



# Programs & Services Committee Report

## City of Newton In City Council

**Wednesday, September 20, 2023**

Present: Councilors Krintzman (Chair), Noel, Humphrey, Wright, Albright, Baker, and Ryan

Absent: Councilor Greenberg

City Staff: Alissa Giuliani, City Solicitor; Jonathan Yeo, Chief Operating Officer; and Jaclyn Norton, Committee Clerk

For more information regarding this meeting, a video recording can be found at the following link: [Programs & Services Committee - September 20, 2023 - YouTube](#)

### **Referred to Programs & Services and Finance Committees**

**#411-22**

#### **Request for Amendment to Chapter 21, Art III Trees to extend tree protection and update permits**

COUNCILORS MALAKIE, NORTON, LEARY, RYAN, WRIGHT, LUCAS, HUMPHREY, BOWMAN, MARKIEWICZ, OLIVER, DOWNS, LAREDO, AND GROSSMAN requesting revisions and amendments to Chapter 21, Art. III Trees (sec. 21-60 through 21-89) to extend tree protection to all trees 6 inches DBH (diameter at breast height) and greater within the City (with no exempt lots); to update tree removal permits, fees, and compensation; and to strengthen protection for existing and replacement trees.

**Action:** **Programs & Services Held 7-0**

**Note:** The Committee will resume discussion on items #411-22 and #412-22 in October. The Chair requested that Committee members submit amendments and topics that they would like to revisit to the Clerk in advance of the meeting so that they may be compiled into a list. This list will be included in the Friday Packet before the next discussion on these items. Councilors voted 7-0 on a motion to hold from Councilor Wright.

### **Referred to Programs & Services and Finance Committees**

**#412-22**

#### **Request for Review and Amendments to Chapter 21, Art. III, Division 3**

HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting review and amendments to Chapter 21, Art. III, Division 3, Tree Preservation to increase replacement requirements for larger trees, add protections for smaller trees, limit removal of trees without replacement, enhance procedures for protecting trees, increasing payment

required for trees cut without replacement, protect trees on lots adjacent to construction, provide Tree Warden with additional professional input on trees on private properties.

**Action:** Programs & Services Held 7-0

**Note:** This item was discussed concurrently with item #411-22. A written report can be found with item #411-22.

**#300-23 Request for Confirmatory Order of Taking for Webster Woods**

HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting a Confirmatory Order of Taking for Webster Woods and a litigation update from the Law Department.

**Action:** Programs & Services Approved 7-0

**Note:** The Chair noted that this docket item seeks to correct an error regarding the boundaries of Webster Woods in the original order of taking. This error was due to a property marker being discovered that more accurately reflected the boundaries. A couple of Councilors asked for clarification on what the order specifically corrects. Alissa Giuliani, City Solicitor, noted that this would correct a scrivener's error and would reference the original order of taking when registered with the Middlesex South Registry of Deeds. Councilors voted 7-0 on a motion to approve from Councilor Baker.

The meeting adjourned at 7:14pm.

**Respectfully Submitted,  
Josh Krintzman, Chair**