

1350 Baldwin Avenue
Post Office Box 685
DeFuniak Springs, FL 32435



Phone: (850) 892-8500
Fax: (850) 892-8506
www.defuniaksprings.net

**CITY BEAUTIFICATION AND TREE BOARD
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
1350 BALDWIN AVENUE, CITY HALL
THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025
5:00 PM**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
 - A. Invocation
 - B. Pledge of Allegiance
- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. April 3, 2025
- 3. OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Mural, Knee wall on HWY 90 - Update
 - B. 2026 Budget Followup/Update
 - C. Dog Park - Update
 - D. Designated Tree Beautification fund where businesses and individuals can donate towards projects - Update
 - E. Ironwork/sign located at the Tesla intersection - Size and Materials - Update
 - F. Rotary Club Grant - Update
 - G. Removal of the Cedar Tree on Main Street and Baldwin
 - H. Berries and Blooms for Chipley Park - Update
- 4. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Proposal to use the Natural Armor weed killer
 - B. Right-of-way planting
- 5. CITIZEN COMMENTS**
- 6. ADJOURNMENT**

Florida Statute 286.0105. Notices of meetings and hearings must advise that a record is required to appeal. Each board, commission, or agency of this state or of any political subdivision thereof shall include in the notice of any meeting or hearing, if notice of the meeting or hearing is required, of such board, commission, or agency, conspicuously on such notice, the advice that, if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. The requirements of this section do not apply to the notice provided in s. 200.065(3). In accordance with Section 286.26, F.S., persons with disabilities may contact the City Clerk at cityclerk@defuniaksprings.net or 850-892-8500 ext. 1103.

**DeFuniak Springs
City Beautification and Tree Board
Meeting Minutes
Council Chambers
April 3, 2025**

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Sommer Adams called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Present: Kim Wennerberg, Sommer Adams, Mike Goodchild, Evan Anderson.

Absent:

Also, present was Koby Townsend City Manager, and Sumie Gabbard Executive Assistant. **2. 2.**

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. March 6, 2025

A motion was made to approve the minutes by Mr. Goodchild and seconded by Mr. Anderson; the motion passed without objection.

3. OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Wennerberg stated that she wanted to discuss the remaining landscaping and upkeep for the downtown area.

Mrs. Wennerberg stated that they are right at \$8,000 and she is not sure if this is where they want to allocate those funds.

Mr. Goodchild asked if the funds roll over.

Mr. Townsend stated that they do not.

Mr. Townsend also stated that at the next meeting in May, they need to discuss plans for next year and determine what the group would like to request.

Mr. Townsend added that he will bring the request to the council.

Mrs. Adams stated that she would like to see the completed right away and noted that there has been plenty of public feedback.

Mrs. Adams stated that she would like to propose for Main Street and the city to work together on the upkeep of the downtown.

Mrs. Adams stated that cleanup and pine straw would go a long way in the downtown.

Mrs. Adams stated that we should use landscape fabric.

Mrs. Adams stated that she would like to see the city allocate specific amount of time in downtown maintenance.

Mrs. Adams stated that the pine straw on the other side still hasn't been installed.

Mrs. Wennerberg asked if the sponsor will keep it up or the city.

Mrs. Adams stated that it would be the city that would keep it up.

Mrs. Adams stated that we just want 2 days a month.

Mrs. Wennerberg stated that we should finish that project so that we have a better chance of having a bigger budget next year.

Mrs. Adams stated that the downtown area just needs really good weeding.

Mrs. Adams stated that the palm trees across Iron and Grape have trash.

Mr. Goodchild asked if businesses pick up trash in front.

Mrs. Adams stated that yes, they do in front of their shop.

Mrs. Adams stated that the first cleanup will take the longest and the following ones will just be maintaining.

Mr. Anderson stated that we should finish up what we started and continue working on the project.

Mrs. Adams stated that where Soirée is brick, then the other side should match.

Mrs. Adams asked what do we do when businesses come to us and want brick.

Mr. Townsend stated that it seems like the committee is talking about establishing a sponsorship program where people can get their sidewalk bricked.

