

BOROUGH OF WEST CAPE MAY

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

July 7, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Borough of West Cape May Shade Tree Commission was called to order by Wayne Hoffman at 6:04 PM via a Zoom Web Conference. This meeting is held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10:4-6 et seq., notice of which was sent to the Star and Wave and posted on the bulletin board in the foyer of Borough Hall, 732 Broadway, West Cape May, NJ.

ROLL CALL AND FLAG SALUTE

Members present: Lisa Bernstein, Dave Hammond, Susan Hoffman, Wayne Hoffman, Bill Oetinger, +and Harry Schmidt. Matt Notch, Parker Smith and Bill McCray were absent.

Others present: Peter Burke, Deputy Mayor

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

After a review of the minutes from the June 2, 2020 meeting, a motion to approve the minutes was made by Dave Hammond and seconded by Harry Schmidt. The minutes were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Bill Oetinger reported a balance of \$92,051.28. Expenses included refunds for event cancellation, the purchase of a sample bench for Wilbraham Park and Shade Tree Federation dues. A motion to accept the report was made by Wayne Hoffman and seconded by Susan Hoffman. The report was approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

There were requests to remove five trees this month. The borough arborist recommended that all five trees be removed. Bill Oetinger made a motion that the removal of all five trees be approved and the arborist's recommendation for replacement trees be accepted. Wayne Hoffman seconded the motion and the commission voted to approve. Detail for each request follows.

- **206 Columbia Ave.**
The homeowner requested the removal of a sassafras tree. The borough arborist visited the property on June 24, 2020. He recommended that the tree be removed because it is dead. The tree should be replaced with one large tree from the West Cape May List of Approved Trees.
- **404 Third Ave.**
The property owner requested the removal of two persimmon trees. The borough arborist visited the property on June 24, 2020. He recommended that the trees be

removed because they are dead. The trees should be replaced with two large trees from the West Cape May List of Approved Trees.

- **615 Broadway**

The property owner requested the removal of a black cherry tree. The borough arborist visited the property on June 24, 2020. He recommended that the tree be removed because it is heavily covered in vines and two of the trunks have been stubbed off. The tree should be replaced with one large tree from the West Cape May List of Approved Trees.

- **210 Columbia Ave.**

The property owner requested the removal of a red mulberry tree. The borough arborist visited the property on June 24, 2020. He recommended that tree be removed because it is in severe decline. It is probable that the root system was damaged during construction of the new home. The tree should be replaced with one large tree from the West Cape May List of Approved Trees.

- **409 Broadway**

The property owner requested the removal of a magnolia tree. The borough arborist visited the property on July 2, 2020. He recommended that the tree be removed because it has outgrown the space in which it is planted. The tree should be replaced with one small or medium tree from the West Cape May List of Approved Trees.

OPEN PUBLIC PORTION

- No members of the public were present

OLD BUSINESS

- **Code Enforcement**

The sub-group consisting of Wayne Hoffman, Dave Hammond and Bill Oetinger continues to meet. The proposed ordinance will be ready for review by the commission at its August meeting.

- **Wilbraham Park Benches**

Peter Burke reported that numerous borough staff and community members viewed the proposed bench and agree it would be a good choice for Wilbraham Park. The benches are maintenance free and guaranteed for 50 years. Wayne Hoffman made a motion to approve the purchase of ten additional benches to be installed in Wilbraham Park. Dave Hammond seconded the motion and the commission voted to approve.

- **Tree Inventory**

Susan Hoffman reported that the RFP is in process.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Solar Lights**

Several commission members viewed the solar lights on the Cape May sign in the municipal parking lot on the corner of Perry and Lafayette. They reported that the light generated was not adequate for our use in Wilbraham Park.

- **Tree City USA**

Susan Hoffman reported that the borough has been named a Tree City USA for the 23rd consecutive year. Peter Burke said that the borough has numerous Tree City USA flags that could be displayed.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Hoffman, Secretary