

October 8, 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 Vice Chairman Jason Bond:

“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 (absent)
 Sean Johnson
 Frank Ryan (absent)

Liaison Sean Kaplan (absent)
Secretary Linda Chismar

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

Mr. Gitler made a motion to approve the September 10, 2015 Shade Tree Meeting Minutes seconded by Mr. Bond and carried by a unanimous vote of the members of the Commission.

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

Communications

1. 318 Edgeworth & Woodland – Commission advised that Predator should clear and do a dead wood prune and inspect for potential disease.
2. 345 Cook Avenue – Commission recommended that the 2 pin oaks be crown cleaned and that a re-inspection of this tree be done in May.
3. 318 Second Street – Mr. Gitler will look at this tree that resident is requesting be pruned. – **NOTHING NEEDED AT THIS TIME**
4. 303 Melrose Avenue – Commission recommended that the tree be crown cleaned and resident could trim the roots if necessary due to uplifting of driveway.
5. 100 Zoar Place – Mr. Gitler and Mr. Johnson will view this tree that has a branch hanging on the property. – **HIGH PRIORITY TO REMOVE SPLIT BRANCH**
6. 639 Cook Avenue – Mr. Gitler will look at the tree in the front of the property that resident feels has wires embedded in it.
7. 208 Giles Avenue – Mr. Gitler will look at the tree closest to the driveway to assess it. – **REMOVAL NEEDED**

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. 312 Raphael Avenue – Commission recommended that the sweet gum should be pruned and the sycamore should be pruned with a light crown reduction towards the house.
3. 99 Rock Lane – Mr. Bond recommended that this tree should be removed and replaced.
4. 300 Raritan Avenue – Mr. Johnson recommended that nothing was needed on this tree at this time.
5. 220 Green Avenue – Commission recommended that a re-inspection should be done in the Spring to make an accurate assessment.
6. 305 E Street – Commission agreed that the two maple trees in the front of this property should be removed.

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 at the October 27, 2015 Meeting 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 would be going to FST this week to get these door knob hangers made.
- (C) Tree Planting at Hazelwood School – Shade Tree Secretary forwarded a letter to Hazelwood School principal and Mr. Mulvey requesting to plant in the front of the school. She is awaiting a response on this request.
- (D) Update on 52 Glen Gary Road Tree Removal – A voucher was done to have this tree removed and the Borough Attorney prepared a letter to go to the homeowner on Orchard Road to request approval to use their property to get this tree removed. The Shade Tree Secretary will await a response and then try to coordinate with Predator the removal of this tree.

New Business

- (A) Commission discussed the fall, 2015 planting and the species that they would like to get for each location, and the Commission is looking for diversity in species this year. They also determined that because of the weather conditions, that there should be no swamp white oaks planted this year.
 1. 122 Benart Place – Plant 1 Kentucky Coffee Tree and 1 saw tooth oak
 2. 404 New Street – Plant 1 silver maple
 3. 350 Bound Brook Road – Plant 1 river birch and 1 linden
 4. 244 Fairfield Avenue – Plant 1 London Plane
 5. 300 Beechwood Avenue – Plant 1 ginkgo on the Dorn Ave. side of property
 6. 540 Cook Avenue – Plant 2 maples
 7. 310 Shepherd Avenue – Plant 1 maple tree
 8. 318 Melrose Avenue – Plant 2 river birch

9. Hazelwood School – Awaiting response to plant 1 – 2 trees in front of school left side of driveway and 3 – 4 trees on right side of parking lot (saw tooth oak, Kentucky Coffee Trees)
10. 99 Rock Lane – Replace tree that did not make it with Kentucky Coffee Tree
11. Watchung School – Awaiting response to plant 5 trees (zelcova & saw tooth oak or chestnut oak) between Edgeworth and Howard Avenue.
12. 328 Beechwood Avenue – Plant 2 saw tooth oaks
13. Replace 2 on Howard Avenue that died with saw tooth oaks
14. Howard Avenue – In front of Watchung School – replace the tree that died with a river birch
15. Dorn Avenue – Replace the tree that died

(B) Also, besides planting at Hazelwood School, they would like to plant trees on the right of way in the back of Mauger Middle School on Woodland Avenue. They are looking to plant at least 5 trees at that location.

(C) Another potential planting location would be at Cap Lane Park. They also are looking to remove dead trees from this location. Mr. Gitler will go out to assess this park and the potential to replant there.

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

Linda Chismar, Secretary

NEXT SHADE TREE COMMISSION MEETING
THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 12, 2015 – 7:30 PM
MIDDLESEX BOROUGH HALL

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

