



HAWTHORNE

Shade Tree Commission

BOROUGH OF HAWTHORNE
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
445 LAFAYETTE AVENUE, HAWTHORNE, NEW JERSEY 07506
PHONE: 427-5555 EXT. 318

October 5, 2010 Meeting Notes

Attendance: Philip Savoie (PS), John Terry (JT), Pieter Slump (PSL), Alternate Jack Fannin (JF), Alternate David Sailer (DS), Councilman John Bertollo (JB)-alternate for Councilman Wojtecki

Absent: Declan Madden (DM), Rick Hockenberry (RH), Councilman Joe Wojtecki.

Meeting 07:30PM-10:00PM

Motion to open October 2010 meeting JF, seconded PS, unanimous approval to open public meeting. JF voted affirmative to open meeting as alternate commissioner.

1. Public session (if needed).

Resident Jean Gabriel-110 Rea Ave. came to ask for a Borough tree (located on Rea Ave.) to be pruned or removed, since she has put in several work requests with the town. The Commission responded that a review of this tree would be performed and a decision communicated to her as to the status of the tree.

Public portion of meeting ended at this time and executive session started.

2. Review of September 2010 Meeting notes.

Motion to approve September 2010 meeting notes PSL, seconded JT, unanimous approval to accept meeting notes.

3. Budget review.

A. 2011 Budget.

B. Final 2010 expenditures.

Mention only.

4. Old Business items.

A. Letters to be written to residents, property owners, etc.

1. 64 Warburton Ave. *PSL to write.*

2. 890 Lafayette Ave. *PS to write.*

3. 113 9th Ave. *Temporary hold off on this letter.*

4. PSE&G 6th Ave. & 9th Ave. Substation inspection. *PSL to write.*

5. 107 5th Ave. Tree removal request, letter dated August 16, 2010. *Holding off until final review by tree expert S. Schuckman.*

Letters to be written with final decisions.

B. General Borough planting for Fall 2010 planting. Scanlon, other.

Scanlon will be planting around 43 trees this fall.

Remaining planting funds to be encumbered for Spring 2011 planting.

Follow up on planting will need to be performed by Commissioners prior to payment to contractor. Tode Landscaping to replant trees at Zisa Memorial at the Library and some new trees at Lincoln Middle School in the parking lot planter.

C. Enforcement & follow up activities:

1. Magnatrol Valve, Horton Ave. & 6th Ave. Facility to be contacted regarding follow up planting.

Mention only.

2. 48 Lee Ave. Illegal tree removal, state planting. Guilty plea, follow up discussion.

PS to add this address to Scanlon's planting list. Watch payments from court, on payment plan.

3. 113 9th Ave.-Letter dated June 30, 2010. Tree removal request received via DPW. Review performed and resistograph test performed, review pending.

JT to follow up on this in order to write the letter to homeowner.

4. 179 4th Ave. Illegal tree pruning incident. Guilty plea, follow up discussion.

Watch payments from court, on payment plan.

5. 60 Ridge Rd., North Haledon. Tree top topping request for multiple properties at this location on the Hawthorne, North Haledon border. Evaluation requested by Mayor's office. Preliminary acknowledgement letter written to resident by PS.

PS made motion to deny request to top trees by North Haledon resident based upon Commission's policy not to top trees according to standard arboricultural practice. Concern also rose about issue of tree deaths in this area leading to soil erosion issues and location of trees above Borough water storage tank located at the end of Mary St. Motion seconded by JT, unanimous approval to deny request. PS to write letter.

6. 18 Barker Ave.-Letter dated August 22, 2010, PSE&G gas line issue. *Mention only.*

7. 10 Cornell Avenue-Letter dated August 20, 2010, regarding new sidewalk issue. *Borough Administrator contacted to look into this issue. Sidewalk was part of 2009 roads projects and was reviewed by Commission for tree conflicts. Hairline crack in sidewalk appeared within one year. Resident concerned about the sidewalk's length of life and repairs for a new sidewalk.*

D. Patriot Development project, Goffle Rd. Tree plan submitted by property owner, testimony not yet complete. Applicant willing to change tree species in landscape plan, would like recommendations from Commission. Issue of buffers and tree protection plan not resolved. Jackson Twsp. Legal decision for tree removal ordinance.

Recommendations on species determined but more may be needed. **Next meeting October 18, 2010.** Tree issues and Borough updated zoning ordinance discussion / decision possibly to be made at this meeting. *Mention only.*

E. Public Borough tree work. Update.

JF has volunteered to review work orders for data to prepare for the Tree City USA application for 2010. Other issues of following work completed by the contractor not clear. To be followed up with DPW administration.

F. Professional services discussion. RFP received, First Mountain Arboriculture awarded contract. Company to start work this Friday October 8, 2010. *Mention only.*

G. Forestry grant for tree inventory update. Not clear yet when Paul Cowie & Associates to start inventory.

Green Communities Grant application for next (3rd) CFMP submitted to NJDEP-Div, of Parks & Forestry, Mayor signed off on proposal.

Mention only.

H. Sidewalk policy discussion. Documents provided to DS to update handout for the Building Department & the Borough website.

Mention only.

5. New items

A. Enforcement cases.

1. 138 May St. Illegal cutting of main buttress roots on large red maple tree from a retaining wall reconstruction. Summons issued to property owner and contractor. Court date set for October 21, 2010.

B. Letters from residents. None at this time.

C. State Cool Cities tree planting project update.

Contacted State Division of Forestry. Representative R.Yoo indicated the contractor is still supposed to come to the Borough to remove stakes and replant dead trees. Date not known yet.

D. 2011 proposed meeting schedule. See attachment.

Finalize at the November 2010 meeting.

E. Anything else?

PS motion to close meeting, seconded by JT, unanimous approval to close meeting.