

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

MINUTES

OCTOBER 9, 2017

The meeting of the Wellsboro Shade Tree Commission was called to order by Howard Rutledge in the Council room of the Wellsboro Municipal Building. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.

ROLL CALL: Members of the Shade Tree Commission present were Howard Rutledge, Peter Herres and Vicki Fox. Also present were Borough Manager Scot F. Boyce Jr. and Water & Sewer Clerk Teresa Marshall. Visitors – Bruce Bilder.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: Bruce Bilder handed out a sheet of comments concerning the five trees at the Packer Park tennis courts and their solutions to not taking the trees down. He also stated that those who play on the courts were not notified that the trees were coming down. There was one tree that he did agree should come down because of structural issues. Howard Rutledge said they would take under advisement.

MINUTES FROM AUGUST 14, 2017: There were two corrections made to the minutes. On the tree impacting the sidewalk – the location of the tree was at the Stratton property of East Avenue. Also there was a misspelling of Aspundh. Peter Herres made the motion to accept the minutes with the two correction made and Vicki Fox 2nd.

COST ESTIMATED FOR WEST AVENUE TREES: A motion was made by Peter Herres to accept the bid from Bob Davis for \$1,800.00 for four of the trees and \$500.00 for the smaller tree at Louis Prevost property. This does not include stump removal in the costs. WECO will supply the flaggers and Borough will pick up the larger wood pieces. Land owners will be responsible for removal of chips, putting top soil on and seeding. There will be a reimbursement of \$500.00 for the four larger trees and \$250.00 for the smaller tree at Prevost. The three other locations are Rodriguez(1), Carlton Nursing Home (2) and one at Presbyterian Church.

PACKER PARK TREES : There was some discussion on the letter received from Bruce Bilder and that ultimately it was Borough Council's decision to remove the trees. The trees are being removed at the costs of the Borough and with the removal will keep the mold from developing on the first court and from leaves falling on the courts. The Parks and Rec Commission are looking at removing the trees, railroad ties and vegetation and replacing with three firebird crab apples that won't impact the lights, low growing plants similar to what is around the sign, durawall and 2 half benches. There was also talk of electrifying two gas lights and putting them by each bench.

SEPTEMBER 13, 2017 MEETING: Peter Herres and Howard Rutledge attended this meeting in Williamsport and listened to a legal presentation given by Gilbert High. One of the points given was that the boroughs were responsible for pruning in the right of way. Peter suggested that the ordinance needed to be revisited along with the fine situations if not in compliance. A motion made by Peter Herres and 2nd by Vick Fox to approach Borough Council to proceed with revisiting the ordinance.

FALL PLANTING: Pete has ordered six trees so far. Three of these will be replacing the trees at the ballfields that were damaged by the wind. The West Avenue replacement trees will be done next spring.

CHRISTMAS TREE: A motion was made by Vicki Fox to plant a black hill spruce from Arrowhead Nursery with Dale Martin doing the planting on the green. It was 2nd by Peter Herres. It will cost \$600.00 for the tree.

PAULA GREER TREE: A motion was made by Peter Herres to pay the \$400.00 for reimbursement for hazardous tree removal to Paula Greer. It was 2nd by Vicki Fox.

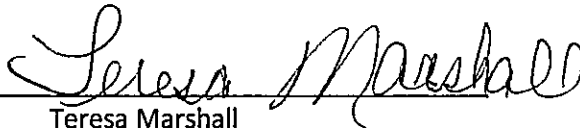
PERMITS: Pete made a motion to accept the permit from Hickory Terrace Development on Kelsey trees to removal two trees and stump and a removal of a Callery Pear and pruning of limbs over the driveway and sidewalk for 51 Pearl Street. Vicky Fox 2nd. A third permit that was submitted by Campbell's Tree Service was rejected due to the fact it was done after the work was done and not to specifications. Vicki Fox authorized the letter written to Campbell's Tree Service to be sent out and Peter Herres 2nd. It was suggested that the issue of getting permits for tree removal or pruning be put into the next Borough newsletter by Sue and that Borough Manager Scot Boyce Jr suggested that it be put on the water bills.

PUBLIC COMMENT: It was brought up about the ash trees in the Borough and some of the area that are tough to reach. The section of Highland Street to W Water owned by the Borough has ash that will become brittle and fall apart impacting the sidewalks. There might be enough ash trees that are on Borough property that there could be a small sale. Borough Manager Scot Boyce Jr. commented that DCNR has called and they would send two guys to put the trees on the ground. They will be John Redell to look at. Scot Boyce will bring up at next month's Borough Council meeting.

Vicki Fox brought up the issue of McDonald's trees that are in decline. Also brought up were the Greenwood Garden Development trees. These will be put on next month's agenda.

A motion to adjourn meeting was made by Vicki Fox and 2nd by Peter Herres. Meeting adjourned at 9:40am.

The minutes were respectfully submitted by


Teresa Marshall