

June 8, 2023

The Meeting of the Middlesex Shade Tree Commission was held on the above date at the Middlesex Borough Hall and called to order by Vice Chairman Sean Johnson with the following comments:

“This meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law in that the requirements of the law have been met by the Annual Meeting Notice which has been forwarded to the Courier News and posted in the Municipal Building on December 12, 2022”

Members: Jason Bond (absent)  
Sean Johnson  
Jim Gorman  
Frank Ryan (absent)  
Jeff Killian

Council Rep.: Doug Rex (remote)

Secretary Linda Chismar

Vice Chairman Johnson opened the meeting to the public. Seeing that there was no public participation, Vice Chairman Johnson closed the public portion of the meeting.

Mr. Gorman made a motion to approve the May 11, 2023 Meeting Minutes seconded by Mr. Killian and carried by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

Vice Chairman Johnson, along with all the members present reviewed the May, 2023 Finance Report.

#### Communications

1. 409 Melrose Avenue – Commission reported that the tree in front of this property should be removed.
2. 433 Melrose Avenue – The tree in question is located at 429 Melrose Avenue and is slated for removal.
3. 421 Chestnut Street – Mr. Johnson will look at the tree in front of this property at the curb line.
4. 49 Dayton Avenue – Mr. Killian will look at the borough tree in front of this property and assess.
5. 405 Decatur Avenue – Mr. Johnson will look at the tree in front of this property that has branches dropping.
6. 12 Center Place – Mr. Gorman will look at the tree in front of this property that resident feels is dying.
7. 210 Walnut Street – Mr. Johnson will look at the tree in front of this property.
8. 435 Runyon Avenue – Mr. Bond reported via email that this tree needs to be reduced approximately 8 – 10 feet to minimize the potential of storm damage.

9. 1 Elmwood Avenue – Mr. Bond reported via email to have this dead ash tree removed.

#### Work Agenda

1. 564 Ashland Road – Mr. Ryan and Chairman Bond will look at the tree in front and tree on the side of this property that resident feels needs to be pruned. Must confirm which tree is dead and what is needed.
2. Tree on the corner of Oak and Ashland – Mr. Ryan will go out to look at the borough tree that appears to have dead limbs that resident requested to be trimmed. – F/U needed at next meeting.
3. 153 Vogel Place – The dead ash in front of property must be removed. A replacement tree should be planted.
4. 246 D Street – Chairman Bond indicated via email that this tree in front of property should be removed.
5. 149 Vogel Place – Mr. Johnson reported that the dead ash should be removed and a replacement tree should be planted.
6. 7 Wells Place – Mr. Bond will look at the tree in front of this house and assess. – F/U needed at next meeting.
7. 400 Main Street – Mr. Killian reported that a dead wood prune is needed on this tree and remove branches from front of house.
8. 9 Lauri Lane – Mr. Bond and Mr. Ryan will look at the tree in front of this property that resident feels needs 3 dead branches removed. – F/U needed at next meeting.
9. 437 Runyon Avenue – Mr. Bond reported via email that the maple tree in front of house needs a reduction of the canopy size by cutting back necessary overextended branches approximately 10 – 15 feet.
10. 111 Grove Street – Mr. Bond will mark the tree and then DPW will go out to see if this is a borough tree.

#### Follow Up

1. 34 Orchard Road (Next to driveway) – Mr. Johnson will assess for the next meeting.

#### Violations

#### Unfinished Business

- A. Shade Tree – Chapter 395 Revisions – this was tabled until the September 14, 2023 Meeting for discussion.

New Business

- A. Budget Update – Commission reviewed the budget numbers listed on the Finance Report and reported that the pending list of tree work that has been quoted as of now should be encumbered and completed.
- B. Itemize tree removals – Commission agreed to complete pending tree work listed.
- C. Dedication of Tree for Arbor Day – The Arbor Day tree has been planted in memory of John Sweeney.
- D. Commission Secretary reported that the NJSTF 98<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference is scheduled for October 26 – 27 in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. Please notify the Secretary if interested in attending.

Vice Chairman Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jim Gorman and carried by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

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Linda Chismar, Secretary

NEXT SHADE TREE COMMISSION MEETING  
THURSDAY,  
September 14, 2023 – 7 PM

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please call Linda at 732-356-7400, Ext. 238