

Bristol, VT Ad Hoc Tree Committee Selectboard Update 8/28/23

The Ad Hoc Tree Committee would like to request to enter into contract with Boro Hill Nursery to plant 30 trees to complete our 2023 Growing Urban Forests in the Face of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Grant.

At the December 5, 2022 Selectboard meeting the Town authorized the Ad Hoc Tree Committee to apply for a 2023 Caring for Canopy grant. Original grant application was for a \$5,000 Caring for Canopy grant to plant 30 trees which requires a 50% match. We were awarded a \$5,000 Growing Urban Forests in the Face of EAB grant which requires a 25% match, so we reduced the scope to 22 trees. We would still like to accomplish the original intent of planting 30 trees. It was our understanding at this meeting that the Town authorized the funding of up to \$4,500 in cash as match for this grant.

On April 15, 2023 we posted an application to Front Porch Forum and received 22 replies from homeowners that wanted a tree. We've inspected these sites and have determined that 17 are suitable for plantings. We are in the process of identifying an additional 13 street tree planting locations.

On July 11, 2023 we sent a planting bid for 30 trees to Boro Hill Nursery, Horsford Garden & Nursery, Greenhaven Garden & Nursery, and Cobble Creek Nursery.

Bid Results:

| Company | Number of Trees | Total Bid |
|----------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Greenhaven | 30 | \$29,886 |
| Horsfords | 30 | \$22,472.70 |
| Boro Hill | 30 | \$8,630 |
| Cobble Creek | No bid | No bid |

Recommendation: The Ad Hoc Tree Committee officially recommends Boro Hill Nursery as the lowest most responsible bidder.

Request: Enter into contract with Boro Hill Nursery for \$8,630 for 30 trees to be purchased, planted, mulched, and staked. Authorize purchase of 30 Treegator watering bags for \$1,200. Will receive reimbursement of \$5,000 from the state grant and Town will match with \$4,830 in budget funds.

Alternative request: Enter into contract with Boro Hill Nursery for \$5,858 for 22 trees to be purchased, planted, mulched, and staked. Authorize purchase of 22 Treegator watering bags for

\$880. Will receive reimbursement of \$5,000 from the state grant and Town will match with \$1,738 in budget funds.

Current available balance in A. Johnson Bequest is \$4,502.69

Bristol, VT Ad Hoc Tree Committee Selectboard Update 6/12/23

Applied for Caring for Canopy grant to:

- Plant 30 shade trees within Village right-of-way
- \$5,000 grant
- \$4,500 match from Village funds
- \$500 match from in-kind training donation from John Swepston

Awarded Growing Urban Forests in the Face of Emerald Ash Borer grant.

- Plant 22 shade trees with right-of-way within Village
- \$5,000 grant award
- \$2,500 match from Village funds
- Completion date of 3/29/2024

Our goal is to still try and accomplish the original grant application of planting 30 shade trees. This would require the original budgeted funds from Village.

Timeline

- ~~Determine grant project/proposal – 9/30/22~~
- ~~Submit grant application – 12/30/22~~
- ~~Accept grant award – 3/15/23~~
- ~~Create application for Free Street Trees – 4/15/23~~
- ~~Advertise application – 5/1/23~~
 - Received 22 responses
- ~~Create RFP for supplying trees – 6/1/23~~
 - Town reviewed and approved for sending out
- ~~Publish RFP to 3 potential vendors – 6/15/23~~
- ~~Select planting sites – Ad hoc Tree Committee~~
- ~~Select vendor for planting~~
- Call DigSafe for selected planting sites
- Plant trees
- Install gatorbags on trees
- Train DPW staff
- Monitor trees