



City of Bristol

INFORMATION TO ACCESS THIS MEETING

Public Works is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: City of Bristol Tree Hearing

Time: Dec 16, 2025 05:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://bristolct-gov.zoom.us/j/89802605715?pwd=aifjMKaVbHr19E4fJbyt9e6eshZglx.1>

Meeting ID: 898 0260 5715

Passcode: 427344

A meeting will be held on December 16, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. in City Hall Meeting Room 2-2 at 111 North Main Street, Bristol, CT.

1. Call to Order
2. Presentation of Information by the City of Bristol- Cutting of City Tree Located at Steele Road (lot 28-250/112)
 - a. Letter to Homeowner
3. Presentation of Information by Property Owner-Cutting of City Tree Located at Steele Road (Lot 28-250/112)
4. Review of City Ordinance and Potential Penalties
5. Public Participation
6. Adjournment

PER ORDER OF THE CHAIRPERSON
Raymond A Rogozinski, P.E.
Director of Public Works
City Tree Warden



Department of Public Works | 860.584.6125

December 8, 2025

Ray & Patricia Clavette
29 Steele Road
Bristol, CT 06010

Re: Cutting of City Tree – 26 Steele Road (Lot 28-250/112)

Mr. & Mrs. Clavette:

As indicated in the attached letter dated October 2, 2025, it has come to the City's attention that you have cut down a City tree located along your property located at Lot 28-249/111 Steele Road (north of 29 Steele Road). The tree was located within the City's right of way of Steele Road, and was therefore subject to City authority pursuant to State Statute 23-59, 23-65 and City Ordinance 21-12.

In accordance with City Ordinance 21-12 (6) "Tree protection. No person shall perform any of the following acts without first obtaining the authorization of the tree warden: remove or otherwise disturb any tree, located on city owned property" and ordinance 21-12 (7) "Any person who violates any provision of the tree ordinance or who fails to comply with any notice issued pursuant to the provisions of this section upon being found guilty of violation, shall be subject to a fine not to exceed ninety dollars (\$90.00) for each separate offense. Each day during which any violation of the provisions of this section occurs or continues shall be a separate offense. If, as the result of the violation of any provision of this section, the injury, mutilation or death of a tree or shrub located on city owned property is caused, the cost of repair or replacement of such a tree or shrub shall be borne by the party in violation". See attached for the full City Ordinance 21-12.

The City has obtained a price to supply and install a replacement tree in the amount of \$1,100.

The City has scheduled the following hearing in order to provide you an opportunity to provide the City any and all information associated with the cutting of the tree prior to a final determination by the Department of Public Works.

Hearing: Cutting of Tree (Steele Road) - Lot 28-250/112

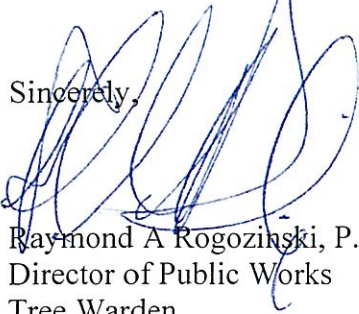
Date: December 16, 2025

Time: 5:00 PM

Location: Bristol City Hall, 111 North Main St, 2nd Floor, Room 202, Conf Room 2-2

Please feel free to free to contact me at 860-584-6113 with any questions on the scheduled hearing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Raymond A Rogozinski', is written over the printed name and title.

Raymond A Rogozinski, P.E.
Director of Public Works
Tree Warden



Public Works | 860-584-6125

September 29, 2025 revised Oct 2, 2025

Ray & Patricia Clavette
29 Steele Road
Bristol Ct., 06010

Re: Cutting of City Tree – 26 Steele Road (Lot 28-250/112)

Mr. & Mrs. Clavette,

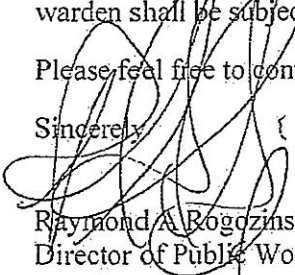
It has come to the City of Bristol's attention that you have cut down a City tree located along your property frontage located at Lot 28-249/111 Steele Road (north of 29 Steele Road). The tree was located within the City's right of way of Steele Road and was therefore subject to City authority pursuant to Connecticut State Statue 23-59 and 23-65.

