MINUTES of the
City of Portsmouth
Trees and Public Greenery Committee Meeting
January 11, 2023

Members Present: Chairman Peter Loughlin; Vice-Chair Richard Adams; Peter Rice, Director of Public Works; Joanna Kelley, City Assistant Mayor; City Arborist Maxwell Wiater; Members Michael Griffin, Dennis Souto, A.J. Dupere, Patricia Bagley, and Deborah Chag

Members Excused: None.

Also Present: Patrick Crimmins and Alex Sellar of Tigue and Bond

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Chairman Loughlin called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

1. Acceptance of the Minutes of the December 14, 2022 meeting.

The December 14, 2022 meeting minutes were unanimously **approved** as presented.

2. Tree Removal Requests

• **Pease Wastewater Treatment Plant (2 maples):** City request, poor health, maple, removals suggested by city. One maple near buildings has wounding and decay present throughout the main leader. Leaders have been failing in recent storms. Another maple near the parking lot is structurally compromised with significant wounding at attachment points of leaders.

Mr. Wiater said the Wastewater Treatment Plant personnel requested that two maples in their parking area be removed. He said one maple between two of the plant's buildings was in rough shape and had limb failures and open wounds and he thought it would be safer to remove the tree, considering the area. Vice-Chair Adams said he and Ms. Chag went out to the area to look at the trees but couldn't find them and also noted that the place was closed.

Chairman Loughlin asked for a motion. *Mr. Griffin moved to recommend removal of the two maples, seconded by Mr. Dupere. The motion **passed** by a vote of 5-0, with two abstentions.*

• **Prescott Park, State St Parking Lot:** City request, poor health, maple, removal suggested by city. Tree is in poor health, many dead branches at the top of the tree, and basal damage present.

Mr. Souto said the whole row of trees going down to the water was in rough shape. Mr. Wiater said he was doing a lot of dead wood pruning on the trees but they were starting to look tired. It was further discussed. Ms. Chag asked if the city could be more proactive in a high-traffic area such as that. Mr. Wiater said they planned to replace some trees in certain portions of the park but were presently just mitigating the situation for now.

DRAFT

Chairman Loughlin asked for a motion. *Ms. Bagley moved to recommend removal of the tree, seconded by Mr. Souto. The motion **passed** by unanimous vote.*

- **South Mill Pond Parking Lot:** City request, poor health, linden, removal suggested by city. Tree has clear issues including decay and structural inadequacies. When considering the use area, it is appropriate for removal.

Mr. Wiater said a lot of the linden's limbs had fallen and recommended that the tree be removed in the spring with the area would be cleaned up and other trees would be replaced.

Chairman Loughlin asked for a motion. *Ms. Bagley recommended removal of the tree, seconded by Ms. Chag. The motion **passed** by unanimous vote.*

- **182 Colonial Dr:** City request, fair health, linden, removal suggested by city. Tree was subject to significant storm damage and utility clearance pruning.

Mr. Wiater said the linden had some pruning done to it by the utility company and had significant limb failures. He noted that it wasn't part of the sidewalk removal project but that what was left of the tree wasn't worth retaining. It was further discussed.

Chairman Loughlin asked for a motion. *Ms. Bagley moved to recommend the removal of the tree, seconded by Ms. Chag. The motion **passed** by unanimous vote.*

- **170 Colonial Dr:** City request, fair health, linden, removal suggested by city. Tree was subject to utility clearance pruning, and what remains is growing down toward the ground.

Chairman Loughlin asked for a motion. *Ms. Bagley moved to recommend the removal of the tree, seconded by Ms. Chag. The motion **passed** by unanimous vote.*

3. Public Right-of-Way Planting Requests

- Portsmouth Regional Hospital parking lot development: Alex Sellar, of Tighe & Bond, is seeking approval to fulfill Condition 1.11 of the Site Plan Review Regulations of selected species to be planted in the right of way at 444 Borthwick Ave. Plantings in the public Right of Way must receive approval from the Trees and Greenery Committee.

Patrick Crimmins and Alex Sellar of Tigue and Bond were present on behalf of the hospital. Mr. Sellar said they had coordinated the species and removal of four trees with Mr. Wiater as part of their site plan approval. He said the two species were the swamp white oak and the Kentucky coffeetree, which were chosen because they were trees that tolerated urban conditions like drought, salty soils, excessive sunlight, and so on.

