BOARD OF SHADE TREE & PARKS COMMISSION MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

December 11, 2019


Absent: D. Preis, H. Tedesco-Santos, J. Weber

C. Hittle called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. and stated that this meeting of the Shade Tree & Parks Commission, as required, has been made public and posted at Borough Hall.

C. Hittle asked for a motion to approve last month’s minutes. Motion made by A. Les, seconded by M. Ivanicki. All in favor.

Superintendent’s Report:

657 E. Beverwyck Place—two ash trees and a maple failed on their own and were removed. They were no fault of owner or developer. Tree preservation release—motion made by A. Les, seconded by M. Ivanicki. All in favor.

Planting—K. Raschen and W. R. Comery tagged 357 trees at Barbato’s. There are 90–93 trees left to be planted as of today. They should finish sometime next week. The second contractor has had the quality of some of the trees questioned. They will swap out three oak and K. Raschen has been working with them as they deliver them.

EAB—working overtime Saturday taking down trees and stalks. 402 is down—should be back tomorrow. The ash trees that were treated by Arbor Jet two years ago should be treated again in 2020. W. R. Comery made a motion to treat these same trees and treat some that we didn’t do in 2018. B. Keppler seconded. All in favor. K. Raschen will verify with Glen to make sure of trees to be treated.

2020 Budget—Our operating capital has been presented: replace 402, tow behind smaller stump grinder and a grapple saw for $750,000. There is at least a one year wait for manufacturing a vehicle. The Deluxe salesman said that there is 660,000 miles on 402 based on hour conversion. K. Raschen and J. Sexton will go to Budget Committee to explain why we are requesting these items.

Authorization to Pay Bills—Motion made by M. Ivaniki, seconded by A. Les. All in favor.

Assistant Superintendent’s Report:

Tree City USA—Paramus is one of 17 cities in the USA to win this award every year since its inception in 1976.
Tree Cities of the World – Paramus won award for 2019. We needed 500 points. They took a random sampling of square footage over different sections of the municipality.

An application has been started for a Forestry student to do a comprehensive tree inventory of Paramus.

Policy Manual Update: Our Policy Manual needs to be updated regarding live tree removal and driveway policy. There are two possible updates attached for the Commission’s review to change by the next meeting or February.

Insurance Claims, Violations, Bonds:

Paramus Road/Dunkerhook Road – seven or eight linden trees were taken down. An email was sent for restitution for approximately $17,000.

Biagio’s – Paramus Road - ST-1 violation – unauthorized tree work by Verizon

66 S Farview Ave – Beech tree top taken down – ST-1 violation - unauthorized

184 Birchwood Road – unauthorized trimming – ST-1 violation - gave warning

433 Abbott Road – they left the front steps and applied for a renovation and not demolition so they didn’t have to pay for tree preservation.

Personnel

Advertisement for tree climber has been posted – trying to bring minimum pay up for starting position.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 9:10 p.m. made by W. R. Comery and seconded by M. Ivaniki. All in favor.

Minutes respectfully taken and submitted by B. Keppler in Sarah Dahl’s absence.