



TOWNSHIP OF OLD BRIDGE

SHADE TREE COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE CONSERVATION OFFICER
GARY LOVALLO CTE, CF, CA, AF
ONE OLD BRIDGE PLAZA
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Chairperson – Dan Ostrowski

Vice Chair – Gina Talamo

Commission Members- Joseph Adelfio, David Carbone, Ellen Connor, Bill Hoban, Vincent Lovallo, Lori Stapleton

CALL TO ORDER

Shade Tree Commission was called to order by the Chair, D. Ostrowski, on Wednesday, February 27, 2019 at 7:00p.

FLAG SALUTE

ANNOUNCED COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT

In compliance

ROLL CALL

Present: Dan Ostrowski, Gina Talamo, Vincent Lovallo, Ellen Connor, Lori Stapleton, Bill Hoban, Joe Adelfio & Conservation Officer Gary Lovallo

Excused: Dave Carbone

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING REVIEWED

Meeting minutes of the January 23, 2019 meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve was made by the Chair and seconded by V. Lovallo and the motion carried.

BUDGET

Conservation Officer G. Lovallo reported that as of February 2019 the trust account amount is \$398,102.53. This amount does not reflect \$168,000 payment received for The Oaks project.

TREE SPECIALIST GARY LOVALLO/FORESTERS REPORT

Presentation and Discussions: Conservationist Officer/Forester G. Lovallo distributed and discussed his Monthly Report for February 2019 (1.28 – 2.27). Reports are available upon request.

Municipal Tree Planting – Conservation Officer G. Lovallo indicated that the Tree Contractor's (NJ Tree Foundations) contract has been extended, and also explained that the Municipal Tree Planting Plan does call for trees to be planted in certain places around the township. With funds available for planting, he encouraged the Commission to think about spaces that could use tree plantings.

Permits and Violations – There were no violations in February.

Complaints - There were no complaints in February.

Site Plan Review

- *OLD BRIDGE INVESTMENTS* – site located at Texas Rd at Marlboro Rd, will be cleared of all trees in preparation for sale of the land. Payment for the tree removal permit was received in the amount of \$4700.
- *BORDENTOWN REALTY* – a portion of the baseball fields behind Madison Park Fire Department has been approved for a 1 story masonry office/manufacturing building. Trees, that are set far off of Bordentown Rd, will be removed. Project will go before the Planning Board on March 5, 2019.
- *AMBOY BANK EXPANSION* – new building between Wawa & existing Amboy Bank on Rt. 9. With the new build, additional parking is required. There are Heritage trees on site in three locations that might require removal to make enough space for the additional parking. Developer is currently assessing the value of the trees vs. considering requesting a variance to keep the trees and decrease the number of parking spots required.
- *THE OAKS* – this is a Brunetti project located behind the Grand Marquis. Payment for the tree removal permit was received in the amount of \$168,000. Project has been dormant but appears to be picking back up again.

OLD BUSINESS

Arbor Day 2019 – The Arbor Day date this year is April 18th 2019 beginning at 10a and will be held at Madison Park Elementary School. E. Connor reported that a point person at the school has been identified and is currently making arrangements for the day. The Commission will plant two trees and hand out seedlings at the event. E. Connor will follow up with the school for the two locations for the tree plantings.

Cottrell Farms - The tree plan for Cottrell Farms was reviewed. 1 Heritage, 2 spruces, 2 dead trees, 1 cedar, and 1 black walnut will be removed. The tree removal will be completed soon.

Website – Members stated that the website is in good shape, but noted that a few edits needed to be made. The Chair offered to follow up with D. Carbone with those edits and to request that a few links to tree permit applications and to the scholarship program be added to the website.

Grants – Conservation Officer G. Lovallo reported that a grant has been submitted for funds to plant trees in Laurence Harbor on Cliffwood Way.

Scholarships – V. Lovallo updated the group on status; to date, no applications have been received for the Old Bridge Shade Tree Arboriculture Scholarship program. To that end, it was agreed to put the scholarship information on the Township website to make sure the word was getting out.

Tree City - Conservation Officer G. Lovallo requested and received an extension to submit the application by March 1, 2019. Application will be submitted by this deadline.

NEW BUSINESS

Tree planting – With only one 1 application received to date, there was discussion around how to get more trees planted and how to get more residents to request tree plantings. G. Lovallo offered to talk to the Tree Contractor about holding a few education sessions for residents to teach them about tree plantings as a way to garner more interest in planting trees in their neighborhoods.

Correspondence: None

Bills: none

Adjourn - Motion to adjourn was made by the Chair at 8:00p and seconded by B. Hoban

Next meeting: Monday, March 18, 2019 @ 7:00p in Room 201