Chairman Loughlin asked for a motion. *Mr. Dupere moved to grant approval for planting the trees, seconded by Ms. Chag. The motion **passed** by unanimous vote.*

4. Follow-up on tree removal requests for 107-109 Union Street

Mr. Wiater said the city was planning on keeping those trees for now. He was asked if someone contacted the resident. Mr. Rice said the City staff would reach out to the resident and that he would appreciate that the committee not contact residents about planned actions because if a statement were made by a committee member that wasn't correct, there could be consequences because the resident could say that the committee said something different. It was further discussed.

5. Evergreen Identification Presentation by AJ Dupre, Urban Forester

Mr. Dupere gave a brief presentation on how to identify different types of evergreens that are common in Maine and NH. He showed samples of a variety of different evergreen branches and explained ways of identifying them. He said he wrote a training book that was available on line and would soon be posted on the city website.

6. Update from City Arborist Maxwell Wiater

Mr. Wiater said an arborist technician was hired. Mr. Loughlin praised Public Works management for the very high quality of employees who deal with trees and greenery.

7. Tree Planting for the City's 400th

Mr. Wiater said he was working on the 400th Anniversary planting project and trying to get all the retrenchment pruning done. The recent nor'easter was discussed and Mr. Wiater said only one tree in Portsmouth had to be removed.

Mr. Rice showed a video of which steps were necessary to correctly plant a tree, including how to select the site, what to wear, what tools to use, and how to plant and maintain the tree. He said it would be posted on the city's website soon. The city's tree equity score of Number 81 in the nation was discussed. Chairman Loughlin briefly discussed the history of tree planting in Portsmouth.

8. Old Business

There was no old business.

9. New Business

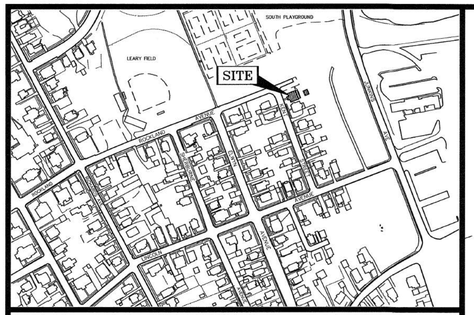
Mr. Griffin said there was a large dead pine in the Spinnaker Point parking lot. Mr. Wiater said he was aware of it.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 8, 2023

The meeting **adjourned** at 8:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

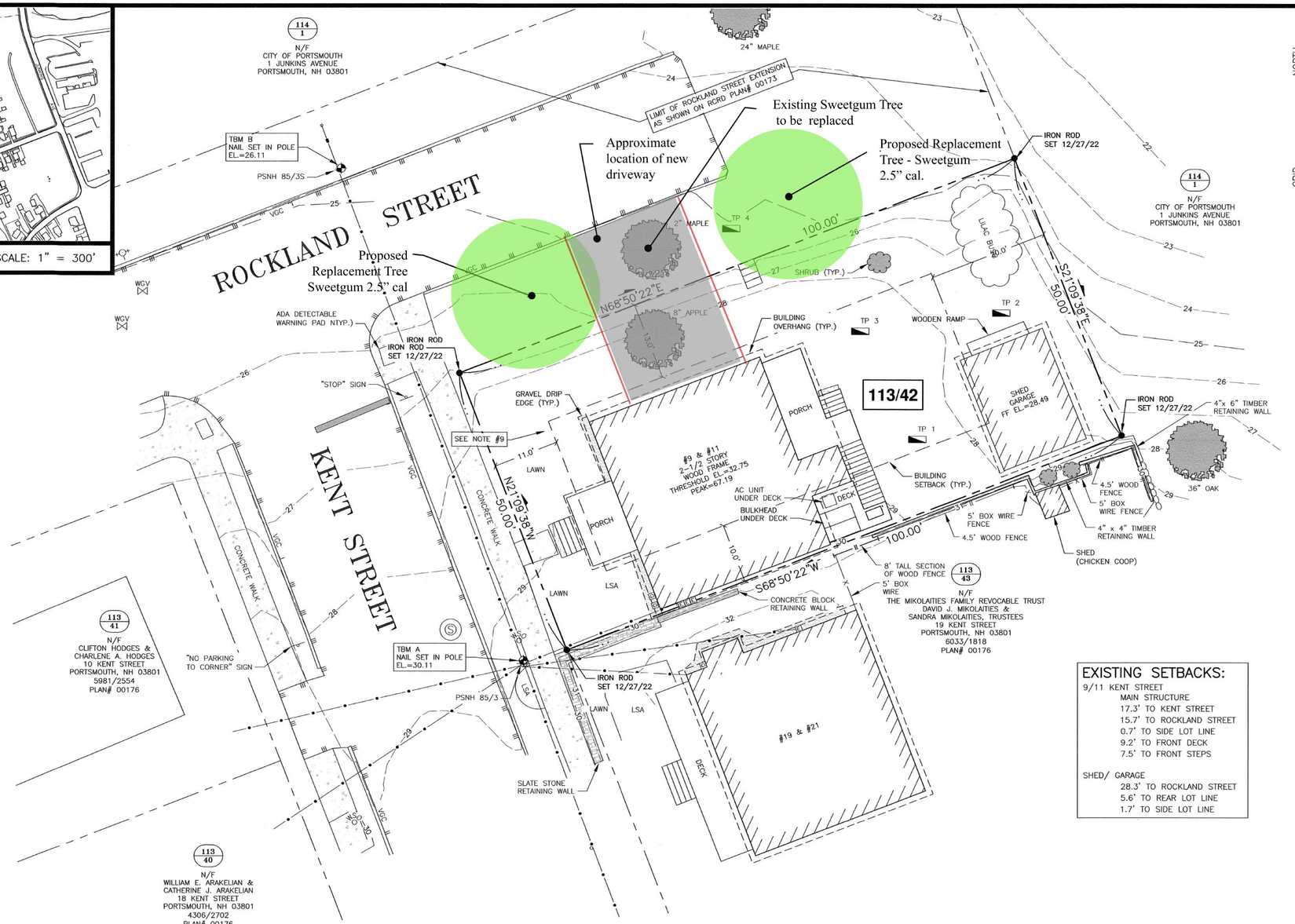
Joann Breault
Trees and Public Greenery Committee Recording Secretary



