

In 1854 J. Sterling Morton and other pioneers noted a lack of trees in the area now known as Nebraska; and

**WHEREAS:** The holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than one million trees in Nebraska; and

**WHEREAS:** On Arbor Day, people are encouraged to care for their natural environment. It's a time for people to get their hands in the dirt and plant and/or care for trees, bushes and plants; and

**WHEREAS:** The early pioneers understood the need for trees that would act as windbreaks to stabilize the soil and give shade from the sun; and

**WHEREAS:** Trees can aid in lowering our heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife; and

**WHEREAS:** Trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires, and countless other wood products; and

**WHEREAS:** Trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community and wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal, and

**WHEREAS:** The City of Sanibel is proud to participate in National Arbor Day and will celebrate Arbor Day in late January; and

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kevin Ruane, Mayor of the City of Sanibel, Lee County Florida, on behalf of the members of the City Council and the citizens of Sanibel, do hereby declare January 18, 2020, as Arbor Day in the State of Florida, and urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Sanibel to be affixed hereto.*

7<sup>th</sup>

January, 2020

Kevin Ruane