

**BOROUGH OF WEST READING
SHADE TREE COMMISSION
October 9, 2018**

The Shade Tree Commission met on Tuesday, October 9, 2018 at Borough Hall. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. with Ron Schweitzer, Chad Moyer, Public Works Director Dean Murray, and Borough Manager Cathy Hoffman in attendance. Lynne Burns was unable to attend.

Visitors: None

Public Comment: None

Oak Terrace Trees

- The dead tree at the end of Oak Terrace will be replaced as soon as possible.

Trees to Be Planted

- There are no more specific areas to be planted this year.

Tree Removal

- The two Silver Maple trees have not yet been removed.
- A tree at 123 Olive is scheduled for removal next week and will be done within budget.
- Pricing has not yet been received for the removal of the Sycamore trees on the south side of Buttonwood Street for the 2019 budget.

Spotted Lanternfly

The Commission discussed possible actions to take to help in the elimination of Lanternflies in the Borough:

- Scraping the egg sacks from trees (where possible) over the winter.
- Once the adult lanternflies have died off, the trees will need to have new banding applied.
- The possibility of purchasing rolls of tape in bulk was discussed with the intent of residents being taught how to properly band their trees.

Tree Trimming

- Playground Drive trimming has been completed and Wayne Avenue is partially complete. The project will be complete within the next week.
- A search for grants that would assist in the purchase of a larger bucket truck have not been found.

Reading Hospital

- A representative of the Hospital has requested that the Zelcova trees on 7th Avenue that are declining be replaced with trees that have been planted on the 'green roof' of T building. The Commission is not opposed to that being done however the Commission felt that the trees scheduled to be planted by the Hospital on S. 5th Avenue and Parkside Drive North should be completed before approval is given for the Zelcovas.
- Several trees on 5th Avenue along the Hospital campus as well as the tree on the west side of 5th near Pine Street still remain to be trimmed.

New Members

- The Commission spoke about moving the meeting to an evening due to the lack of interest from residents who are available during the day. Mrs. Hoffman will determine some available days/times and email the Commission for their availability. A decision will be made for the beginning of 2019.

Chestnut Street Trees

- The Commission has not yet decided which species of tree should be planted. Mr. Murray suggested keeping the same type of tree that has been planted on either side of the school. He added that he would like to see some uniformity in the selection. Also suggested were honey locust trees or serviceberry trees. There are no funds remaining for new trees this year so they will be planted in the spring.

Memorial for Dean Rohrbach

- It was noted that Mr. Rohrbach had passed away over the weekend and it was suggested that a tree be planted in his memory. This will be discussed further at a later date.

Approval of the Minutes:

- The minutes of the September 11th meeting were reviewed and approved.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

- The Commission decided that there were no items of importance to discuss in the coming months, therefore the November and December meetings will be canceled.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Hoffman