

**SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 14, 2020**

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 p.m. via Zoom due to COVID-19

Members in Attendance: K. Halpin, S. Marr, G. Pohorely, S. McDonald, D. Butler,
Absent:

Washington Borough resident, Jerry Brown also attended.

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 Monday, December 14, 2020. A Motion was made by G. Pohorely and seconded by S. Marr that the minutes be approved for the meeting of November 9, 2020.

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0
Motion Carried

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Tree City Bulletin Nov/Dec 2020: An I – Tree Primer – This information will be filed for future reference.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. 17 Lambert St. Soil Test Results - J. Brown will try a different contact at Rutgers to get a better understanding of the soil test results. The report was inconclusive to determine if the owners could replace their dead trees yet.
2. Pocket Park Tree Replacement – K. Halpin will submit the cost of a replacement tree for the police report.
3. Pine Tree on Borough Property – K. Halpin will contact DPW Supervisor, Jonathan James to see if the dead Pine can be removed. It is located on the Southwest side of the Washington Borough Emergency Squad building.
4. Remaining 2020 Shade Tree Commission Budget – A Motion was made by G. Pohorely and seconded by D. Butler to purchase tree diapers with the remaining funds in the 2020 budget. K. Halpin researched the product and the Commission agreed that it would be a beneficial investment.

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0
Motion Carried

5. 27 Belvidere Avenue – Sunshine Tree & Landscape was hired to remove a stump with invoice #7747 in 2019. Due to the location of the Ginkgo stump, the removal was delayed but must be completed by the end of 2020. Sunshine will be contacted to ensure that the removal is done or the 2019 funds will no longer be applicable.

6. Expanding Shade Tree Commission Members – This topic will be reviewed in January 2021. A resolution needs to be prepared and included on the Borough’s council meeting agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 2021 Seed Catalog – S. Marr suggested that the Commission order two species of shrub seedlings this year. Pickup procedures may be altered, due to the uncertainty of COVID-19. This topic will be discussed further at the January meeting. The deadline to order is April 16th.
2. 2021 Reorganizational Meeting Date – Tentative date for the Shade Tree Commission Reorganizational meeting is January 11, 2021 via Zoom.
3. Tree City USA Reapplication – The annual application will be electronically submitted by 12/31/20.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business before the Commission, it was moved by S. McDonald and seconded by D. Butler that the meeting be adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted, Susan Fleming