As you are aware the City had posted the referenced tree for removal, designating City authority over the tree. The posting to remove/ cut the tree was subsequently removed by the City based on information provided to the City by Eversource Electric as such the tree was not authorized for removal.

If you have information that the City is unaware of regarding the disposition of the tree or the City information is in correct, please provide the information to the Department of Public by October 10, 2025. Please be advised that in accordance with State Statue 23-65(d): the removal, pruning or willful injury of any shrub, ornamental or shade tree, without the consent of the tree warden shall be subject to the penalty.

Please feel free to contact me at 860-584-6113 to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,


Raymond A. Rogozinski, P.E.
Director of Public Works
Certified Tree Warden
raymondrogoszinski@bristolct.gov

CC: City of Bristol Corporation Counsel

City of Bristol
111 North Main Street
Bristol, CT 06010
www.bristolct.gov

- **Sec. 21-12. - Tree ordinance.**

This section shall be known and may be cited as the City of Bristol Tree Ordinance.

(1)

Purpose. It is the purpose of this section to promote and protect the public health, safety and general welfare by providing for the regulation of the planting, maintenance and removal of trees and shrubs on public property within the city.

(2)

Intent. It is the intent that the terms of this section shall be construed so as to promote:

a.

The planting, maintenance, restoration and survival of desirable trees and shrubs within city property;

b.

The protection of community residents from personal injury and damage; and

c.

The protection of the city from damage caused by the improper planting, maintenance or removal of trees and shrubs located within the city property.

(3)

Authority of tree warden. In accordance with section 23-58 of the Connecticut General Statutes and section 46 of the City of Bristol Charter, the director of public works is designated as the tree warden.

(4)

Duties of tree warden.

a.

The tree warden shall enforce all provisions of any law or ordinance designed for the preservation of trees and shrubs on public property and public rights-of-way.

b.

The tree warden shall remove or cause to be removed all illegally erected signs or advertisements placed upon trees and/or shrubs within any public road or placed within his/her jurisdiction.

c.

For any trees that must be removed and are located within the city's rights-of-way, or owned by the city, he/she shall post a notice of proposed removal on said tree(s) at least five (5) working days prior to the removal, except when such tree(s) causes immediate danger and is considered a hazard or public nuisance. Following such posting he/she shall hold a public hearing regarding the proposed removal, if any person, firm, or corporation objects to said removal.

d.

The tree warden shall have the authority to plant, remove, maintain and protect trees and shrubs on all city owned property and rights-of-way as may be necessary to ensure and preserve the symmetry, beauty, and safety of such city owned property and rights-of-way.

e.

The department of public works, parks and recreation department or other applicable city agency is assigned the responsibility to assist the tree warden in his/her duties.

(5)

Applicability. This section provides full power and authority over all trees and shrubs located within streets, rights-of-way and other city property.

(6)

Tree protection. No person shall perform any of the following acts without first obtaining the authorization of the tree warden:

a.

Plant on city property, or treat, prune, remove or otherwise disturb any tree, shrub or forested area located on city owned property.

b.

Trim, prune, or remove any tree or shrub or portion thereof if such tree or shrub or portions reasonably may be expected to fall on city owned property, thus having potential to cause damage to persons or property.

c.

Place on city owned property, either above or below ground level, a container for trees or shrubs.

d.

Damage, cut, tap, carve, or transplant any tree or shrub located on city owned property.

e.

Cause damage to the root zone of any city owned tree or shrub by digging a tunnel or trench, moving or storage of construction vehicles, materials or equipment, or changing the grade within the drip line.

f.

Fasten any sign, playbill, picture, notice, advertisements, rope, wire, climbing spurs, or other materials to, around or through any public trees or shrubs, except in an emergency, such as storms or accidents.

