

**BOROUGH OF WEST READING
SHADE TREE COMMISSION
OCTOBER 3, 2022**

The Shade Tree Commission met on Monday, October 3, 2022 at Borough Hall. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with Chairperson Patrick Kaag; Commission Members Carol Leiendecker, and Zachary Shaver, Chad Moyer; Borough Manager Dean Murray; and Public Works Director Kerry Grassley. Commission Member Lynne Burns was unable to attend.

Visitors: Samantha Kaag, Resident Ty Gardner, Resident

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment: Samantha Kaag stated that she received a question from a resident concerning the ownership/responsibility of the foliage and trees along the railroad tracks behind Linden Lane. Public Works Director Kerry Grassley stated that he would look more into it and contact the resident.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve minutes of the August 1, 2022 meeting was made by Mr. Moyer and seconded. **Motion carried.**

Tree Planting: Holding off until Spring to maximize root strength, it is currently too late in the season.

Tree Trimming: The 700 block of Franklin Street is completed. Summit Street, South Fourth Avenue, Chestnut Street, South Fifth Avenue, and Spruce Street are to be completed. It was mentioned to consider the new Rescue Engine height for our borough streets.

Tree Removals: South Fifth Avenue next to school zone sign, 600 block of Penn Avenue, Yarnell and Chestnut Streets, Tulpehocken Avenue and Walnut Street have all been removed. Referring to list, two at Second Avenue and Spruce Street, near 316 Playground Drive, and near 415 Pine Street are to be done.

Tree Watchlist: Fourth Avenue and Chestnut Street, 400 block of Oak Terrace near 402/406 (2nd or 3rd in on South Side). The tree located at 403 Pine Street is slated to remove the old growth.

Updates: Nicole Phillips from EAC wanted to let the borough administration know that New Castle Lawn & Landscape is willing to make donations to the borough of plants or trees for planting. The Shade Tree Commission thanks New Castle Lawn & Landscape, Kerry Grassley will certainly reach out to them.

The 2022 Healing the Planet grant was awarded to the borough in the amount of \$10,000. Some adjustments were made to the labor costs associated with the project in order for the grant to be awarded. This grant will assist in removing downed trees in the creek as well as shoring up the creek walls to prevent further washout from erosion and storm water.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Kaag
Commission Member