

January 11, 2024

The Reorganization Meeting of the Middlesex Shade Tree Commission was held on the above date at the Middlesex Borough Hall and called to order by Secretary Linda Chismar:

“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 January 2, 2024”

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

Council Liaison: Martin Quinn

Secretary Linda Chismar

Sean Johnson made a motion to nominate Jason Bond for the Chairman of the Commission for 2024 seconded by Jeff Killian and carried by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

Chairman Bond made a motion to nominate Sean Johnson for Vice Chairman of the Commission for 2024 seconded by Jeff Killian and carried by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

Chairman Bond opened the meeting to the public.

Angel Flores, 209 Walnut Street attended the meeting, and discussed the tree that is rotting in front of his house. He has had to replace the roof because a big branch fell off of the tree and has also needed to fix the sidewalk.

Chairman Bond indicated that he and Mr. Killian would go out to look at this tree in question.

Seeing that there was no further public participation, Chairman Bond closed the public portion of the meeting.

Jim Gorman made a motion to approve the December 14, 2023 Meeting Minutes as amended seconded by Sean Johnson and carried by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

Chairman Bond, along with all the members present reviewed the December, 2023 Finance Report.

Communications

1. 49 Dayton Avenue – Commission confirmed that this tree is dead and should be removed.
2. 209 Walnut Street – See Public Portion of Meeting.

Work Agenda

1. 12 Park Place – Jim Gorman reported that the pin oak needed a 2” prune.
2. 200 Blackford Avenue – Chairman Bond reported that there are numerous removals and trees to be pruned in front of this property and he will mark the removals and trees to be pruned, prior to getting an estimate from Predator.
3. Tree on corner of Oak and Ashland – Mr. Bond will follow up and go out and report on this tree that appears to have dead limbs.

Violations

1. 510 Beechwood Avenue – Court date of January 29, 2024 for violation (Chairman Bond will contact Zoning Officer to discuss)

Unfinished Business

- A. Update on Fall Planting - \$10,392 was taken from Tree Replacement Fund for tree planting in 2023. During the discussion of the borough planting the shade trees this year, Councilman Quinn requested that the STC check regarding not doing a mark out when digging to plant trees. He indicated that you must call out if digging a hole over 6 inches and that if found to be violation that the borough could get a hefty fine. Discussion also was held with the Shade Tree members regarding preparing a list of what type of trees that should be planted by the DPW, and compile a listing of small, medium and large trees for the DPW to follow when planting, so that there are no issues with the type of tree that is planted in certain locations.
- B. RFP – Tree Inventory – Chairman Bond will contact the QPA to review the RFP for the Tree Inventory. Secretary contact Bound Brook STC to get additional information for this RFP.

New Business

- A. JLUB Application – 156 Baekeland Ave. LLC (Block 341, Lot 1.01) – Chairman Bond will report back on this application.
- B. JLUB Application – B & B 18 LLC Lincoln Boulevard – Chairman Bond will report back on this application
- C. Commission members will come back with additional locations to possibly plant in the Spring this year.
- D. Chairman Bond reported that his family is actively looking to move out of Middlesex and will be working closely with Vice Chairman Johnson to review outstanding items.

E. The Tree Management Plan will be completed at the February 8, 2024 Shade Tree Meeting.

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

Linda Chismar, Secretary

NEXT SHADE TREE COMMISSION MEETING
THURSDAY,
FEBRUARY 8, 2024 – 7 PM

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