BOARD OF SHADE TREE & PARKS COMMISSION MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

July 24, 2019


Public:

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

D. Preis 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.

Superintendent’s Report:

256 Concord Drive- Building a home for himself, tree is at the driveway and is now dying. ST-1 violation letters have been sent and are on file. K. Raschen provided photos of how the gravel/driveway is up against the tree. The tree would be 24 ft. from the driveway if it was not expanded improperly. Motion made by W. R. Comery to remove the tree and keep preservation, seconded by B. Keppler. All in favor.

554 Beech Lane- Tree Preservation Release, Motion to approve made by A. Les, Seconded by M. Ivanicki. Unanimous vote to approve.

EAB Removal Update- Articles were put in the newsletter to residents regarding Emerald Ash Borer. The trees being removed on Overtime are pertinent removals that need to get done ASAP. 30% foliage removals will be completed in the winter months along with our non-Ash removals.

EAB Treatment Update- Treatment was discussed at the last meeting. The contractors we spoke to who do ash treatments, all agreed it seems to be most effective on smaller caplier trees. We will change the paint color for marking trees for treatment so there is no confusion with last year’s treated trees. W. R. Comery stated to take the funds from where we are told by Finance. Commission unanimously authorized up to $39,000 to be spent on treatment. All trees under 12 inch caliper will be treated. Motion made by W. R. Comery, seconded by M. Ivanicki.

Replanting- Spring planting was put on hold due to the EAB issues. 400-500 trees need to be replanted. Commission considered a request to go out to bid for upcoming planting.
PSEG Removals: The removals have been rescheduled by PSEG due to the recent storms – there are 18 removals we need their assistance with. Scheduling has been difficult but we are in regular touch with them.

Equipment Capital: Two stump grinders and 402 still need to be replaced. Most of our equipment is very old.

Service Requests: We are currently at 384 Service requests. These are still getting taken care of along with removals, banners, street trimming, etc. Crews are currently trimming Concord Drive and Alpine Drive as a whole.

Authorization to Pay Bills: Motion made A. Les, seconded by D. Minervini. All in favor.

Assistant Superintendent’s Report:

Sustainable NJ: Applied a total of 395 points. We were very diverse in the points submitted for this certification. Review begins soon.

Roots in the Lawn – 46 requests, 22 of those have signed hold-harmlesses. Those addresses have been completed. The other addresses have been sent a new hold harmless, along with a letter stating they will be removed from the list if the proper paperwork isn’t returned.

Sidewalks: We are still waiting on approval for the program to begin for 2019. Getting calls constantly. There are addresses from 2018 as well as 2019 that need to be completed. There are 113 locations in total.

Altec Demo: Hosted last Thursday. It took about a total of 45 minutes to remove a tree against a fence. This piece of equipment costs approximately $370,000.00. It was a very impressive demo, a large 28 inch caliper tree was removed in 1/3 of the time as usual. 1,000 trees can be removed before replacing the chain on the saw.

Old Business:

New Business: MVA at the old K-Mart Building. Waiting on police report so we can begin a claim for the trees damaged.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 9:07 made by D. Minervini, seconded by W. R. Comery