

WELLSBORO SHADE TREE COMMISSION

MARCH 19, 2012

MINUTES

The meeting of the Wellsboro Shade Tree Commission was called to order in the council room of the John E Dugan Fire Station/Municipal Building on March 19, 2012 at 7 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.

ATTENDANCE: Shade tree members: Howard Rutledge, Peter Herres, Vicki Fox and Scott Nichols. Absent was Robert McCarthy Jr. Borough Manager: Daniel Strausser.

MINUTES: Scott Nichols questioned the Bare Root Planting Plan of 17 trees being purchased and 20 trees purchased through a grant. A total of 37 trees are being purchased. A motion was made to accept the minutes of February 20, 2012 into record. Scott Nichols 2nd. Passed.

COMMENT PERIOD: Borough Manager Daniel Strausser presented a tree planting plan that he received in the afternoon from Greenwood Gardens that will be constructing townhouses on Greenwood Street. The plans for the development will be going to the Planning Commission on Wednesday, March 28, 2012. If approved it will then go to Council on April 9, 2012. The Shade Tree Commission would like to be involved in viewing the plans before planting. There was some question of some of the trees being planted. There will be a bio retention pond there also.

TREE PLANTING AND STAKING: The order for the trees has been sent. They will be staking the sites out in the next few days. Pete Herres received an email from Vinny Cotrone that the trees will be arriving on April 11, 2012 and maybe before. The Pa One Calls should be for construction purpose now.

STUMP REMOVAL: The letters have gone out to residents with stumps. The cemetery will take care of their tree stump plus the one on Nichols Street. They did get a call and email from Kimberly Smith on the corner of Waln and Walnut Street. She requested that the Commission pay for the stump removal since she paid to have the tree taken down. After some discussion it was decided that the stump removal has always been the responsibility of the home owner and the owner had the choice if they wanted to participate in the program or not. Howard Rutledge will give her a call on Tuesday.

HAZARDOUS TREES: There are two trees that have been deemed hazardous and are eligible for removal. The first one is on King and Walnut tree belonging to Cindy Long and the 2nd tree is on Rev. Halstead's parsonage home. There are two to three other trees on West Avenue that need to be looked at also. Pete and Howard will look at tomorrow.

PA DOT REQUEST: A request from Pa DOT has been made to daylight the area across from Harsch's on Tioga Street. Pete questioned how much cutting would they be doing? There is a dead tree that does need to come down. Borough Manager Daniel Strausser will e-mail Pa. DOT and Pete Herres. Pete will do a walk through with them to see what they plan on doing.

TRIM TREES: John McGarrity made a request to have two trees trimmed to prevent the flags from being torn up. One tree is on Central Ave going south and the other tree is in front of the Historical Society. Peter and Howard will take a look at.

TREE TRIMMING LIST: Pete went through the list and suggested that it be put out to bid. There is not enough money in the budget now. Also according to the ordinance it would be up to the property owner to take care of their trees. They have trimmed some of the trees that were planted by the Shade Tree Commission and the trees on Main Street.

DANIEL STRAUSSER: He received a complaint from Pa DOT concerning the safety factor coming out of the intersection onto West Ave. There is a tree and large shrub in the way. Pete suggested that the tree and shrub be removed and a tree that is of a larger species be planted in its place.

ADJOURN: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Vicki Fox and 2nd by Scott Nichols.

The minutes were respectfully submitted by *Teresa Marshall*
Teresa Marshall