

# UTICA PARKS AND RECREATION

## BOARD MEETING

---

Date: Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Time: 7:00

Meeting called to order by: Mat Volzke

---

### ROLE CALL, IN ATTENDANCE

Mat Volzke, Alicia Rathje, Erica Smith

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The meeting minutes from the previous meeting (Previous Date) were read.

Motion to approve by: Rathje Seconded by: Smith

Smith	Volzke	Rathje
Y	Y	Y

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for today's meeting is read.

Motion to approve by: Rathje Seconded by: Smith

Smith	Volzke	Rathje
Y	Y	Y

### REPORTS

Receive Reports

- Nothing to bring from the Village Meeting

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Commend the Board members for their time and effort for this board
- What is the ordinance for removing street Trees? Can Utica Village condemn a tree? Who pays for the removal/replacement of trees within 15' of the curb?

## OLD BUSINESS

### COMMUNITY FOUNDATION PROJECT

Mulch fund raiser will be at the Utica Tie One On. No Vote needed.

Motion to approve by:\_\_\_ Seconded by:\_\_\_

Smith	Volzke	Rathje

### FUND RAISERS

A – Concession Stand waiting on 2 bids

B – Accessibility – curb grid out is complete. Pending funding for side walk.

C – Seeking Grants

No Vote Needed.

Motion to approve by:\_\_\_ Seconded by:\_\_\_

Smith	Volzke	Rathje

### UTICA DAYS

Utica Foundation Preston has presented no Updates

Motion to approve by:\_\_\_ Seconded by:\_\_\_

Smith	Volzke	Rathje

### UTICA DAYS VILLAGE GARARAGE SALES

Up to the Park/Rec Board –

Kona Ice- will donate proceeds

Donut Envy/Daylight Donuts

Is there a list of Food Trucks ? Coolers? Alicia has requested has a list. Deadline for permits for food trucks – Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>.

Motion for the Park and Rec Board to invest time to attract Food Trucks to Utica for the Utica/Waco Days by: Rathje Seconded by: Smith

Smith	Volzke	Rathje
Y	Y	Y

### UTICA PARKS AND REC LOGO

Current Logo – Bronson – FB page has been updated. Logo to be received from Bronson. Village website update still pending. No vote needed.

Motion to approve by:\_\_\_ Seconded by:\_\_\_

Smith	Volzke	Rathje



## NEW BUSINESS

### NEBRASKA COMMUNITY FORRESTRY

Graham Herbst of Nebraska Community Forestry, Douglas County Extension

Services provided: Arborist Training/Certification, Ordinance Review work, Meet & Greet, workshops as desired, outreach and education.

Utica has a lack of new tree plantings. Utica has an overabundance of Silver Maples.

What % of trees in Utica are Ash, and do we need to do any preventative for Ash? Recommendation is to protect only those Ash Trees that individuals want to keep alive.

Black Walnut is a vulnerable tree being monitored, recommendation to delay or stop planting new black walnut for the current time. Graham has a list of recommended diverse tree species to recommend for planting. June 19<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm Q/A session in Beaver Crossing – bring public questions Village Hall.

Alicia requested digital copy of 2019 Tree Plotter document.

Graham can provide the Park/Rec board login for TreePlotter.com website. Also Requested Zoom meeting training. License is 3 years at a time. No Cost to Village.

Grants that are opened up – Tree Planting, Pruning, Removal

- Need to survey all 3 parks, review Street Right Of Way, School Area, do we have any trees that need attention. 100% reimbursement from City.
- 10-12 Free Trees for Fall to Plant Grant

Ask for Tree Inventory for next session 5 years from now (2030).

What are criteria for “Tree City USA”

1. Park/tree board
2. Celebrate Arbor Day -any time of year – newspaper clippings, photos,
3. Proclamation from Village Board
4. 2\$ per capade spending on Trees \$2000 per year

Application opens Late September – Jan/Feb.

Alicia to ask Rita to put Park/Rec report on next Village Meeting Agenda

Motin to ask Village Board to publish Tree Surveys 2019 and 2024 onto the Village Website permanently: Rathje Seconded by: Smith

Smith	Volzke	Rathje
Y	Y	Y

### NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be held at July 8<sup>th</sup> 7:54 pm

Motion to adjourn was made by Volzke at Volzke ↓ Seconded by: Rathje

Smith	Volzke	Rathje
Y	Y	Y