

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
July 22, 2019
East Conference Room

Present: Councilmembers Rader, Anderson, & Bullock

Also Present: Assistant Director Swallow, Chris Perry (Urban Forestry), David Sangree, Mary Ann Quasebath, John Palmer (members of former Tree Taskforce)

Call to Order: 7 p.m.

AGENDA

Approval of the minutes from the June 13th Public Works Committee meeting.

Chairman Rader made a motion, seconded by Councilman Anderson to approve the minutes from the June 14th Public Works Committee meeting. All members voting yea. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION 9081-19 - A RESOLUTION to endorse the principles for tree care and the urban forestry management goals recommended by the 2013-2014 Lakewood Tree Task Force and City Forestry Manager. (*Referred to Public Works Committee 7/15/19*)

Chairman Rader reviewed the city's changes to the resolution and solicited comments from committee members and guests. The group discussed specific components of the ordinance, such as the goal for the number of tree plantings to take place each year. Councilman Bullock proposed inserting "no net tree loss in a year; and planting 500 trees on private/public land, insert net 200" into #2 in the resolution. Chairman Rader made a motion, seconded by Councilman Bullock to include these provisions in the resolution. All members voting yea. Motion passed.

Mary Ann Quasebath proposed adding the name Gifted Tree Fund to #5 in the resolution. Chairman Rader made a motion to add Gifted Tree Fund to #5, which was seconded by Councilman Bullock. All members voting yea. Motion passed.

The committee and its guests discussed ways to protect against future canopy loss, highlighting current efforts to diversify species being planted. It was determined that it is very difficult to predict stress factors to trees, as they are cumulative, however the forestry department is careful about its species selection and site condition dynamics.

Chairman Rader moved to recommend that full Council adopt the resolution at its next meeting as substituted, which was seconded by Councilman Anderson. All members voting yea. Motion passed.

ORDINANCE 23-19 - AN ORDINANCE enacting Chapter 161, Tree Education Advisory Board, of the Lakewood Codified Ordinances to establish a permanent Tree Education Advisory Board for the purpose of collaborating with City officials regarding the City's

urban tree policies and practices, promoting the City's tree programs and educating residents regarding responsible tree stewardship and the benefits of tree planting on private property. (Placed on 1st reading and referred to Public Works Committee 7/15/19)

After discussion regarding the name of the board, Chairman Rader moved to adopt the ordinance as the Tree Advisory and Education Board and replace the former name of the board throughout the legislation, which was seconded by Councilman Anderson. All members voting yea. Motion passed.

Chairman Rader added that he believed the provision preventing former tree taskforce members from being appointed to the board should be removed. There was also discussion among committee members regarding the timing of the passage of the ordinance. It was determined that the committee would prefer to have the legislation read 3 times, per normal protocol, and pass the ordinance as an emergency measure, which would cause it to go into effect immediately after passage. Members agreed that the timing of passage would better allow for the attraction of resumes for the open board positions. It was determined that the board's creation in the fall would be beneficial for planning initiatives to start in the spring.

There was discussion regarding the number of seats on the board and Council being able to appoint individuals ex-officio. A variety of marketing methods for the board were explored, especially ones that would highlight the city's new front yard planting program available for homeowners with small tree lawns. The terms of board members were determined to expire every 3 years. Chairman Rader made a motion to change commission to board in subsection 161.05 and add a section to make the legislation an emergency ordinance, which was seconded by Councilman Anderson. Chairman Rader made a motion to recommend to adopt as substituted, which was seconded by Councilman Bullock. All members voting yea. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.