

## **OAKLAND SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

### **Meeting Minutes for March 2, 2020**

1. Meeting Called to Order at 7:20 pm
2. Meeting Announcement: This meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Law, duly announced and posted in the Municipal Building.
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Roll call
  - a. Peter Kikot, present
  - b. Ed Clark, present
  - c. Nancy Krause, present
  - d. Anthony Smid, present
  - e. Kim Bouma, excused
  - f. Joe LaTerra, excused
  - g. Terri Casaleggio, excused
  - h. Ray Carroll, absent
  - i. Larry Levine, resigned
  - j. Councilman Lew Levey, present
5. Meeting minutes from January and February were unanimously approved as amended.
6. Larry Levine, stepped down from the Shade Tree Commission so there is currently one position opened. We need a new person to take up the Adopt a Tree Program.
7. The Oakland STC is now officially NJUCF Accredited for 2019. To be accredited, we completed 16 CEU credits, had an approved Community Forestry Management Plan, 3 members with Core Training, 1 DPW with Core Training, and submitted our 2019 annual report. Our Accreditation status was documented on Sustainable Jersey and will count for 20 points for the Sustainable Oakland Green Team.
8. Ed Clark, submitted comments for the ordinance. Peter Kikot will work with Ed to incorporate the changes before submitting to the Borough Attorney for review.
9. 2020 budget update. After meeting with Borough Administrator, it was determined that we cannot increase the number of trees approved in 2019 in the previous rfq for tree purchases.
10. RFQ for removal: The bids from the most recent RFQ's to remove dead/dying street trees was reviewed. Mahwah Tree Service had the lowest bid of \$20,600. The highest bid was \$39,967. The job cannot be awarded until the 2020 budget is passed. However, 3 dangerous trees need to be taken down immediately due to safety issue. Mahwah TS had the lowest bids for these three trees (\$2,250). Motion made to accept; all in favor.
11. Five RFQ's were received for an emergency tree removal on 44 Grove Street. Mahwah TS bid was the lowest at \$1250. Motion made to accept; all in favor
12. New Business –
  - a. Peter Kikot reported on, trees being illegally taken down in the Tanglewood East Community, at the end of Bailey Ave. Borough going to send out letter to residents of community to notify that permits are required for dead or alive trees to be taken down. The police are to be notified if trees are actively being taken down.
  - b. Peter Kikot also reported trees being taken down on February 29, at 206 Long Hill Rd without a permit. He counted 21 stumps and additional trees had already had limbs removed to be taken down. The tree company was told to stop, A&M from Paterson and the homeowner, Linda Lenas, were told they needed a permit. Peter Kikot will contact John Wittekind, new Construction Official. The permit came in March 2. We can measure trees and see what they will be charged.

- c. Ed Clark, updated the location of the 31 trees to plant in town – highlighted are the easiest to plant and care for. Vendor will order, plant, and water.
  - d. Councilman Levey reported that resident who fell trees into the Ramapo river, will receive a fine of \$150 every time the inspector comes back and the trees are not removed from the river.
  - e. 28 Ryerson building plans were reviewed. Seventeen new trees are required for replacement
13. Next meeting is on Monday April 6, 2020, 7pm. Meeting adjournment 8:13 pm.