

**CITY OF CONWAY
TREE BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2022
City of Conway Planning & Building Dept. – 196 Laurel Street**

Present: Jacqueline Kurlowski, Duc Watts, McKenzie Jordan, Troy Roehm, Autry Benton, Gerry Wallace (arriving late), Jamie McLain (arriving late)

Absent: None

Staff: Jessica Hucks, Planner; Allison Hardin, Planning Director; Anne Bessant, Planning Assistant; Jeff Leveille, IT

Other: Thomas Jordan

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jordan called the meeting to order at approximately 4:01 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kurlowski made a motion to accept the minutes as written and seconded by Roehm to approve the October 12, 2022 minutes. The vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried.

III. TREE MITIGATION REQUESTS

- A. *Previously Deferred - 1009 Snowhill Drive:*** The applicant, Thomas Jordan, is appealing the decision of the arborist to deny a tree permit to remove a 15-inch Southern Magnolia Tree from the property located at 1009 Snowhill Drive (PIN 339-09-01-0036).

Hucks stated that the applicant would like to install a fence along his property line, shared with the adjacent property owner. In order to install the fence in the desired location, the applicant requested to remove a 15-inch Southern Magnolia Tree from the property. The arborist denied the tree removal permit because the tree is healthy and because there is a dispute as to whose property the tree is located on.

Section 3-4-8 of the General Codes lists protected trees, which includes Southern Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*) with a diameter at breast height (D.B.H.) of 8" or greater.

Section 3-4-15 – Appeals, of the Tree Preservation Ordinance, (a), provides the opportunity for the owner/applicant to appeal to the Conway Tree Board if denied a tree removal permit.

New information:

The applicant has submitted a notarized letter from the current property owner, stating that she has no issue with the tree being removed so long as a licensed tree removal company is employed to remove the tree and that no damage is done to her home, carport or roof. A copy of the notarized letter from the property owner of record was included in the packet.

Additionally, the applicant has said that he would be willing to mitigate the tree removal, by installing four 4-

inch trees in other locations on the property.

Staff supports the recommendation of the arborist. This is an appeal of the decision of the arborist to deny a tree removal permit. The issue at hand is whether or not the arborist erred in her decision to deny the applicant a permit to remove the protected tree in question.

Thomas Jordan, applicant was present to answer any questions.

The board, Staff, and the applicant discussed the request in length.

Kurlowski made a motion to deny the applicant the ability to remove the tree. Watts seconded the motion. The motion carried with Benton voting no.

IV. PUBLIC INPUT

None

V. BOARD INPUT

The board asked if staff & possibly City Council could organized a tree workshop.

VI. STAFF INPUT

None

VII. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at approx. 4:21 p.m. The vote in favor was unanimous and the motion carried.

Approved and signed this 14th day of Dec, 2022.



McKenzie Jordan, Chairperson