(7)

Prohibitions and penalties.

a.

Interference with the tree warden. No person shall unreasonably hinder, prevent, delay, or interfere with the tree warden and/or his/her agents while engaged in the execution or enforcement of this section.

b.

Violation and penalty. Any person who violates any provision of this section or who fails to comply with any notice issued pursuant to the provisions of this section upon being found guilty of violation, shall be subject to a fine not to exceed ninety dollars (\$90.00) for each separate offense. Each day during which any violation of the provisions of this section occurs or continues shall be a separate offense. If, as the result of the violation of any provision of this section, the injury, mutilation or death of a tree or shrub located on city owned property is caused, the cost of repair or replacement of such a tree or shrub shall be borne by the party in violation.

c.

Citations. The tree warden shall turn over its findings of violation of any provision of this section to any officer or employee of the city designated to be a citation officer and empowered to issue citations under the Bristol Code of Ordinances.

d.

Appeal. Persons issued citations under this section shall have the right to appeal pursuant to chapter 23 of the Bristol Code of Ordinances.

(8)

Severability. If any provisions of this section or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid by any court, which decision is not overturned by appeal, the other provisions or applications of the section which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application shall not be affected, and to this end the provisions of this section are declared to be severable.

(Ord. of 2-9-99)

Raymond Rogozinski

From: Dyckman, John D <john.dyckman@eversource.com>
Sent: Monday, September 29, 2025 1:40 PM
To: Raymond Rogozinski
Cc: Massaro, Mark S; Carmody, Samuel L; Tribuzio, Joseph P
Subject: Re: Follow-up about the Steele Rd tree that was wrongfully cut down
Attachments: scan_raymondrogozinski_2025-09-29-09-49-58.pdf

It is interesting that some homeowners believe that they own to the middle of the street maybe in some communities but I've never seen that in Connecticut unless it's a private lane and that's fairly clear on GIS property records.

I am traveling out of state and returning to Connecticut tomorrow to work. I can put together a better timeline with more detail once back in the office.

But I do have a photograph of the wording that I wrote directly on the posting on the tree that says "trim only" in black sharpie marker. Lewis tree trimmed the tree some weeks ago (as we were made aware of a passing person objecting to its removal.(through your office)

The adjacent property owner seems to have made good on his statement (to the Lewis tree general foreman Javier Martinez who was on site for trim.) Javier is on vacation currently.

However it also appears to me that this homeowner letter is direct testimony of the tree cutter being an individual from the adjacent property.

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From: Raymond Rogozinski <RaymondRogozinski@bristolct.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 29, 2025 6:59 AM
To: Jacqueline Valentino <jackierose729@gmail.com>
Cc: Mayor'sOffice <MayorsOffice@bristolct.gov>; Dyckman, John D <john.dyckman@eversource.com>; Dyckman, John D <john.dyckman@eversource.com>; Thomas conlin <ThomasConlin@bristolct.gov>
Subject: RE: Follow-up about the Steele Rd tree that was wrongfully cut down

EVERSOURCE IT NOTICE – EXTERNAL EMAIL SENDER *** Don't be quick to click! *******

Do not click on links or attachments if sender is unknown or if the email is unexpected from someone you know, and never provide a user ID or password.
Report suspicious emails by selecting 'Report Phish' or forwarding to SPAMFEEDBACK@EVERSOURCE.COM for analysis by our cyber security team.

Jacqueline, thanks for the email and the attached letter. DPW will notifying the property owner and referring this matter to the City's corporation counsel office.

John, can you forward me any information Eversource may have on the tree in question.



