

**TOWN of SHELBURNE TREE COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes of March 7, 2023 Meeting**

In Attendance: David Hall, Susan Dunning, Kelly Moreton, Tod Warner

1. **Call to Order** – Meeting called to order at 7:08 PM
2. **Consider approval of minutes from February 7, 2023** - After a couple of corrections minutes were approved unanimously.
3. **Citizen Participation (Opportunity for public comment on any Committee Business that is not included on this agenda)** - none
4. **FY 2024 Proposed Budget Update** – The budget is being voted on today.
5. **Review Tree Committee Charter and bylaws** – Committee members reviewed documents relating to the original Charter, Rules and Procedures and the Open Meeting Law. Also reviewed The Town of Shelburne Tree Policy and the Shade Tree Management Plan. It was mentioned that there may be an additional document outlining Tree Committee By-Laws and it was agreed that this topic discussion will continue at the next meeting when Gail is present.
6. **Black Ash Trees and Elm Trees** – Kelly informed us that there is a UVM web site focusing on efforts to save the Black Ash - which is a sacred tree for the Abenaki People – from EAB. This site also has a state-wide inventory of Black Ash locations. Shelburne has at least one such location near Shelburne Pond and possibly another in the LaPlatte Natural Area. Elm trees were also discussed. Since the Dutch Elm disease, there have been attempts to repopulate Elm trees using cuttings from survivors of the disease. These have had limited success because the fungus mutates but there is still hope. BOB may have some of these Elms to try out this year. Dave mentioned that two Elms were planted in recent years at the Cemetery which seem to be doing OK. He also recommended a few Elms to the SCS group for replacing Ash Trees on their property.
7. **Growing Urban Forest Grant 2023** – Susan’s RFP looks good. It was discovered that there is a buried propane tank by the Police Station which may impact the stump grinding in some spots. Members discussed the pros and cons of the suggested trees for replanting in the RFP. We will wait to see what the bidders suggest.
8. **Ash Tree Removal RFP** – The RFP is out for bids. Dave remarked that Barrett’s Tree Service has recently been bought by a national firm Savatree. The trees for removal have

been marked. The next Ash Tree removal project will be from Spear St Town line to Irish Hill and Harbor Rd from Rt 7 to Bay Rd and at the Town Center.

9. **Arbor Day 2023 Preparation** – This topic will be moved to our next meeting.
10. **Public Education and Outreach / Fundraising** – Kelly has placed another announcement in FPF for new members for our Committee. She also announced that she will be stepping down from her position on our committee and we all wish her the best.
11. **Tree Warden Report** – Dave gave a brief overview of the recent Tree Warden Meeting. There has been a change made in the By-Laws of the Tree Warden Regulations and going forward, the Tree Warden no longer has the authority to appoint deputies at will. Going forward, any future Deputy Tree Wardens must be approved by the Town Select Board.
12. **Other Business** – None
13. **February 2023 Accomplishments** – RFP for our third cut for Ash Tree Removal.
14. **Adjourn** – Meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Tod Warner and expertly edited by David Hall.

Approved by Shelburne Tree Committee on \_\_\_\_\_