

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

MINUTES

JANUARY 13, 2025

The Wellsboro Shade Tree Meeting was called to order on January 13, 2025 by Brian Kennedy 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 Vicki Fox, Brian Kennedy, Tim Morey and Tyler Upham. Also present were Council Member Rhonda Pearson, Borough Manager Louis Rachiele and water & sewer clerk Teresa Marshall.

PUBLIC COMMENT OF AGENDA: None

MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 9, 2024: Tyler Upham made the motion to approve the minutes as written and Tim Morey 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed.

C2P2 GRANT PROGRAM: The confirmation for the \$50,000.00 grant was received. Brian will need to meet with Mr. Wigham to go over what will be needed to comply with the grant regulations. Tyler Upham suggested that the grants be placed on a google drive or one drive for access. This could also include tree planting plan and hazardous tree permits.

FALL TREE PLANTING IN-KIND REPORT: Brian Kennedy will be meeting with Mr. Wigham to see what can be used for documenting in-kind portion of grant. Tim Morey and Tyler Upham would also like to be present at meeting.

SPRING TREE PLANTING: They have applied for ten trees again and will have Vinny Controne look at plan for approval. We are looking at two trees being planted on Main Street to replace the two taken down in front of Becks after talking with the Becks and Dean Center. They will be also planting on one side of Cherry Street by PennDOT and the rails to trails location. Brian Kennedy and Brett Mengee have been doing some pruning in the pedestrian walkway areas. Brett will also be attending the webinar for Tree Tenders for six weeks.

TREE CITY USA: Brian Kennedy will finish the paperwork for Tree City USA and submit by February.

TREE INVENTORY: Tim Morey has talked with Ethan West and he is willing to continue doing the survey. He would start in May. Hazardous trees could be included in this. There

was discussion on engaging and educating the public and let them know when the plantings would happen.

HAZARDOUS TREE REMOVAL REQUEST: There were none for this month. There was some discussion on the tree at 11 Queen Street to see if it was pruned or taken down. They did have an approved permit.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Borough Manager Louis Rachiele brought up what the policies are, what is the shade tree area and to have no blurred lines. He had met with the state on sight distances and a no parking study on upper Main Street by Mr. Walrath's property. There is a large maple that may be affected by this change. Also there was discussion on different management zones, sidewalk heaving, maximum size of trees and the possible removal after a certain size or not. Maybe tree pits could be made larger was another suggestion. There is a need to educate the public to take care of the trees in front of their property at a young age to help diminish the cost of having to remove the tree at a later time. It was decided to hash things out in another meeting.

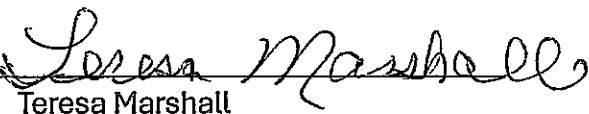
Borough Council Member Rhonda Pearson discussed the site issues have become a problem at intersections and on the streets. She suggested maybe starting a seedling program with the students. She suggested that the commission take their time on the ordinance and have a few different options also. A thank you was given for all that the commission has done.

There is a silver maple in a yard on Cone Street that may be a site distance problem. It was suggested that the police department take note of sight issues while they are out.

It was asked what the time frame was on the grant.

ADJOURN: Vicki Fox made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Tyler Upham 2<sup>nd</sup>. Meetings was adjourned at 9:35 am.

The minutes were respectfully submitted by

  
Teresa Marshall