TOWN OF JONESBOROUGH
Town Hall Board Room
123 Boone Street
Jonesborough, TN 37659

MEETING NOTICE

Tuesday, November 24th , 2026, 10:30 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

Members of the public wishing to speak concerning any item on the agenda during the Public Comment period must sign up by calling the Town Administrative Office at (423)-753-1030 with their name, address, and subject about which they wish to speak no later than 2 hours before the meeting if the meeting occurs during normal business hours or by 4:45 p.m. the day of the meeting if the meeting occurs after hours. Otherwise, such members of the public must sign in at the location of the meeting, prior to the beginning of the meeting, by seeing the secretary or staff of the board.

Each individual shall be given three (3) minutes to address the Board regarding Agenda Items. Comments shall be limited to items on the meeting's agenda.

The Jonesborough Tree and Townscape Board will meet at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, September 22nd, 2026, in the Board Room at Town Hall, 123 Boone Street, Jonesborough, TN, to consider the following agenda:

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Public Comments
3. Approval of Tuesday, October 27th, 2026, Minutes
4. International Storytelling Center Landscape Plans
5. Jonesborough Certified Bee City USA

TREE & TOWNSCAPE COMMITTEE

AGENDA PRESENTATION

DATE: November 24th , 2026 **AGENDA ITEM #:** 3

SUBJECT: Tuesday October 27th , 2026, Meeting Minutes

Town of Jonesborough

Tree and Townscape Board

Meeting Minutes for October 27th , 2026

The Jonesborough Tree and Townscape Board met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, August 25th, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. in the Board Room at Town Hall, Jonesborough, Tennessee.

Present: Lori Rosenoff, Melinda Copp, Goeffrey Hoare, Nancy Kavanaugh, Terry Countermine, Josh Conger

Staff: Sunny Ezell

Absent: Sue Henley, Teresa Smith, Virginia Kennedy

Nancy Kavanaugh called the meeting to order at 10:32 AM, noting that a quorum was present.

There were no public comments.

Agenda Item 3: October 27th meeting minutes were presented. Melinda Copp made a motion to approve them as presented. Motion was seconded by Geoffrey Hoare and duly passed.

Agenda Item 4: To resolve the discussion regarding a potential change to the regularly scheduled meeting time, board members were asked to confirm whether the current 10:30 a.m. meeting time best accommodates most members. A motion was made by Geoffrey Hoare to retain the regularly scheduled meeting time of 10:30 a.m. The motion was seconded by Melinda Copp and duly passed.

Agenda Item 5: Preliminary landscape plans for the International Storytelling Center (ISC) were presented to the board for discussion and feedback. The plans included proposed landscaping along the side of the building where trees had previously been removed, as well as improvements to the existing landscaped beds facing the street. Board members were invited to share their recommendations and preferences regarding the landscaping features they would like to see incorporated in the upcoming months. Feedback was provided to Sunny Ezell to guide revisions and finalize the plans for presentation at the November meeting.

The meeting was adjourned by Nancy Cavanaugh at 10:52 AM.

TREE & TOWNSCAPE COMMITTEE

AGENDA PRESENTATION

DATE: November 24th , 2026 **AGENDA ITEM #:** 4

SUBJECT: International Storytelling Center Landscape Plans

Background:

The International Storytelling Center (ISC), located in the heart of downtown Jonesborough, had several well-loved but problematic mature river birch trees removed. The trees presented multiple maintenance and safety concerns, including root upheaval that displaced bricks along walkways and staircases, encroachment into the roadway, and debris and branches accumulating and impacting the roof of the ISC. Their removal was necessary to mitigate these issues and help protect the surrounding infrastructure while maintaining safe and accessible public spaces.

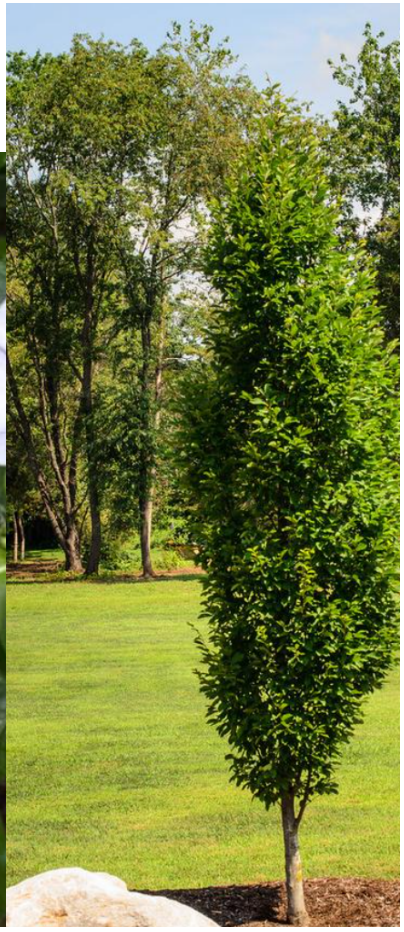
The removal of these trees also creates an opportunity for the Town of Jonesborough to replant the area with trees and plant materials better suited to the space. Selecting more appropriate species will allow the Town to enhance the appearance of this prominent downtown location while reducing future maintenance concerns, minimizing infrastructure conflicts, and preserving the beauty and character of the historic downtown district.

