

North Liberty Tree and Storm Water Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date: October 8, 2025

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Abdouramane Bila.

2. Board Members Present:

Abdouramane Bila, Kevin McGrane, Daniel Green, David James, Clay Gavin, Guy Goldsmith (Parks Director), Mike Wolfe (Stormwater Coordinator), Brian Hamer (City Arborist)

3. Approval of Minutes

April 9, 2025 – The minutes from the April 9, 2025 meeting were approved. Motion by Kevin McGrane, seconded by Clay Gavin. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment

No public comments were made.

5. Board Member Terms

Welcome new members, Clay Gavin & David James.

Abdouramane Bila welcomed new board members Clay Gavin and David James. Clay Gavin and David James introduced themselves.

6. Appointment of board positions

1. Chairperson

Kevin McGrane nominated himself, Abdouramane Bila seconded. Motion carried.

2. Vice Chair

Abdouramane Bila nominated himself, Kevin McGrane seconded. Motion carried.

3. Secretary

Dan Green nominated himself, Kevin McGrane seconded. Motion carried.

7. Tree Reports

1. Spring Tree planting at Penn Meadows Park (MidAmerican 2025 *Trees Please*).

Brian Hamer indicated the City purchased 12 trees and MidAmerican donated two additional trees. Joint effort between the City and MidAmerican. Public was invited to learn how to plant trees and ask questions.

2. Tree & Landscaping summer maintenance.

Brian Hamer noted that it was a wet summer, was a good season for new plants. Discussed maintenance best practices for tree trimming. Generally waiting until late summer, fall, and winter for tree trimming. Plants replaced around City Hall. Zeller Street and bike trail trimming along Muddy Creek. Used a new skid-loader mounted trimmer to accomplish trimming along the bike trail.

3. Report on current tree pests, diseases & tree removals.

Brian Hamer noted occurrence of Maple Scale. No trees have been observed completely dead. No ash trees lost this year. “Legacy” trees are treated for the Emerald Ash Borer. Cutting back timber line in ravine next to dog park to allow for further expansion. Guy Goldsmith indicated that a number of complaints have been received from the public regarding tree growth obstructing intersections throughout the City. The City to focus on tree trimming around intersections. Brian Hamer specified that the trimming will be happening in the fall.

4. Other tree topics not listed.

Kevin McGrane asked if a new supplier of trees had been found. Guy Goldsmith indicated that a new supplier had not been found yet.

8. Storm Water Report

1. Review and evaluate City programs for MS4 permit compliance.

Mike Wolfe contacted the City Engineer – Shive Hattery to generate a General Permit #1 for the Streets Department facility to bring facility in compliance under City’s MS4 permit. This process is complete. Shive developed a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for Streets Department facility to be used during future inspections. Mike Wolfe will do an annual inspection. Shive also created a Spill Pollution Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) plan. Shive to do monthly inspections and Mike Wolfe to do an annual inspection for the SPCC. Shive is also working on a General Permit #1 for Public Works/Waste Water treatment facility.

2. New fiscal year City sponsored storm water grant funding is now available.

Funding renewed on July 1, 2025. Residents can bring projects forward and the City will match 50%. Each resident is only allowed one project per year, but can apply every year. Kevin McGrane asked the best way to contact the City regarding projects and funding. Mike Wolfe stated it just depends, but there is an online form for use by residents.

3. GIS mapping

Mike Wolfe still working with Streets Department to locate manhole structures and raise structures. Will help with future inspections. Mike Wolfe noted that they are nearing the end of this process.

4. Annual report

Annual report due end of October 2025. Mike Wolfe working on assembling information to submit to Iowa DNR.

5. Continued construction monitoring and plan

Mike Wolfe spending the rest of available time completing construction inspections for the many construction projects happening in the City. Inspections happen quarterly and Mike Wolfe just finished the quarterly inspections.

6. Other storm water topics not listed.

No other topics discussed.

9. Old Business

No old business discussed.

10. New Business

No new business discussed.

11. Next Meeting

1. January 14, 2026, at 7:00pm.

12. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Kevin McGrane, seconded by Clay Gavin. Meeting adjourned.