Mr. Goodchild asked where the \$8,000 will go toward, and it will be for the sign.

Mrs. Wennerberg stated that the best use for the funding is to finish the project and what we started.

Mrs. Wennerberg asked if we can utilize city help for additional planting assistance.

Mr. Townsend stated that it's just not going to happen as fast as the Tree Board wants it to.

Mr. Townsend stated that he is not saying it can't be done, but it will be something that needs to be done over time.

Mr. Townsend explained power issues, and that could make the timeline longer.

Mrs. Wennerberg asked if the board would like to have volunteers do it.

Mrs. Wennerberg asked from a sponsorship perspective.

Mrs. Adams stated that we will have to have additional sponsors because it took us until the afternoon to finish.

Mr. Townsend stated that we need to have an understanding with Main Street on who is doing what.

Mr. Townsend stated that we will have to put some irrigation in if it is needed.

Mr. Townsend stated that we need to have an idea of what we want it to look like.

Mrs. Adams stated that the idea is to have those 5 plants that were selected be the ones used downtown.

Mrs. Adams stated that those plants were selected because they are drought-resistant.

Mrs. Adams stated that she believes maybe in time we should talk about irrigation.

Mrs. Adams stated that she just wants to work together.

Mrs. Wennerberg asked for a motion.

A motion was made to have the city assist in putting pine straw down, purchasing and installing plants, along with maintenance of the plants. If there is a dry period, the city will assist with watering those plants and assist with the preparation of the planting area by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mrs. Adams; the motion passed without objection.

B. Dog Park Update

Mr. Townsend stated that the project manager left the city, and so the project is put on hold.

Mr. Townsend asked the board what they would like to see.

The board had a discussion about having a water source and a chain-link fence around the dog park.

C. Medians on 90 West

Mrs. Wennerberg stated that she wasn't here and she gave information to Mr. Ali regarding this.

Mrs. Wennerberg asked if they made any decisions on this.

The board had a discussion on different plants they would like to see in the medians.

Mrs. Wennerberg asked if there is water in those medians.

Mr. Townsend answered no.

Mrs. Adam asked if we can just try and make what we have look better.

Mrs. Adams stated that pine straw could dress up that area.

Mrs. Adams asked if we, the board, could hire landscapers to maintain the downtown.

Mr. Townsend stated that we can get a vendor or add more staff to do the work.

Mr. Goodchild stated that personally he would like to see more city staff.

Mrs. Wennerberg stated that we can clean up the median and add pine straw, removing any dead plants.

Mrs. Adams stated that she would like to see how much a vendor would cost to do a cleanup.

A motion was made to get three quotes to find a landscaping crew who will do an initial cleanup of the medians by Mrs. Adams and seconded by Mr. Goodchild; the motion passed without objection.

D. Mural on 90

Mrs. Wennerberg presented the mural project on Highway 90.

Mrs. Wennerberg asked if Mr. Townsend needed anything from the committee.

Mrs. Adams stated that she had asked for a sketch of what they wanted the mural to say.

The board had a discussion about having the mural featuring the "Braves" theme.

E. Sign Design Suggestions for the Intersection of 10th Street and Baldwin Avenue

Mr. Townsend stated that they have sketched out a design and will see who can build it.

Mrs. Wennerberg noted that the audio has not been updated recently.

Mr. Townsend stated that Mr. Ali will take care of that.

The board held a discussion on which sign design they preferred.

The board also discussed whether they liked the idea of having a ghosted sign and what materials should be used for it.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Urban Orchard Project

Denise Kania, the City Grant Coordinator, presented on the Urban Orchard Project.

Mrs. Kania stated that the board needs to decide which trees will be planted at the parks.

Mrs. Kania asked if the proposed list of trees would be acceptable, noting that the plan is to plant them around the perimeter of the park.

Mr. Goodchild stated that he had sent a list of trees to Mr. Simmons that would likely survive in the area.

Mr. Anderson stated that he would like to swap out the lemon or orange tree for a satsuma.

Mr. Goodchild asked about including a Japanese plum.

Mrs. Kania asked if the board was comfortable including lemon trees.

