

**TOWN of SHELBURNE TREE COMMITTEE**  
**March 3, 2026 Minutes**

Committee Members In attendance: Gail Henderson-King, Gillian Dorfman, Tom Warner, Tree Warden David Hall  
Staff: Rachel Tobler

1. **Call to Order / Review Agenda** – Meeting called to order at 7:19 PM.
2. **Approve minutes of February 3, 2026\***- February minutes reviewed with one edit made. Dave motioned to approve the final draft, Tod seconded the motion. Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.
3. **Citizen Participation (Opportunity for public comment on any Committee Business that is not included on this agenda)** – none.
4. **Tree City USA Application** – Gail submitted the Tree City USA application paperwork. Dave asked about the status of the updated signage on the Welcome to Shelburne signs on Route 7. Rachel is waiting for the weather to warm up to complete this task. The Arbor Day banner will be put up by Paul just before Arbor Day this year. Thanks Paul!
5. **Tree Maintenance** – Gail offered to finish the RFP in progress, which will include necessary pruning tasks and root invigoration. It was suggested that Dave and Gail do a walkaround and review any pruning tasks that are needed on Parade Ground trees. Also, the Ash trees on School Street should be pruned especially to give more light to the interplanted trees there.
6. **2026 Caring for Canopy Grant Application** – We were notified that we were not awarded the grant we applied for this year. Only 40% of the grants asked for were awarded this year. Gail will follow up with Elise Schadler to get any insights about our application.
7. **Ash Tree Cut for Winter 2026** – Members reviewed the 5 bids received for the Ash tree cut RFP. After discussion, it was decided that the best bid was from DJ's Tree Service. David motioned to accept this bid, Gail seconded the motion and Susan added that Barrett's would be our second choice if necessary. This motion passed unanimously and Rachel offered to get the necessary paperwork signed by the Town Manager. The winning bid is well under our approved budget, so discussion continued. The largest group of remaining uncut Ash trees on town ROWs are the mature Ash trees on School Street. Many of these were inoculated a few years ago by the residents of the area. It is not known if this group has any intention of continuing with the pesticide treatment which would need to be re-done this

year to remain effective. David will check with Teacher's Tree Service to see if they have any information on the inoculation schedule for these trees. Dave also reminded the Committee that we will need to publicize the next cut to notify residents in those locations in case they may want the wood/chips and as a courtesy regardless.

8. **Public Street Tree and Shade Tree Preservation Plan** – Gail has completed this and it needs to be forwarded to the Selectboard for inclusion on their second March meeting agenda. The Selectboard will need to hold a hearing and then vote to officially adopt the document. Gail will put this together and forward to the Town Manager for the second meeting in March.
9. **Memorial Tree Application** – Members discussed the possible locations for memorial trees presented at the last meeting by Susan and Gillian. Gillian offered to email the applicant of the memorial tree options for the tree placement.

Dave met with Betsy to review potential tree species selected for the Town Beach. Betsy does not like pine needles or evergreens in general and wants those omitted. We also learned that the beautiful Ash near the beach boat launch is on Town property and not Meach Cove property. Tod recommended inoculating this tree. We are already committed to an on-going budget cost for the trees on the Parade ground and Town Center. No clear decision was made for what to do with this tree.

Dave also mentioned the need for some additional plantings around the tennis courts at Davis Park.

10. **Public Education and Outreach / Fundraising** – Gillian discussed the article she is working on. She will send current draft to members next week for review/edit/comments.
11. **Tree Warden Report** – Dave mentioned that he was invited to the Town Meeting discussing how the Town should manage the Farmers' Market since they have decided to run it this year. Dave asked Gail to join as well. The Town asked the Committee for a written outline of the tree protection needs - including mulching and marking off No Parking spots.
12. **Other Business** – Rachel had talked with Shane about getting seedlings for our Arbor Day event this year. He does not have any available. However, the Intervale Center and Branch Out Burlington may have some we can purchase. We will explore this more at our April meeting.

**13. February 2026 Accomplishments** – Tree City USA application submitted, and Ash Cut RFP bids received.

**14. Adjourn** – Meeting Adjourned at 8:48 PM.

Submitted by Tod Warner

Approved on \_\_\_\_\_

DRAFT