

Tree Commission Minutes, January 12, 2026
City Hall, Galesburg, Illinois

Meeting was called to order by Ann Pennington at 4:00 pm

Roll Call: Present: Ann Pennington, Jane Easterly, Dan Thompson, Bill Sime, Arborist Brandon Phillips, and Parks and Recreation Director Don Miles

Absent: Pat Trant

Minutes: Minutes from the November meeting were approved by a motion from Jane Easterly with a second by Bill Sime.

Forestry Report:

The Forestry Report was presented by Arborist Brandon Phillips. All members were very impressed with the increase in production throughout all categories for 2025. The addition of a third employee (Arborist) has dramatically improved production with all tree work for the Forestry Division.

Old Business:

Director Miles updated the commission on the tree work being completed at Standish. Forestry staff have removed approximately fifteen trees and bushes from the list that was provided to the commission last fall. As work has progressed, there have been a few trees that have come into question whether they should be removed. Staff opted to keep these trees instead of removing them until a better assessment can be made. There were also a few trees removed that were not on the list, due to varying issues. Once the project is complete, the inventory will be updated, and a decision will be made on how best to document it. A physical map on site is still preferred, but there are several other options to consider as well.

Ann Pennington asked if the memorial tree for Dick Ralston was still standing. Director Miles assured her that it was but would confirm and report back next month.

New Business:

Jane Easterly asked if it was too early to discuss Arbor Day, which is Friday April 24th. After a short discussion, consensus was to plant at Lombard Junior High School once it is determined if trees were not already planted there recently by Project 350. Director Miles stated that he will do some research and provide an update next month.

Citizen Comments:

None.

Meeting adjourned at 4:25 P.M.

Next meeting will be at 4:00 p.m. Monday February 9, 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Don Miles". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Don Miles, Parks and Recreation Director