Griffith explained in past history that the Shade Tree & Parks Commission reviewed this policy. The policy includes best practices for tree trimming. The City Attorney still needs to review the legal language including liabilities.

The Commission discussed the chemicals to treat stumps and the portion of the policy that states 30% of trees will be trimmed. The Commission requested a map of the tree inventory which depicts which trees need to be trimmed and was completed by the Electric Department. Chair Hodgson requested that the City Manager or the City Clerk email the map to the Commission Members.

##### **C. Invasive Trees at Depot Beach**

Chair Hodgson stated that near the sailing school there are some buckthorns that need to be removed. Mr. Elliott stated that he would investigate.

##### **D. Expand Right-of-Way Tree Selection**

Chair Hodgson discussed the possibility of expanding the types of trees used on the approved tree species list. In recent years, there have been only five or six types of trees used and planted on the list. Discussion continued by utilizing more of the American Liberty Elm and the Kentucky coffeetree. Mr. Elliott also made some recommendations for using katsura trees and he mentioned that ginkgos are better in the long term. The Commission concurred to expand the utilization of different trees on the approved tree species list.

#### **5. Public Comment**

Member Levy thanked Pat Elliott and his team for weed whacking in the channel. The DPW team has done an incredible job at maintaining the gardens by the Welcome to Charlevoix signs. Chair Hodgson opened the item for any public comment, there was none.

#### **6. Adjourn**

Chair Hodgson adjourned the meeting at 11:20 am.



# Charlevoix Shade Tree & Parks Commission

## Old Business

**Title:** Powerline Trimming Update

**Date:** September 8, 2022

**Presented By:** John Griffith, Electric Department Director

**Background:**

As discussed at your last meeting, the Electric Department is preparing for another round of line trimming. Mr. Griffith can answer any additional questions about this project.

**Recommendation:**

**Attachments:**

None

# Charlevoix Shade Tree & Parks Commission

## Old Business

**Title:** Tree Removal Request: 112 Belvedere Avenue

**Date:** September 8, 2022

**Presented By:** Mark Heydlauff, City Manager

### **Background:**

Jim and Sandy Plagens of 112 Belvedere Avenue request the removal of a maple tree in the right of way. You'll find their full request and pictures included in the packet.

This request comes pursuant to the Section 152.04 of the Charlevoix City Code:

(D) Property owners adjacent to a street, public space or park may request to the Shade Tree and Park Commission in writing for the maintenance of trees not discussed above. If the request is granted, the city shall be compensated for all costs associated with the request and receive payment, as the Shade Tree and Park Commission may determine, for the appropriate planting of additional trees at rate of at least two new trees for every one tree removed. New trees shall be planted on city property or a street and shall be at the discretion of the city. The Shade Tree and Park Commission shall render a decision on such requests within 45 days of receipt.

In this case, you have the following options:

- Reject the request.
- Approve the request and set the number of trees to be replaced. Replacement trees can be done as part of our routine annual planting but the cost for them and the cost to remove this tree should be collected prior to the work being done.

As you can see in the ordinance text, you have 45 days to act on this request. If you reject the request or do not act within this window, the requesting party can take the request to City Council.

### **Recommendation:**

### **Attachments:**

1. Plagens letter

Jim and Sandy Plagens  
112 Belvedere Avenue  
Charlevoix, MI 49720  
(231) 547-4641

August 6, 2022

To Whom it May Concern:

Re: Tree Obstructing View of Harbor

When we purchased our home in 2015, one of the valuable attributes of the property was the panoramic views of the Downtown and Harbor. Unfortunately, the tree planted on Belvedere Avenue by the City has blossomed to a point where it is greatly obstructing the view we had previously enjoyed; and, as you can see from the landscaping we have done on our property, we are not adverse to trees.

We understand there is a process to accommodate our issue and to assist the City in its tree planting program. Our first choice would be to have the tree removed/relocated and nothing planted to replace it. We would be happy to contribute to the Committee's funding, a fair compensation for tree(s) to be placed in other spaces around the City. We are open to any solutions the Committee would propose and appreciate the cooperation and consideration that the City has shown so far in addressing our issue.

Please feel free to contact us with any proposal or questions you may have.

Sincerely,

 

Jim Plagens

Sandy Plagens

JP/SP/gjm

## Viewing Parcel Number: 052-365-006-20

**Parcel Details**

|                                  |                                                                |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Assessing City/Township:</b>  | City of Charlevoix                                             |
| <b>Property Address:</b>         | 112 BELVEDERE AVE<br>CHARLEVOIX, MI 49720                      |
| <b>Owner Information:</b>        | PLAGENS FAMILY TRUST<br>PO BOX 38<br>CHARLEVOIX, MI 49720-0038 |
| <b>Property Class:</b>           | 401 - Residential - Improved                                   |
| <b>Taxable Status:</b>           | TAXABLE                                                        |
| <b>School District:</b>          | 15050 - Charlevoix                                             |
| <b>P.R.E. Percentage:</b>        | 100%                                                           |
| <b>P.R.E. Filing Date:</b>       | 1/30/2004                                                      |
| <b>Current SEV:</b>              | \$477,800                                                      |
| <b>Current Taxable Value:</b>    | \$326,540                                                      |
| <b>Prior Year SEV:</b>           | \$452,500                                                      |
| <b>Prior Year Taxable Value:</b> | \$316,109                                                      |

**Sales Information**

| Date       | Document Type | Liber/Page | Sales Price  |
|------------|---------------|------------|--------------|
| 08/19/2015 | WD            | 1104/849   | \$0          |
| 08/19/2015 | WD            | 1104/851   | \$0          |
| 06/23/2005 | WD            | 689/971    | \$0          |
| 09/11/2003 | WD            | 572/994    | Confidential |
| 03/24/1999 | WD            | 393/435    | Confidential |

**Tax Description**







