

SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 15, 2010

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance: L. Ferguson, K. Halpin, L. Starita
Absent: P.Huizenga, K. Clark

MINUTES:

Regular Meeting

The Washington Borough Shade Tree Commission Meeting was called to order and the "Open Public Meetings Act" read into the Record. The meeting was duly advertised and posted on the Bulletin Board for Wednesday, December 15, 2010. A Motion was made by K. Halpin and seconded by L. Starita that the minutes be approved for the meeting of November 10, 2010.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0

COMMUNICATIONS:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Washington Borough Park Project- Sunshine Tree & Landscape is still in the process of completing the tree removals/trimming at the Park. Sunshine will contact the Commission when the job is complete or if there are any concerns at the site.
2. Shade Tree Commission Website- The Commission was pleased with the sample that Councilman Victor Cioni created. L. Starita will contact Councilman Cioni in order to submit the Shade Tree pages to the Webmaster as soon as possible. The Commission noted that specific features can be updated when necessary.
3. NJ Shade Tree Federation Annual Conference- L. Starita and L. Ferguson attended the October 23rd event. Both Commissioners earned (5) CEU's each. This is one of the four requirements for the Commission to maintain Approved Status under the New Jersey Forestry Assistance Act.
4. Tree City USA Recertification- Application deadline is December 31, 2010. This membership offers various grants to secure the safety and aesthetics in our Community. The application is now being offered online. Shade Tree Commission Secretary, P. Huizenga will complete this process.
5. Quotes for the downtown tree fertilization and maintenance- The Shade Tree Commissioners reviewed the quotes that were submitted for the trim and fertilization of the 44 Golden Rain and 25 Cleveland Pear Trees that border along the business

district on Washington Avenue. A Motion was made by K. Halpin and seconded by L. Ferguson to accept Bartlett Tree Experts' (\$4,405.00) quote to execute this process. Bartlett's expertise and cost effective rates were the most beneficial choice for the Borough.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

6. Trim and Removal Quotes for the 2010 Maintenance List- The Shade Tree Commission reviewed the quotes to trim or remove hazardous trees at the following locations:

265 W. Washington Ave. - Removal
122 Sunrise Terrace - Removal
145 Sunrise Terrace – Removal
161 Sunrise Terrace – Removal
13 South Pickel Ave.- Trim
49 State Street – Trim

The Commission also reviewed (3) quotes that were submitted for purchasing and planting 6 trees as replacements in designated locations. Due to budget constraints, both removals and replacements could not be completed in 2010. The Commissioners agreed to prioritize the removals of any potential hazard over planting replacements at this time.

A Motion was made by L. Satrita and seconded by L. Ferguson to accept Peterson & Sons Tree Service to remove/trim the trees on the Commission's maintenance list.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 58 W. Stewart Street- Homeowner (Larry Zimmer) has limbs extending over the roof and needs to be trimmed. The Norway Maple is located in the r.o.w. area. K. Halpin suggested that Peterson & Sons evaluate and provide a quote for the trimming prior to their work in the Borough.
2. Review the Commissions' Fees to the Public- Any fees are primarily imposed on property owners that are in violation with a Shade Tree Ordinance. It is not a source of revenue. L. Starita will contact the Borough Manager, Richard Phelan to respond to this request sent out to all departments and commissions.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business before the Commission, it was moved by L. Starita and seconded by L. Ferguson that the meeting be adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Ayes: 3, Nay
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Fleming