

WELLSBORO SHADE TREE COMMISSION

SEPTEMBER 25, 2012

MINUTES

The Shade Tree Commission met in the Council Room of the John E Dugan Fire Station/Municipal Building on September 25, 2012 at 6 pm. Howard Rutledge, Chairman, presiding.

ROLL CALL: Members of the Shade Tree Commission present were Howard Rutledge, Peter Herres, Vicki Fox and Scott Nichols. Absent was Robert McCarthy Jr.

Council Members present: Joan Hart, Mike Wood and John Sticklin. Also present was Daniel Strausser, Borough Manager.

Visitor: Steve Hoover

MINUTES: The minutes from August 20, 2012 were approved as written. Peter Herres made the motion and Vicki Fox 2nd.

COMMENT PERIOD: There were no comments made.

PERMITS: There were no permits for approval.

SHADE TREE SEMINAR: Peter Herres reported on the success of the seminar held on August 24, 2012 at the Dean Center. The location proved to be a good choice and the speakers did a good job with their presentations. We provided beverages for both breakfast and lunch along with some breakfast pastries in the morning. Also included was a walking tour on what our community has done.

DANIEL STRAUSSER: They did question why there was seedlings growing in the gutters around the Elm tree at the Courthouse building. He did pass the complaint on and the County was taking care of it.

STEVE HOOVER: He expressed concern about Dutch Elm disease for the seedlings that grew around the Elm tree because they weren't treated. Howard stated that the Elm tree by Osram wasn't treated but has been posted around it.

PENN WELLS PLANTING PLAN: Howard felt that the plan was not followed. Dan Strausser has a meeting with them tomorrow and he will bring it up.

2013 BUDGET: Peter asked for input from the Council members on the extensive pruning list that Public Works had given them back in April. It is quite costly to do all that is on the list. We could do over a period of time but our budget usually is \$6-7,000

for both hazardous removals and pruning. Dan Strausser asked Peter to get some figures together. Steve Hoover asked if volunteers could do. John Sticklin brought up the liability issues involved and that a professional should be involved.

PETER HERRES: They brought in Dincher and Dincher to do Central Ave and the parking lots this year. Would like to do Pearl Street next. This would involve limbing up trees and doing some sight clearance on the corners. A complaint that was brought up concerning the tall grasses at the Knighton property. Peter will talk to him to see if he will cut down. Another complaint was the parking on Pearl making it hard to see coming out of intersections. Joan Hart brought up West Ave and the signs being covered up by tree limbs. Penn Dot placed the locations of the signs. If they could be moved three or four feet it would solve a lot of the problems.

VICKI FOX: Vicki asked about training one or two of the Borough crew. Daniel Strausser responded by saying we would also need to have a bucket truck, train them on how to operate it and get all of the certifications needed. Pete commented that WECO has helped out tremendously. They pruned Fischler Street and have removed trees for us.

MIKE WOOD: Mike asked about the fall bare root planting. Peter stated that there was no ^{grant} money available this year for fall planting. They have done a couple but prefer to do spring plantings. We were concerned about the dry conditions this year and also that the nurseries have a tendency to dig up the trees before they go completely dormant.

STEVE HOOVER: He helped Mansfield last fall plant 20 maples and they still look good.

ADJOURN: A motion was made by Peter Herres to adjourn and Scott Nichols 2nd the motion. Passed. The Council and Shade Tree members then went on a walking tour.

The minutes were respectfully submitted by *Teresa Marshall*
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