LOCATION MAP SCALE: 1" = 300'

LEGEND:

N/F	NOW OR FORMERLY
RP	RECORD OF PROBATE
RCRD	ROCKINGHAM COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS
11/21	MAP 11 / LOT 21
	BOUNDARY
	SETBACK
	RAILROAD SPIKE FOUND/SET
	IRON ROD/ PIPE FOUND
	DRILL HOLE FOUND/SET
S	SEWER LINE
G	GAS LINE
D	STORM DRAIN
W	WATER LINE
	OVERHEAD ELECTRIC/WIRES
100	CONTOUR
97x3	SPOT ELEVATION
	EDGE OF PAVEMENT (EP)
	WOODS / TREE LINE
	UTILITY POLE (w/ GUY)
GS	GAS SHUT OFF
WS	WATER SHUT OFF/CURB STOP
GV	GATE VALVE
	HYDRANT
E	METER (GAS, WATER, ELECTRIC)
S	SEWER MANHOLE
	SIGNS
EL.	ELEVATION
FF	FINISHED FLOOR
TBM	TEMPORARY BENCHMARK
TYP.	TYPICAL
VGC	VERTICAL GRANITE CURB
CCB	CAPE COD BERM
LSA	LANDSCAPED AREA



EXISTING SETBACKS:

9/11 KENT STREET
- MAIN STRUCTURE
- 17.3' TO KENT STREET
- 15.7' TO ROCKLAND STREET
- 0.7' TO SIDE LOT LINE
- 9.2' TO FRONT DECK
- 7.5' TO FRONT STEPS

SHED/ GARAGE
- 28.3' TO ROCKLAND STREET
- 5.6' TO REAR LOT LINE
- 1.7' TO SIDE LOT LINE

PLAN REFERENCES:

1) PLAN OF A LOT OF LAND OWNED BY ALFRED L. ELWYN PORTSMOUTH N.H. COMPILED FROM A SURVEY MADE 1899 BY A.C. HOYT C.E. RCRD PLAN# 00176.

2) STANDARD BOUNDARY SURVEY TAX MAP 113 – LOT 45 OWNER: MICHAEL T. ROCHE & SUSAN L. JAVUREK, PROPERTY LOCATED AT 45 KENT STREET, CITY OF PORTSMOUTH, COUNTY OF ROCKINGHAM, STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, SCALE: 1" = 10', DATED: MAY 2002, NOT RECORDED

"I CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAN WAS PREPARED UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION, THAT IT IS THE RESULT OF A FIELD SURVEY BY THIS OFFICE AND HAS AN ACCURACY OF THE CLOSED TRAVERSE THAT EXCEEDS THE PRECISION OF 1:15,000."

