Our Mission: *To foster an environment of economic growth and opportunity through effective partnerships with our citizens, businesses, and visitors while maintaining a high standard for quality of life in a progressive community which embraces its heritage.*

City of Oregon
Tree Board Agenda
Wednesday, September 16th, 2026 @ 4:00 pm.

115 N 3rd Street
City Hall City Council Chambers

Public Option to Join Meeting
Meeting ID: 890 0116 4700
Passcode: 677432
One tap mobile
+13092053325

Public Comment

1. Approve Regular Meeting Minutes of July 22nd, 2026
2. Tree City USA – Growth Award
3. Official City Tree Poll
4. Other Business
5. Adjournment
6. Next Meeting Date: March 10th, 2027 at 4 p.m.

The City of Oregon, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, requests that persons with disabilities, who require certain accommodations to allow them to observe and/or participate in the meeting(s) or have questions about the accessibility of the meeting(s) or facilities, contact the City Manager Darin DeHaan at 815-732-6321 at least 24 hours before a scheduled meeting to allow the city to make reasonable accommodations for these persons.

Chairperson: Mark Herman
Darin DeHaan, City Manager (Ex-officio)
Jordan Plock, Street Foreman (Ex-officio)

Tyler Hagemann
Grant Afflerbaugh
Steve Rypkema

Tree Board Minutes
Wednesday July 22nd, 2026
115 N 3rd Street
City Hall City Council Room

Attendees: Darin DeHaan, Tyler Hagemann, Mark Herman, Cheryl Hilton, Tom Pacey, Jordan Plock, and Steve Rypkema.

Mark Herman called the meeting to order at 4pm.

No public comment.

Mark Herman moved to approve May 20th, 2026 minutes, Seconded by Steve Rypkema.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Official City Tree: Josh Pickering created a list for the board to review. The list contains descriptions of the trees and why he believes they would be a good representation for the city tree. The board discussed the trees presented and creating a poll to gather input from the community. Engaging the community could encourage more tree plantings.

Ideas for cost sharing or discount pricing for approved tree removals or pruning using the city's contracted tree removal contractor/bidding out tree removal contract: The board discussed bidding out tree trimming/removal annually. The bid could include a special price for residents who have tree issues. They discussed the removal of trees with critical issues and not removing healthy trees. They discussed creating guidelines for tree removal, having strong parameters, and a replanting option built in.

Mark Herman moved to approve to begin working on the guidelines for the program, Seconded by Jordan Plock.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Legacy Tree Program: Darin said the program is more of a memorial tree program. A legacy tree has extra protections in place and has some type of significance. Mark Herman said the park district and the Byron forest preserve both do something similar. Tyler Hageman said the program is a great idea, however there is a lot of work and expense to it. They discussed warranty or guarantee of trees, plaques and benches, and locations. Darin said he will research other communities that have a similar program.

New Business: Mark Herman asked how the Bird City process is going. Tom Pacey said the application was submitted in June, and he is waiting to hear the results. They also discussed the Sustainability project to create a pollinator garden/prairie area on S. 2nd Street in front of the city owned dog park.

Jordan Plock moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:45pm, Seconded by Steve Rypkema.

Motion carried. No Nays.