

**CITY OF CONWAY  
TREE BOARD MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, April 12, 2023**

Present: Jacqueline Kurlowski, McKenzie Jordan, Autry Benton, Gerry Wallace, Duc Watts  
Absent: Jamie McLain, Troy Roehm  
Staff: Jessica Hucks, Planning Director; Katie Dennis, Planning Concierge; Wanda Lilly, City Arborist  
Other: None

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Jordan called the meeting to order at approximately 4:23 p.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Watts made a motion to accept the minutes as written and seconded by Benton to approve the December 14, 2022 minutes. The vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried.

**III. TREE MITIGATION REQUESTS**

- A. **1463 Whooping Crane Drive:** The applicant, G3 Engineering & Surveying, is appealing the tree mitigation amount that has been assessed by the arborist for tree mitigation (fee in lieu of planting mitigated trees) for the property (proposed Dollar General) located at 1528 Fourth Ave (PIN 368-03-03-0010).

Hucks stated that the subject property is proposed to have a Dollar General constructed onsite. During civil plan review, the applicant submitted a landscape plan showing the existing trees onsite, including ones proposed for removal. The original intent was to plant the required number of trees that were required to satisfy mitigation, as reflected on the original approved landscape plan. A tree survey is also included in your packet, showing the protected trees that existed on this site.

After reviewing the plans and visiting the site, the arborist assessed the required tree mitigation for the property, for the protected trees to be removed that are within the proposed building footprint. Based on the total DBH to be removed (116 inches), a total of 29 trees, a minimum of 4-inch caliper (each) would need to be replanted, OR a mitigation fee of \$21,750.00 could be paid in lieu of planting the mitigated trees. The applicants originally intended to plant the required number of trees to satisfy mitigation requirements, but due to lot constraints, the applicant has opted to pay the fee in lieu. The applicant is seeking a reduction in the amount that has been assessed, based on the lot size limitations. A revised landscape plan is included in this packet as well. The trees for which mitigation is based are outlined in red.

The civil plans have been approved and in conjunction with the approval of the civil plans, protected tree removals were also approved. Mitigation must be satisfied prior to a Certificate of Occupancy being issued, in accordance with the ordinance.

Protected Trees approved for removal:

- 28" Live Oak
- 20" Pin Oak
- 14" Turkey Oak
- 14" Water Oak
- 22" Live Oak
- 18" Live Oak

Total DBH proposed for removal: 116 inches.

116 inches divided by 4 inches DBH (minimum caliper of tree proposed for mitigation): 29 trees, or pay mitigation fee in lieu of **\$21,750.00**

The applicant was not present to further explained the appeal.

The board and staff discussed the appeal in length.

Kurlowski made a motion that the item be deferred until the applicant can meet with the city arborist and provide a better landscape plan for tree mitigation. Benton seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**IV. PUBLIC INPUT**

None

**V. BOARD INPUT**

Watts informed the board of a different town's mitigation fee for informational purposes.

**VI. STAFF INPUT**

Hucks informed the board that the election of officers would take place at the next meeting, and briefly updated the Board on the updates to the Tree Preservation Ordinance.

**VII. ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at approx. 4:43 p.m. The vote in favor was unanimous and the motion carried.

Approved and signed this 26<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023.

  
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McKenzie Jordan, Chairperson