

## BOARD OF SHADE TREE & PARKS COMMISSION MEETING

### MEETING MINUTES

May 9, 2018

**Present:** A. Burrows, K. Raschen, J. Sexton, B. Keppler, C. Hittel, , M. Ivanicki, , A. Les, C. DiPiazza

**Public:** Mr.Riebesell, Mr.Temiz

**Absent:** H. Tedesco-Santos, D. Preis, D. Minervini

W.R. Comery called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. and stated that this meeting of the Shade Tree & Parks Commission, as required, has been made public and posted at Borough Hall.

W.R. Comery asked for a motion to approve last month's minutes. Motion made by A.Les, seconded by C. Hittel. All in favor.

**Public:**

#### **Superintendent's Report:**

**94 Colgate Avenue-** K. Raschen presented photos, explained issues and his window to pay restitution for the significant damage to the town tree. Mr. Temiz claimed that after a child had gotten paint on the tree, he had to chop part of it off to clean it. He admit he did it, but didn't think it would damage the tree. He would like to buy a new tree or volunteers hours, said he cannot afford the \$2,500.00 A. Les asked how we came up with the price, Bill Comery stated it was assessed at \$8-\$10, and W.R. Comery questions his honesty considering Mr.Temiz has been into meetings before requesting the tree be removed. W.R.Comery also stated they are being more than generous with the amount being charged, there was no reason to take a "knife" to a tree. C. Hittel wanted clarification as to why we're not charging more. K. Raschen explained it is because he thinks the tree will survive. C. Hittel made a motion to accept K. Raschen's recommendation, M. Ivanicki seconded. All in favor. A summons will be issued if restitution is not paid by June 14<sup>th</sup> 2018. Mr. Temiz tried bringing up multiple unrelated issues, W.R. Comery referred him to other departments that could possibly help. We are only concerned with the damage done to the town tree. Mr. Temiz then asked if the other trees are ours, and it was explained to him that they are Board of Education's.

**405 Brock Court-** K. Raschen explained the resident wants the trees removed due to allergies. Chuck made a motion to deny, M. Ivanicki seconded.

**100 Jackson Place/95 Lee Place-** Request to remove sweet gum trees (3) at 95 Lee and 100 Jackson Place (Private tree). 89 year old woman, likes to walk, says it's a hazard, Bill explained they were planted there due to the damp soil in that area of town. K. Raschen stated they were trimmed last year – no issues. M. Ivanicki made a motion to deny removal, seconded by B. Keppler. All in favor.

**Release of Tree Preservation –** 248 Vivian Court- Tree is in bad shape but not due to construction activities. It is an Ash, so it's most likely due to borers. Motion made by B. Keppler, seconded by C. Hittel. All in favor.

**Besen Bridge Dedication-** Both K. Raschen and J. Sexton attended; there were about 45 people there. It was a nice ceremony and the family was very appreciative and sent our department a thank you letter. It was very nice.

**Emerald Ash Borer Treatment-** We got the funding in the amount of \$39,000.00 to do the EAB treatments. This comes out to 6,000 inches to treat in total. We are currently deciding which streets to mark and treat first, and which aren't worth treating at this point. We want to save as many as possible. The second treatment portion in 2019 will go out to bid. W.R. Comery suggested going to Andrea Court and Village Circle. W.R. Comery showed the commission how a tree caliper measurer works.

**PSE&G Meeting-** Woman who was in charge of our district left, we need new contact information for PSE&G.

**Tree planting quotes and locations-** nursery trees are great, growing well. Our tree spade stopped working and we are awaiting our new one.

**Authorization to pay bills-** motion made by B. Keppler, seconded by A. Les.

#### **Assistant Superintendent's Report:**

**Sidewalk Update-** Starting up again by the end of the month. 66 new sidewalk requests so far since the first group went out. We have at least \$146,000 to spend already. Mrs. Fellner's email was discussed. She contacted Quality of Life about many sidewalks on multiple streets she noticed while out that she expects to be fixed.

**All Access Playground-** The poured in place surface was vandalized, even though it was barricaded, taped off, and had many signs to stay off the playground. Apparently a whole family, adults included, ignored the signage and walked on it anyway. The cops were asked to keep an eye on it.

**Roots in the Lawn-** 62 addresses to do. Starting as soon as possible.

**Petruska Park**-June 3<sup>rd</sup> is the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary dedication for Michael Petruska. There is a small flaw on the dedication proof that we will notify the company of.

**Earth Day Recap**- It was very cold, but J. Sexton, A. Burrows, and S. Dahl set up, and handed out all of the trees and spoke to many residents face to face. It went very well. Residents seemed excited that the seedlings were available again.

**Agenda:**

**Notice of Violation-**

**Chairman's Report-**

**Genera-**

**Land use/ Zoning-**

**Old Business-**

**New Business-**

**Personnel-** K. Raschen explained to C. DiPiazza that we are down 50% seasonal employees, 20% of regular employees and getting job postings are a regular issue.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by M. Ivanicki, Seconded by C. Hittel