Mr. Anderson responded that lemon trees would not survive in the cold.

Mrs. Wennerberg added that children likely wouldn't want to grab a lemon to eat.

Mr. Anderson also noted that apple trees would not survive in the climate.

Mrs. Kania stated that the budget for the trees is \$7,500.

Mrs. Kania explained that with the current tree selection, they could plant an average of five trees and asked if the board would like to include another variety.

Mrs. Wennerberg asked if the quote includes both the plants and the installation.

Mrs. Kania clarified that the quote covers the cost of city labor for irrigation, planting the trees, providing educational materials, and hosting a community workshop.

Mr. Goodchild stated that the trees need to be planted within the month and that he is willing to assist with the installation.

Mr. Anderson also volunteered to help with the planting.

Mrs. Adams noted that all the trees listed are self-pollinating.

Mrs. Kania stated that the quote is based on 30-gallon plants.

Mrs. Kania confirmed the different types of fruit trees being considered.

Mrs. Kania also stated that the city should have a landscape specialist on staff.

Mrs. Kania asked if the board had any questions about the grant.

B. Chipley Park & Lake DeFuniak - Master Plan, Fountain & Veterans Memorial

Mr. Townsend stated that the CRA selected three locations and issued a task order to Dewberry for the design.

Mrs. Wennerberg stated that one of the proposed locations is in Chipley Park.

Mrs. Wennerberg added that one of the goals is to develop a master plan for Chipley Park.

Mrs. Wennerberg stated that she would like to see something like that established next year.

Mrs. Wennerberg asked about the other potential locations.

Mr. Townsend responded that one possible location is next to the tennis courts.

Mrs. Wennerberg asked what happened to the idea of building pickleball courts.

Mr. Townsend stated that there had been some level of commitment from the city, but he didn't believe it would have been a good idea for the city to pursue at the time.

Mrs. Adams asked if they were just in the discussion phase.

Mrs. Wennerberg confirmed that they were.

Mrs. Wennerberg stated that she just wanted the board to be aware that this is being discussed.

Mr. Townsend stated that if the amphitheater is on the city's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), then the CRA would not be able to take on the project.

Mr. Townsend added that the board is able to create a five-year plan as well, which does not need to be developed by a consultant.

Mrs. Wennerberg stated that Joe suggested organizing a fundraiser to help create a fountain in Lake DeFuniak.

Mrs. Wennerberg said she wanted to fully share Joe's idea with the board.

Mrs. Wennerberg noted that this is the second person to bring this idea to her.

Mr. Goodchild stated that a fountain would also be beneficial for the fish.

Mr. Townsend explained what has been done for the cemetery and described the format of its five year plan.

Mrs. Wennerberg stated that no action needs to be taken at this time, and that the discussion was simply informational.

C. Pet Waste Stations and Garbage Cans in Chipley Park

Mrs. Wennerberg stated that on the east side of the park, there are very few pet waste stations.

Mrs. Wennerberg said that she would like to see pet waste stations added.

Mrs. Wennerberg asked if this is something the board would support.

The board was agreeable.

D. Pavers and Bike Rack in front of Soiree (Baldwin & 8th St.)

Mrs. Wennerberg stated that the Bierbaums asked if pavers could be installed in that area.

Mrs. Adams stated that if they are doing a sponsorship, they would be willing to do the east side as well.

Mrs. Adams said they can come up with a quote and bring it back for review.

Mrs. Adams added that they can get a quote for that area and for the southwest corner.

Mr. Townsend asked for clarification.

Mrs. Wennerberg clarified that it is across from 8th, parallel to the clock.

Mrs. Wennerberg stated that we should have some kind of mural on the water tower.

Mrs. Wennerberg suggested that it could feature a train design.

Mrs. Wennerberg added that it could help the town stand out.

Mrs. Wennerberg also stated that she could see the mural wrapping all the way around the tower.

Mr. Anderson stated that the idea would need to be presented to the public.

5. CITIZEN COMMENTS

6.ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 AM.

Approved:

Kim Wennerberg, Chair

ATTEST:

Minutes taken by Rafael Ali, City Clerk
Proper notice having been duly given