12.27.22

JOHN R. CHAGNON, LLS #738 DATE

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE LICENSED LAND SURVEYOR No. 738 JOHN R. CHAGNON SURVEYOR

GRAPHIC SCALE

10 5 0 10 20 30 40 FEET
3 0 5 10 METERS

TEST PIT #1

Date:	11/3/22
Logged by:	STEVEN D. RIKER
ESHWT:	NONE TO 66"
Observed Water:	NONE
Restrictive layer:	NONE
REFUSAL:	NONE TO 66"
Percolation rate:	10 min./inch

DEPTH	DESCRIPTION
0" – 8"	10 YR 3/2 FINE SANDY LOAM, GRANULAR, FRIABLE
0" – 21"	10 YR 4/3 FINE SANDY LOAM, GRANULAR, FRIABLE
21" – 34"	ASH LAYER
34" – 53"	10 YR 3/4 FINE SANDY LOAM, GRANULAR, FRIABLE
53" – 61"	10 YR 4/6 FINE SANDY LOAM, GRANULAR, FRIABLE
61" – 66"	2.5 YR 5/4 FINE SANDY LOAM, GRANULAR, FRIABLE

TEST PIT #2

Date:	11/3/22
Logged by:	STEVEN D. RIKER
ESHWT:	NONE TO 75"
Observed Water:	NONE
Restrictive layer:	NONE
REFUSAL:	NONE TO 75"
Percolation rate:	10 min./inch

DEPTH	DESCRIPTION
0" – 6"	10 YR 3/3 FINE SANDY LOAM, GRANULAR, FRIABLE
6" – 26"	10 YR 4/3 FINE SANDY LOAM, GRANULAR, FRIABLE
26" – 57"	ASH LAYER
57" – 75"	10 YR 5/4 FINE SANDY LOAM, GRANULAR, FRIABLE

TEST PIT #3

Date:	11/3/22
Logged by:	STEVEN D. RIKER
ESHWT:	NONE TO 75"
Observed Water:	NONE
Restrictive layer:	NONE
REFUSAL:	NONE TO 75"
Percolation rate:	10 min./inch

DEPTH	DESCRIPTION
0" – 37"	10 YR 3/3 FINE SANDY LOAM, GRANULAR, FRIABLE
37" – 55"	ASH LAYER
55" – 75"	10 YR 5/4 FINE SANDY LOAM, GRANULAR, FRIABLE

TEST PIT #4

Date:	11/3/22
Logged by:	STEVEN D. RIKER
ESHWT:	56"
Observed Water:	NONE
Restrictive layer:	PAN AT 56"
REFUSAL:	NONE TO 56"
Percolation rate:	10 min./inch

DEPTH	DESCRIPTION
0" – 5"	10 YR 4/3 FINE SANDY LOAM, GRANULAR, FRIABLE
5" – 18"	ASH LAYER
18" – 27"	10 YR 4/4 FINE SANDY LOAM, GRANULAR, FRIABLE
27" – 56"	2.5 YR 4/4 FINE SANDY LOAM, GRANULAR, FRIABLE
56" – 71"	2.5 YR 4/3 FINE SANDY LOAM, GRANULAR, FRIABLE

AMBIT ENGINEERING, INC.
Civil Engineers & Land Surveyors
200 Griffin Road – Unit 3
Portsmouth, N.H. 03801-7114
Tel (603) 430-9282
Fax (603) 436-2315

NOTES:

1) PARCEL IS SHOWN ON THE CITY OF PORTSMOUTH ASSESSOR'S MAP 113 AS LOT 42.

2) OWNERS OF RECORD:
CYNTHIA AUSTIN SMITH &
PETER SMITH
9 KENT STREET
PORTSMOUTH, NH 03801
6358/448
PLAN# 00176

3) PARCEL IS NOT IN A FLOOD HAZARD ZONE AS SHOWN ON FIRM PANEL 33015C0259F, DATED 1/29/2021.

4) EXISTING LOT AREA:
5,000 S.F.
0.1148 ACRES

5) PARCEL IS LOCATED IN THE GENERAL RESIDENCE A (GRA) DISTRICT.

6) DIMENSIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

MIN. LOT AREA:	7,500 S.F.
FRONTAGE:	100 FEET
SETBACKS:	
FRONT:	15 FEET
SIDE:	10 FEET
REAR:	20 FEET
MAXIMUM STRUCTURE HEIGHT:	35 FEET
MAXIMUM BUILDING COVERAGE:	25%
MINIMUM OPEN SPACE:	30%

7) THE PURPOSE OF THIS PLAN IS TO SHOW THE RESULTS OF A STANDARD BOUNDARY AND TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY OF ASSESSOR'S MAP 113, LOT 42 IN THE CITY OF PORTSMOUTH.

8) VERTICAL DATUM IS NAVD88. BASIS OF VERTICAL DATUM IS REDUNDANT RTN GNSS OBSERVATIONS.

9) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PORTSMOUTH ZONING ORDINANCE, ARTICLE 5, SECTION 10.516 FRONT YARD EXCEPTION FOR EXISTING ALIGNMENTS: THE AVERAGE FRONT SETBACK FOR LOT 113/42 ON KENT STREET IS 10' AND AVERAGE FRONT SETBACK ON ROCKLAND STREET IS 13'. MEASUREMENT TO STRUCTURES 18" ABOVE GRADE.

Proposed Tree Removal & Replacement Plan

2023-01-25

NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE
2	MONUMENTS SET	12/27/22
1	TEST PIT INFORMATION	11/10/22
0	ISSUED FOR COMMENT	7/13/22

REVISIONS

STANDARD BOUNDARY & TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY TAX MAP 113 – LOT 42

OWNER:

CYNTHIA AUSTIN SMITH & PETER SMITH

9–11 KENT STREET
CITY OF PORTSMOUTH
COUNTY OF ROCKINGHAM
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SCALE: 1" = 10' *JUNE 2022*

FB 301 PG 45 3492

J:\JOBS\PLAN 3400's\3492\2022 Survey\Plan & Specs\Dwg\3492 Survey 2022.dwg, BNDRY NAL 1/25/2023 10:56:57 AM

5. The landscape plan will include a reforestation plan to establish trees in appropriate places, not to attempt to design finished landscaping near home sites. The plan is intended to establish and enhance forest cover in certain areas and/or create screens and buffer strips in critical locations, i.e., sewer/water easements. Proposed screening and buffer strips will receive plantings of evergreens three (3) to four (4) feet in minimum height, planting on ten-by-ten-foot centers (i.e., white pine, red pine or hemlock).

6. A site inspection by the Durham Tree Warden of trees marked for saving, cutting or clear-cutting is required prior to cutting of the lot.

B. ***Non-wooded natural areas***. For subdivisions in open fields and other non-wooded areas, the landscape plan will include a mix of tree species to be planted on thirty-foot centers to provide for a tree canopy. The trees will be planted within the town right-of-way or on the private property boundary line adjacent to the town right-of-way.

C. ***Roadway slopes***. In cases where the sloped areas extend more than ten (10) feet from the shoulder to the ditch line, the sloped areas must be landscaped and planted as determined by the Planning Board.

175-117. Protection During Construction.

A. Fencing or other protective barrier shall be used around trees near construction sites.

B. Changes in the normal drainage patterns shall be avoided, and appropriate protection shall be provided for trees if a grade change is necessary in the surrounding area.

C. Pedestrian and other traffic patterns should be kept away from trees to avoid soil compaction.

D. Practices for the proper protection of trees on construction sites shall be in accordance with the guidelines in the following references:

1. Tree Protection Manual for Builders and Developers, 1979, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Tallahassee, Florida.

2. Protecting Shade Trees During Home Construction, United States Department of Agriculture, Home and Garden Bulletin No. 104, 1977, United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

3. Environmental Do's and Don'ts on Construction Sites, United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, Publication No. 1291, 1974.

E. If the above guidelines are not followed and a tree is damaged or destroyed during construction, the developer shall be required to pay to the Town of Durham the assessed value of said tree, to a maximum of two thousand five hundred dollars ($2,500) per tree, the cost to be determined by guidelines in a Guide to Professional Evaluation of Landscape Trees, Specimens and Evergreens, 1982, International Society of Arboriculture, Urbana, Illinois, or per an updated version.

Trees/Public Greenery (meetings held) 2022	Attended	Excused	Unexcused	Attendance %
Adams, Richard				
Bagley, Patricia				
Chag, Deborah				
Dupere, A.J., Urban Forester				
Griffin, Michael				
Loughlin, Peter, Chair				
Souto, Dennis				