

**City of Apalachicola Tree Committee
Meeting Summary
September 18, 2018, 3:00 pm
Battery Park Community Center**

1. Attendees:

Holly Brown, Committee member,
Ron Nalley, City Manager,
Robert Seaborn, Committee member, and
Dennis Winterringer, Committee chair person and note taker.

2. Draft summary of the Committee's August 21, 2018, meeting (prepared by Ms. Brown).

Ms. Brown and Mr. Seaborn agreed with a couple of revisions that Mr. Winterringer suggested be made to the draft summary. Mr. Winterringer will make the changes and finalize the summary.

3. Duke Energy vegetation management along certain power lines in the City.

The City has posted on its website a notice of the streets segments where vegetation management will occur.

On September 6, 2018, Code Enforcement Office Wilbur Bellew, City Commissioner Anita Grove, Public Works Foreman Robert Osborne, and Mr. Winterringer met with Duke Energy and its contractor to discuss vegetation management that will occur along power lines starting on September 10, 2018. The named individuals except Ms. Grove toured the lines with Duke and its contractor and identified trees that will either be removed or trimmed.

Mr. Bellew will be on sick leave when the work starts, so Mr. Osborne will be the City point of contact with Duke as any need arises. Also, Mr. Winterringer is available for consultation.

Prior to work, Duke's contractor will knock on doors and/or leave notices on door handles to alert property owners about vegetation maintenance that will occur on adjacent City rights of way.

Before starting work in Apalachicola, the Duke contractor was diverted to North Carolina to clear trees damaged by the tropical storm. It is unknown how much delay there will be in the contractor starting work in Apalachicola.

4. Joint workshop with the City Commission to discuss the proposed, revised Tree Ordinance.

The Committee has held the two public workshops required by City Policy No. 002, Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code Amendment Procedure. The Committee has revised the proposed Tree Ordinance in response to City Planner and Planning and Zoning Board comments.

Mr. Nalley presented and discussed his comments on the draft ordinance.

A joint workshop with the City Commission needs to be scheduled. Mr. Nalley will provide a form for Mr. Winterringer to request that the Commission schedule a workshop for 5 p.m., just prior to the Commission's November (13?) regular monthly meeting. Mr. Nalley will place this request on the agenda for the Commission's October 2, 2018, regular monthly meeting.

Prior to the workshop Ms. Brown and Mr. Winterringer will try to meet respectively with Mayor Johnson and Commissioner Ash to explain the Tree Ordinance revisions.

5. Tree removal application.

During Mr. Bellew's ongoing sick leave absence, City Administrator Lee Mathes asked Mr. Winterringer to review a tree removal application submitted by Richard Scarabin, 120 2nd Avenue. The application is for the removal of a large slash pine.

Mr. Scarabin's son, who lives next door, received a permit in May 2018 to remove 20 slash pines on that property.

Ms. Mathes said that final decision on the application will be delayed until Mr. Bellew returns to work.

6. Florida Forestry Service.

On September 17, 2018, Ryan Hensel, Senior Forester, Florida Forestry Service, telephoned Dennis Winterringer to talk about a potential grant that would provide trees for planting in Apalachicola.

Mr. Hensel will attend the Tree Committee's October 16 meeting. At that time, the Committee will get further information on the grant and find out whether Mr. Hensel will be able to participate in the Arbor Day celebration and whether the Service has money in its budget to buy trees that could be given away at the celebration.

7. Next meeting.

October 16, 3 p.m., regular monthly meeting of the Tree Committee.