

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-08 OF THE CITY OF LAKE WORTH BEACH, FLORIDA, REVISING THE CITY TREE BOARD TO SERVE IN A PLANNING AND ADVISORY CAPACITY WITH QUALIFIED CITY EMPLOYEES AND/OR CONSULTANT(S) RESPONSIBLE TO OVERSEE THE WRITING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AN ANNUAL PLAN FOR PLANTING AND MAINTENANCE OF CITY LANDSCAPING; SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; CONFLICTING ORDINANCES REPEALED; CODIFICATION CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Lake Worth Beach wishes to encourage citizen participation in the beautification of our community; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission wishes to apply to the National Arbor Foundation for designation as a "Tree City USA" City in an effort to promote its beautification goals; and

WHEREAS, in order to meet the application criteria for the Tree City USA designation, the City is required to establish an official City Tree Board to oversee writing and implementation of an annual work plan for planting and maintenance of City trees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKE WORTH BEACH, FLORIDA, that:

Section 1. Chapter 2, Article IX, of the Code of Ordinances is hereby created to read as follows:

**Chapter 2**

**ADMINISTRATION**

. . .

**ARTICLE IX. CITY TREE & LANDSCAPE BOARD**

. . .

**Sec. 2-82. Creation; Advisory function.**

There is hereby created and established an official city tree & landscape board to serve in a planning and advisory capacity to the city commission on tree and landscaping related issues as follows: ~~The purpose of the board is to establish policy and provide standards within the city landscape ordinance for tree preservation and protection, both public and private. This policy will include, but not be limited to: providing educational materials on proper planting, pruning techniques, insect and disease control; planting of native species; inventory of existing trees; permit guidelines including rules for tree removal; opportunities for citizen involvement; and city tree sales. The board will also recommend the planting of trees which will provide a continuing shade canopy into the future.~~

- (a) Advise on the writing and implementation of an annual work plan as prepared by qualified city employees or consultant(s) to address all aspects of the planting and maintenance of city trees and landscaping, including but not limited to: recommendations on dead and hazardous tree removal, safety, fine pruning, planting, watering, fertilizing, insect and disease control, and related long-term planning and prioritizing; and providing that work plan provisions that impact the City's budget and staffing also be approved by the City Commission;
- (b) Review and provide a recommendation on amendments to the City's landscape requirements based on the consistency with the Comprehensive Plan, these LDRs, the University of Florida's Florida-Friendly Landscaping Program, and industry best practices; and
- (c) Provide recommendations and guidance on public information, education, and outreach in furtherance of the effective implementation of the City's landscape requirements, including public outreach events like festivals and tree giveaways

or sales. Public outreach may include providing educational materials on proper planting, pruning techniques, insect and disease control; planting of native species; tree preservation and protection both public and private; and permit guidelines including rules for tree removal;

**Sec. 2-83. Members, terms and vacancies.**

~~(a) The official city tree board of the City of Lake Worth shall be comprised of the following members: seven (7) resident members. Effective July 31, 2013, two (2) resident members shall be appointed for one-year terms, two (2) resident members shall be appointed for two-year terms, and three (3) resident members shall be appointed for three-year terms. Thereafter, all succeeding resident members would serve three-year terms. The city horticulturist shall be the advisor to the board. The official tree & landscape board shall be composed of five (5) volunteer members, appointed by the city commission, to serve in that capacity unless and until he/she/they is removed from office pursuant to law or a vacancy that otherwise occurs, in which case said vacancy shall be filled by the city commission. Members must be residents of the City, or own a business within the City. The board shall elect its own chairperson and vice chairperson annually at the first meeting in January.~~

~~(b) The membership of the tree & landscape board shall include two (2) members to the extent available who have certifications, licenses and/or education as a landscape architect, arborist, horticulturist, master gardener or have education/training/degree in one of the following areas: landscape architecture, botany, ecology, horticulture, agriculture, sustainability or a related field. The remaining three (3) members shall be members at large, who have demonstrated an interest, appreciation, understanding and/or knowledge of South Florida friendly landscapes.~~

~~(b) The board shall elect its officers annually for a term of one (1) calendar year at the first meeting in January:~~

~~(1) Chairperson. Presides at meetings of the board and makes presentations, written and oral, on behalf of the board to the city commission and the city manager.~~

~~(2) Vice chairperson. Performs the duties of the chairperson in his/her absence.~~

~~(3) Secretary. Records the minutes and attendance at each meeting.~~

Section 2. If any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the Ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions or this Ordinance are declared severable.

Section 3. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days after passage.

The passage of this ordinance on first reading was moved by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

- Mayor Betty Resch
- Vice Mayor Christopher McVoy
- Commissioner Sarah Malega
- Commissioner Kimberly Stokes
- Commissioner Reinaldo Diaz

The Mayor thereupon declared this ordinance duly passed on first reading on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

The passage of this ordinance on second reading was moved by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, as amended and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Mayor Betty Resch  
Vice Mayor Christopher McVoy  
Commissioner Sarah Malega  
Commissioner Kimberly Stokes  
Commissioner Reinaldo Diaz

The Mayor thereupon declared this ordinance duly passed on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

LAKE WORTH BEACH CITY COMMISSION

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Betty Resch, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Melissa Ann Coyne, City Clerk