Following the feedback and notes from last week's meeting, I have made adjustments to the proposed planting beds and have also developed recommendations for trees to be planted in the landscape beds in front of the center along Main Street.

Recommendation:

The Tree and Townscape Board is asked to review the revised landscape plans, including adjustments made following feedback from the previous meeting, and provide approval of the recommended planting plans for Spring 2027. This includes the proposed tree selections for the landscape beds in front of the center along Main Street, as well as the recommendation to plant white annual vinca in all downtown tree wells to provide consistent seasonal color and enhance the appearance of the downtown streetscape







TREE & TOWNSCAPE COMMITTEE

AGENDA PRESENTATION

DATE: November 24th , 2026 **AGENDA ITEM #:** 5

SUBJECT: Jonesborough Certified Bee City USA

Background:

Pollinators, including native bees, butterflies, moths, and other beneficial insects, play an essential role in maintaining healthy ecosystems, supporting plant reproduction, and contributing to local biodiversity. However, pollinator populations face increasing challenges due to habitat loss, pesticide use, and the reduction of native flowering plants and nesting areas.

Bee City USA is a national initiative that encourages municipalities to support pollinator conservation through habitat creation, public education, sustainable landscaping

practices, and community engagement. Participating communities commit to taking measurable steps toward creating and maintaining pollinator-friendly environments.

The Town of Jonesborough has an opportunity to further its existing beautification, urban forestry, and environmental stewardship efforts by pursuing Bee City USA designation. This initiative would complement the Town's existing tree planting, landscape improvement, parks maintenance, and community beautification projects.

Proposition:

It is proposed that the Tree and Townscape Committee be designated as the primary coordinating and oversight body for the Town of Jonesborough's Bee City USA participation.

The Committee would be responsible for helping guide the Town's pollinator conservation efforts, coordinating with relevant Town departments and community partners, and ensuring that the Town maintains the commitments necessary to participate in the Bee City USA program.

Responsibilities would include:

1. **Program Coordination:** Oversee the Town's Bee City USA application, annual reporting, and continued participation requirements.

2. **Pollinator Habitat Development:** Encourage the incorporation of native flowering plants, pollinator gardens, and suitable habitat areas into Town-owned properties, parks, public spaces, and landscaping projects.

3. **Sustainable Landscaping Practices:** Promote landscaping and maintenance practices that support pollinator populations, including reducing unnecessary pesticide applications, incorporating native plant varieties, and providing appropriate nesting and overwintering habitats.

4. **Community Education and Outreach:** Support educational opportunities, workshops, public programming, and community initiatives that increase awareness of the importance of pollinators and pollinator-friendly landscaping.

5. **Department and Community Collaboration:** Work alongside the Parks and Recreation Department, Keep Jonesborough Beautiful Committee, local organizations, schools, businesses, and other community partners to expand pollinator conservation efforts throughout Jonesborough.

6. **Annual Review and Reporting:** Review progress toward Bee City USA commitments and coordinate the preparation and submission of required annual reports.

Participation in Bee City USA would require coordination between existing Town departments and community organizations. Many proposed activities could be incorporated into current landscaping, beautification, tree planting, and educational programming efforts.

Any additional expenses associated with application fees, habitat installations, educational materials, or other program requirements would be evaluated and incorporated into future departmental planning and budget requests as appropriate.

Recommendation:

Staff Recommend that the Tree and Townscape Committee serve as the designated coordinating and oversight body for the Town of Jonesborough's participation in the Bee City USA program and assist with the development, implementation, and continued oversight of the Town's pollinator conservation commitments.

Establishing this responsibility would provide a consistent framework for pollinator conservation, encourage collaboration across Town departments, and further demonstrate Jonesborough's commitment to environmental stewardship, sustainable landscaping, and the enhancement of public spaces.