

November 12, 2015  
Middlesex Municipal Building

The Regular meeting of the Middlesex Shade Tree Commission was held on the above date at the Middlesex Borough Hall and called to order by Chairman Dan Gitler:

“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 8, 2014”,

Members:                    Jason Bond  
                                  Dan Gitler  
                                  Jim Gorman  
                                  Sean Johnson (absent)  
                                  Frank Ryan (absent)

Liaison                     Sean Kaplan (absent)  
Secretary                 Linda Chismar

Chairman Gitler opened the meeting to the public. Seeing that there were no public comments, Chairman Gitler closed the Public Portion of the meeting.

Mr. Gorman made a motion to approve the October 8, 2015 Shade Tree Meeting Minutes seconded by Mr. Gitler and carried by a unanimous vote of the members of the Commission.

Mr. Bond made a motion to approve the October, 2015 Finance Report seconded by Mr. Gorman and carried by a unanimous vote of the members of the Commission.

#### Communications

1. 60 Louis Avenue – Mr. Bond will look at the tree that has dead branches and report back.
2. 202 Chestnut Street – Mr. Bond will look at the third tree that has long branches hanging on the A Street side of this property and report back.
3. 421 Fairview Avenue – Mr. Gitler and Mr. Bond will look at the tree that resident reported needed pruning or removal.

#### Work Agenda

1. 511 Chestnut Street - Mr. Bond reported that the tree on this property is not dead. Mr. Gorman will go out to look at the tree also.
2. 220 Green Avenue – Commission recommended that a re-inspection should be done in the Spring to make an accurate assessment.
3. 639 Cook Avenue – Mr. Gitler reported that nothing is needed on the tree that is in front of the property that resident feels has wires embedded in it.

### Unfinished Business

- (A) Increase of Fines when Removing Trees – Commission approved the memo to Council and the secretary will forward it to the governing body for discussion in January, 2016 with their recommendation to amend Chapter 395-8.
- (B) Update on Door Knob Hangers – FST Quote – Mr. Gitler reported that he prepared a template for the door knob hangers and secretary confirmed that these funds are encumbered and he can now order the door knob hangers.
- (C) Tree Planting at Hazelwood School – Chairman Gitler reported that we have not received a response from both Hazelwood School and Mauger School regarding the fall tree planting. He will forward an e-mail to both schools informing them that we will be planting as soon as possible.
- (D) Update on 52 Glen Gary Road Tree Removal – This removal is pending Predator's discussion with the resident on Orchard Road. Once this has taken place, the secretary will send a letter out to the resident to confirm their approval to enter this location via their property.
- (E) Update on Fall Planting – Commission discussed planting to be done at Hazelwood School (6 trees), Mauger Middle School (5 trees), Cap Lane Park (Approximately 9 trees – River Birch, Willow and Oak) and 99 Rock Lane (3 flowering trees – Kousa Dogwoods and Red Bud). Also, the Commission is looking to plant the replacement tree on Howard Avenue that is in front of the playground.

### New Business

- (A) Remaining Funds in 2015 Budget – Commission discussed the \$9,006.10 funds remaining in the 2015 budget. The commission is intending on doing the Phase II Fall Planting and possibly encumbering funds to accomplish more planting in 2016, as we have not replaced all trees that were lost from the most recent hurricanes.
- (B) Second Phase of Fall, 2015 Planting – Discussed above with the Update of Fall Planting.
- (C) 2016 Shade Tree Budget – Linda will submit the 2016 Budget and request funds in the amount of \$50,000. The Commission feels that the increase in funds is due to implementing the management plan which requires planting of more trees and more maintenance. There will also be an increase in cost for the stump clean ups which have not been included in the past, but are becoming a problem with residents.

Mr. Bond moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Gorman and carried by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

---

Linda Chismar, Secretary

NEXT SHADE TREE COMMISSION MEETING  
THURSDAY,  
DECEMBER 10, 2015 – 7:30 PM  
MIDDLESEX BOROUGH HALL

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

