

**BOROUGH OF WEST READING
SHADE TREE COMMISSION
FEBRUARY 6, 2023**

The Shade Tree Commission met on Monday, February 6, 2023 at Borough Hall. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with Chairperson Patrick Kaag; Commission Members Lynne Burns, Chad Moyer; Borough Manager Dean Murray; and Public Works Director Kerry Grassley (via Zoom). Commission Members Zachary Shaver and Carol Leiendecker were unable to attend.

Visitors: None

The meeting was called to order at 5:59 p.m.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve minutes of the October 3, 2022 meeting was made by Ms. Burns and seconded by Mr. Moyer. **Motion carried.**

Tree Planting: Bertollett Tree Experts walk through, next week or two, to see what areas are ready for planting and what areas need to be planted.

Tree Trimming: March could be the soonest that trimmings will begin in the following areas: South 5th Ave, 500 block of Spruce, Pine St, & Playground Dr.

Tree Removals: (2) on Playground Dr, one of which is dead, and the other is being removed for handicapped ramping on the sidewalk. (1) on Pine St & Ann St. Kerry is developing a removal plan for the Kwanzan Cherry Blossoms on N. 3rd as they are Park Trees and not suitable as Street Trees, current policy and law dictates that overhanging branches need to be at least 10 feet above the sidewalk and 16 feet above the roadway.

Tree Watchlist: Dying or damaged trees will be more easily identifiable in the spring when blossoming occurs. (Tree in front of 403 Pine St is being moved from watchlist to removal list)

Updates: Kerry will be going through the process to get proper approval from the State to remove downed trees in the creek, in accordance with the 2022 Healing the Planet Grant. This will hopefully be able to be done before the Fishing Rodeo on 4/15.

Sidewalk policy discussion lead to searching for a potential ADA Grant to assist with some of the repairs needed throughout the Borough. Will discuss further action with Council to address Street trees damaging sidewalks.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 p.m. was made by Mr. Moyer and seconded by Ms. Burns. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Kaag
Commission Member