

**BOROUGH OF WEST READING  
SHADE TREE COMMISSION  
July 6, 2020**

The Shade Tree Commission met on Monday, July 6, 2020 via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm with Chairman Patrick Kaag; Commission members, Chad Moyer, Ronald Schweitzer and Yahaira Castillo; Borough Manager Nicholas Imbesi and Public Works Director Dean Murray in attendance.

There was no public comment.

**Visitors:** Council President Jack Gombach

**New Business:**

- Dean Murray gave an update on the past storm damage. There was significant tree damage on Linden Lane, Delaney's Circle, Kent Way/Wayne Avenue, and Sunset Road.
- Dean Murray gave an update on damaged and dead trees.
  - Three trees were removed from Penn Avenue.
  - Dead trees on South 3<sup>rd</sup> and South 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue are to be removed.
  - Problem trees along South 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue near the hospital.
- Dean Murray also stated that threshold rods will be installed into trees on Pine Street and Kent Way to prevent them from splitting.
- Dean Murray reported that he would like to meet with the Code Department to show them where trees have been removed to begin addressing sidewalk issues in these areas.
- Trees in the traffic circle are not performing well, and the purple plum trees might be a better option at the park area. The Oak tree in the circle is half dead and should be removed. In addition, Massimo Grande has volunteered to purchase a new Christmas tree for the traffic circle. Chad Moyer mentioned that the soil in the circle could be impacting the trees.
- Nicholas Imbesi spoke about a tree on Kent Way where a homeowner expressed concern after another tree recently fell on the house. The owner would like the existing tree removed. The Borough hired an expert to inspect the tree and deemed the tree to be safe. Commissioner Yahaira Castillo recommended continued monitoring of the tree in question. Dean Murray agreed.

Ronald Schweitzer departed the meeting at 6:17pm.

**Spotted Lantern Fly:**

Dean Murray and Chad Moyer both agreed that they have noticed less Spotted Lantern Flies this year compared to previous years. Most of the Borough trees have been banded. Chad Moyer noticed Trees of Heaven near the creek that may be attracting the insects. Otherwise, it appears better this year compared to the two previous years.

**Adjournment:**

Chad Moyer made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Yahaira Castillo. The meeting adjourned at 6:26pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas Imbesi  
Borough Manager