



## West Reading Shade Tree Commission

### Draft Meeting Minutes

April 7th, 2025

#### 1. Call to Order (6:06pm)

- Members present: P. Kaag, K. Grassley (Public Works Director), Z. Shaver, J. Witmer, L. Burns

#### 2. Public Comment: none

#### 3. Approval of Minutes (February 3rd, 2024)

- Motion made by K. Grassley & L. Burns. (Approved)

#### 4. Old Business

- (Tree Watchlist) – K. Grassley: No damage from recent storms, and did not lose any large limbs. List includes 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave & Spruce St (x2), tree close to 415 Pine St. J. Witmer: 4<sup>th</sup> Ave & Oak Terrace 2-3 year old Honey Locust concerning base/trunk.
- (Tree Inventory) – P. Kaag: Borough Council asked whether the previous inventory information, conducted by DCNR in 2019, could be used to offset cost/labor in the formal management plan. Found that the information in the 2019 inventory was fairly basic but that it was factored into the cost for the plan. A comprehensive update to the inventory is recommended every 3-5 years, especially following harsh, dry conditions this past summer/winter. Commission members recommended contacting Penn State Extension & local representatives for information on potential grants to fund the \$15k total cost over two years.

## 5. New Business

- (Tree Planting) - K. Grassley: between Spruce St & Wayne Ave, will conduct more plantings in the Fall elsewhere and potentially discuss with tree vendor in Kutztown for choice of species. J. Witmer: providing letter to affected home owners about replanting after Borough removal, as well as providing options to chose species.
- (Tree Trimming) – K. Grassley: 400 block of Spruce St, 700 Block of Lakeview, Sycamore tree in the pool area before opening, 6<sup>th</sup> Ave young tree shaping
- (Tree Removals) – removal of tree near 5<sup>th</sup>Ave/Sycamore/Sunset, 7<sup>th</sup> & Wayne, 4<sup>th</sup> & Oak (x2), since last meeting ~ \$8100.

6. Adjournment (6:32pm) motion by Z. Shaver & K. Grassley. (Approved)