Full Town View



Res

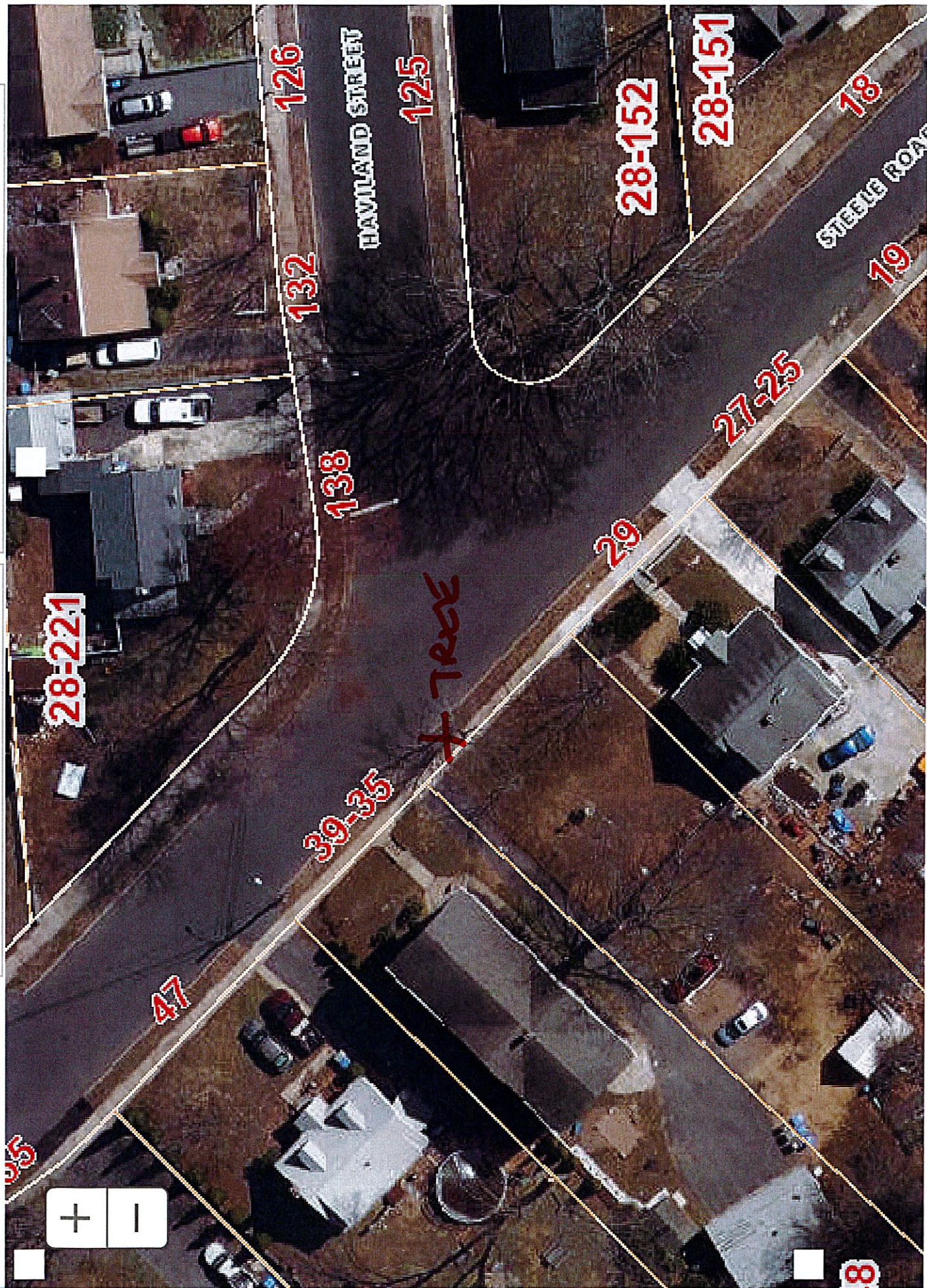


Base Maps / Air Photos

c



Map Layer









Landscape Contractors & Property Maintenance
DESIGN • INSTALL • MAINTAIN

Proposal for replacement tree:

December 10, 2025

City Of Bristol

Bristol, Ct. 06010

A) We will supply and install a 3.25-3.75 inch Zelkova tree for the replacement of tree on Steele Rd along the tree border.

Cost for such would be \$1175.00.

Please call with questions.

Bob Desmarais or Dave Eschner

Country Gardens of Bristol LLC

600 Middle Street

860-584-8997 (O)