

WELLSBORO SHADE TREE COMMISSION

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 12, 2024

The meeting of the Wellsboro Shade Tree Commission was called to order by Scott Nichols in the council room of the Wellsboro Municipal Building on February 12, 2024 at 8:30 am. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

ROLL CALL: Members of the Shade Tree Commission present were Vicky Fox, Scott Nichols, Brian Kennedy and Tim Morey. Also present: Borough Manager Lou Rachiele, Marshall Hamilton and Teresa Marshall.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Brian Kennedy asked Marshall Hamilton if he was aware of any funding to help with removing the Callery Pear and Norway Maples. Marshall responded there was no funding for removals. There is a community forestry fund available for hazardous tree removals of a 50/50 match. There would have to be a certified arborist for removals. Marshall will find out when the cycle is for funding. The contact would be Ned Brockmier from DCNR. Would need maintenance plan and replacement plan. Could possibly work for the large trees that would need to come down.

MINUTES FROM JANUARY 8, 2024: Tim Morey approved the minutes as written and Brian Kennedy 2nd.

SPRING PLANTING PLAN: Marshall Hamilton has reviewed the plan and has signed off on it. There will be ten trees planted and American Hornbeam will replace the Red Bud tree. After some discussion Tim Morey made a motion to accept plan and Vicki Fox 2nd.

TREE CITY USA: The application has been submitted.

HAZARDOUS TREE REMOVAL: None

PLANNING DISCUSSION: a resident from Cherry Street Ext ask that their street be identified as a planting site. There are no sidewalks and have no street lawn areas and narrow. Tim Morey will look at more. A suggestion was that PA DOT do some planting in their section.

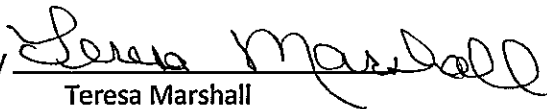
1. Identify priority streets. Do tree inventory and identify hazardous tree and invasive tree removals. Scott Nichols mentioned that we did Main Street from red light to red light. Not mentioned in the ordinance. There was discussion on designation of streets or zones. Borough Manager Lou Rachiele asked that if they wanted to change the ordinance or keep as is. Brian Kennedy is going to talk to State College. Tim Morey suggested we need a few different options and did we want to take on more responsibility.
2. Scott Nichols said that we needed to identify what we have planted. And Brian suggested a 5 – 10 year plan to present for budget. We need to know where to go and how to get there. We need to engage residents also. Brian Kennedy will contact Vinny Controne and see what other communities do. Tim suggested a proposal be brought to the next meeting.

3. Marshall Hamilton looked through the Urban Community Forestry program and there was an 80/20 match for removals of hazardous trees. The next grant period would be April of 2024. We would probably look at 2025 instead. Tim Morey brought up google earth to do the inventory. Could use different colors for invasive trees and another for planting sites. Marshall Hamilton brought up Tree Keeper also.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURN: Brian Kennedy made the motion to adjourn and Vicki Fox 2nd. Adjourned at 9:22 am.

The minutes were respectfully submitted by


Teresa Marshall