

CITY OF BELLE SLE, FLORIDA

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: November 19th, 2024
To: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
From: Richard Weinsier, Tree Board Chairman
Subject: Two-Prong Approach to Our Tree Canopy

Tree Advisory Board – Council Presentation Information for Nov. 19th meeting

We are taking a two-prong approach to our tree canopy.

1. Encourage residents to improve their tree canopy by:
 - a. Providing new residents with two free trees
 - b. Raffling off a \$1000 oak tree trimming on Arbor Day
 - c. Raffling off trees at different BI events
2. Reconsiderations of the tree removal permit (attached) and fines (chart below)
 - a. Minimally increase tree removal permit fee from \$25 to \$35
 - b. Majorly increase fines for residents that do NOT follow our tree ordinances

ZONING FEES - CITY CODE OR ORDINANCES			
Permit type	Code Section	Zoning Permit Fee/Review	After the Fact Permit
Tree Removal Permit	48-63 / CS/HB 1159	\$35	\$70
Tree Removal (Private/Public) Without a Permit		DBH of 4" to 24"	\$100 per inch of DBH
Tree Removal (Private/Public) Without a Permit		DBH greater than 24"	\$200 per inch over DBH of 24"
Planting in the Right of Way		Pay for cost of removal	
Replacement tree - Failure to plant		\$100/month until replaced	
Replacement tree - Died prior to a year		\$100/month until replaced	
Tree Trust Fund - Replacement per tree Option		\$250	

New Residents Program to begin in January 2025.

1. Create each quarter (previous 3 months) a list of new homes bought in Belle Isle.
2. Each commissioner will receive the list of the new resident's addresses in their district.
3. The Commissioner will share the following upon visiting the new resident.
 - a. A Tree City informational sheet with two coupons for free trees on the front, which will be paid for from the Tree Board's budget. (See sheet attached.)
 - b. On the back, it will list all the basic Belle Isle information.
 - c. Attached to the sheet will be a flash drive provided by JJs in the form of a trash truck, which contains the new resident information from our website and the website information for more up-to-date information.
 - d. A goodie bag that will contain promotional coupons from several of our local business establishments.

Suggested Tree Ordinance Changes

Sec. 48-63 Tree Protection

- (d)(1) No tree with a DBH of ~~six~~ (four) inches or greater shall be removed from any developed property.
- (d)(2) Land clearing for development shall occur in the city ~~without~~ (only after) the owner first ~~obtaining~~ (obtained) a permit from the City.
- (d)(3)d. Identify the location, DBH, names, and height of all individual trees, which are ~~six~~ (four) inches DBH or greater.
- (d)(3)h. All trees scheduled ...
 - In the last part of this section, it states that any resident that is denied a permit for removal of a tree by the City Manager can come to the Tree Board for an appeal.
Remove this section from the ordinance.
- (d)(4) Use of unregistered tree service. Change the last sentence to read: “ ... as an irreversible violation subject to the imposition of a fine ~~not to exceed \$5,000.00 per violation~~ (according to the fee schedule for tree removal without a permit).”
- (d)(7) Replacement of trees. Reword paragraph to: “Any REQUIRED replacement tree(s) MUST be done in accordance with this chart.”
- (d)(7) Chart: Number of Replacement Trees (ADD the following: “each with a minimum DBH of four (4) inches”)

The Tree Board would like to add the following to our Tree Removal Permit Application-Developed Property.

- Removal of a legacy tree with a DBH greater than 24 inches MUST have the approval of the Tree Advisory Board before receiving a Tree Removal Permit for a Developed Property.

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Solid Waste and Recycling program

1. Continuation of our twice-a-year Electronic Recycling Event.
2. Continuation of our recycling of dead non-rechargeable alkaline batteries and florescent bulbs at City Hall office on any day that it is open.
3. NEW— “Cheaper By The Dozen” paper bags for residents to put their leaves or other yard waste in. These bags will be recycled with our Monday pickup and will not go into the landfill.
 - a. Tree Board will buy 30-gallon paper bags and then sold to residents at \$5/dozen
 - b. Cost to the City will be approximately \$30 per year