

BOARD OF SHADE TREE & PARKS COMMISSION MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

June 13, 2018

Present: J. Sexton, W.R. Comery, H. Tedesco-Santos, C. DiPiazza, D. Minervini, B. Keppler, A. Les, D. Preis

Public: Mr.Damis – 30 Kramer Drive

Absent: K. Raschen, C. Hittel, M. Ivanicki

W.R. Comery called the meeting to order at 7:31 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 B. Keppler, seconded by D. Preis. All in favor.

Public:

30 Kramer Drive- W.R. Comery asked Mr.Damis if he understood the criteria of the program. Mr.Damis stated he did understand. Mr.Damis showed W.R. Comery photos of the slabs he did not get replaced by the program which are cracked and crushed. He showed a root growing beneath the slab the he exposed by removing a piece of the sidewalk. W.R. Comery stated in all the years he was superintendent he never saw a root crack/crumble a sidewalk. Lift and tilt, but not crack and it looks like something ran over it. Mr.Damis stated the root is lifting it regardless, and believes W.R. Comery is speculating. J. Sexton explained to Mr.Damis that after marking 600 slabs in 5 months, not one of them was cracked like this, it is clear that the deterioration was caused by something heavy going over the top, not from one root below. D. Minervini asked if they have a pool in the backyard. Mr.Damis said it was there when he moved in. D. Minervini also asked if he had solar panels put in. Mr. Damis said yes, but the company used the driveway. J. Sexton stated they marked 7 slabs for repair at this address, if that slab was eligible it would have been marked. W.R. Comery agreed with J. Sexton that this is not something that happens from roots, if it was, we would have come across this within the many decades this program has existed. Mr.Damis stated he is not stupid, and believes they are still speculating. D. Minervini asked to have the commission inspect and we would get back to him at the next Commission meeting. J.Sexton stated he would be out to re-inspect within 10 days. D.Preis made a motion to repair 3 slabs, seconded by B. Keppler. All in favor.

Superintendent's Report:

94 Colgate Avenue: Came last month, he must pay his restitution by the end of the day or a summons will be issues.

76 Century Road: Release of Tree Preservation, motion made by D. Preis, seconded by B. Keppler. All in favor.

249 Addison Place: Release of Tree Preservation, motion made by D. Preis, seconded by B. Keppler. All in favor.

Vacancies: This is an ongoing problem. Currently down 5 positions. Can't get the postings from administration, we follow up and haven't heard anything in multiple weeks. We need to get advertisement out. People who are in this line of work are not going to find the postings if they're only on the website.

Emerald Ash Borer: The department will be composing a letter for the contractor to give the residents when they are out to treat the trees. We will add our phone number to the letter as well as the contractors for any questions the residents may have.

Authorization to Pay Bills: Motion made by A. Les, seconded by B. Keppler.

Assistant Superintendent's Report:

Sidewalks: There is capital monies unaccounted for which is causing the sidewalk program to go on hold. There are 68 incomplete locations to date. Finance Department told the department there is minimal funds left from 2017 which should not be the case. K. Raschen and J. Sexton requested a meeting with Holly Tedesco Santos and the CFO.

ADA Playground: Playground is complete. There were some irrigation issues; the builders hit a pipe while working and it has been leaking. It since has been fixed by the Parks Foreman. It has to be dug out, repaired, and filled.

Garden State Plaza: The plaza is doing some new plantings, W.R. Comery mentioned some ash trees in the surrounding area and the landscape plan for that mall. W.R. Comery suggested we take a look at their landscape plans.

Agenda:

Notice of Violation-

Chairman's Report-

General-

Land use/ Zoning-

Old Business-

New Business-

Holly Tedesco Santos brought up an address requesting back tree preservation on an un healthy tree. The commission voted to release the tree preservation due to a letter that was sent. We will still hold the \$5,000.00 for the Maple tree. Motion made by D. Preis, seconded by D. Minervini. All in favor.

Personnel-

Motion to adjourn meeting made by D. Pries, Seconded by B. Keppler