



# HAWTHORNE

## Shade Tree Commission

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

### October 7, 2008 Meeting Notes

Attendance: Philip Savoie (PS), Declan Madden (DM), Pieter Slump (PSL), John Terry (JT),

Absent: Rick Hockenberry (RH), Patrick Allen (PA)-Borough Arborist, Joe Wojtecki (JW)-Council Liaison

07:30PM-11:00PM

#### 1. Public session (if needed).

*Motion to open public portion of meeting by PS, seconded by DM, unanimous approval.*

#### **Resident Claire Cullen – 549 Goffle Hill Rd.**

Letter sent to Commission in Sept. 2008. Large tulip tree on Sicomac Road & Goffle Hill Rd. near driveway. Residents states that tree has dropped branches and damaged deck furniture. Concerned about insect (beetles) by tree's base.. HSTC will review the tree's location and determine if and when the tree should be removed. Resident states that there are electric wires in the tree. Follow inspection required.

#### **Resident Catherine Van Olden – 17 Dogwood Drive**

Letter sent to Commission in Oct. 2008. Stated that the Arborist has been out to visit the property and observe the tree of interest. One tree to the right of the driveway needs trimming or possible removal. Resident has called and left messages several times and written several letters. Follow inspection required.

#### **Resident Diane Shuart – 257 Ninth Ave**

Resident is concerned about PSE&G replacement and the sound that might come from the train tracks and the lights. PSE&G representative stated that the lights are most likely from the factory across the street. Resident is content that PSE&G will put in over 100 bushes (holly's).

Also attending the meeting was PSE&G representative Mr. Bill Herriott to respond to any questions the public might have in regard to this project and the arboriculture related matters. Mr. Herriott also responded to the questions Ms. Shuart had at that time.

During the public session involving Ms. Shuart's questions about this project, Commissioner Philip Savoie was called away briefly to attend the Planning Board work session meeting occurring on the first floor on this date, in regard to a proposed property sub-division at 50 Braen Ave. This sub-division would affect on Borough street tree. Oral testimony was provided by Mr. Savoie that this one tree was in fair condition. He also stated that to remove this tree as planned in the sub-division that the owner/developer would have to follow the procedure outlined in the Borough's Shade Tree ordinance for removals. The final decision as to allow or not allow the removal of this tree in regard to this sub-division would have to be reviewed by the Commission in the near future if the application proceeds further from this point.

*Motion to close public portion by PSL, seconded by JT, unanimous approval. Motion to executive portion of meeting by PSL, seconded by JT, unanimous approval. PS returned from*

2. Review & approve September 2008 meeting notes.

*Motion to approve DM, seconded JT, unanimous approval.*

3. Budget review.

A. 10/6/08 history. *Mention only.*

B. End of year expenditure discussion. Projections and anticipated costs.

*Motion to approve additional purchases from budget addendum from October agenda, item#s 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 by PS. Seconded by JT, unanimous approval to fund the above items and services.*

*Motion to spend the remaining truck account balance (+/- \$250) on item # 9 (back up camera for boom truck) from item#11 (from the vehicle maintenance account # 01-2010-26-3158-076) , with balance of cost to be funded by non-HSTC monies by PSL. The Commission is concerned about employee safety however HSTC strongly feels that the camera will have a very limited lifespan due to nature of this truck's work. For example, cameras on the police cars broke repeatedly and are no longer used. HSTC does not want to continually repair or replace this camera. Seconded DM. Unanimous approval for the limited funding of the back up camera for boom truck.*

*PS will work on labor agreement for 2 more weeks, to use JIF money. In 2 ½ weeks we will review with Phil to re-evaluate situation. If labor agreement is not in place, we will spend money on stump removals and crane work. If money is left over from remaining balance of \$4300, it will be determined later what we spend money on.*

C. 2009 Budget request documents due Oct. 15, 2008. Extension requested from Administration to submit documents by end of Oct. 2008, granted. Discussion.

*Issue of funds for inventory update discussed as well as extra money for tree planting in light of increasing requests for planting from property owners and residents. A question was also raised about asking Attorney John Anlian and Borough Attorney Mike Pasquale about conflict –of-interest questions in regard to Borough employees performing related arboriculture work as a consultant*

### 3. Old Business items.

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

1. 4 Washington Ave. Property owner.
2. 84 Buena Vista Ave., Resident & Contractor.

3. 151 First Ave. Resident. Additional question: Based upon PA's two inspections of this tree, should the previous response proposal be reconsidered?
4. Mill Loft project guidance. Property owner & Mayor/Council. Letter written 8/6/08 to developer. No response yet.
5. 187/183 Third Ave. removal/pruning request.
6. 218 Westervelt Ave. regarding removal request to Borough Hall.
7. 8/15/08 letter for 196 Mountain Ave. Removal request for dead tree, inspection results.
8. 9/4/08 letter for 549 Goffle Hill Rd. Removal request, discussion?
9. 9/9/08 e-mail from DPW regarding removal at 159 Mountain Ave. Resident unhappy w/removals. Response? Letter also received by Mayor. Ask resident if a replacement tree is requested?

*Mention only, PSL to help PS with letters and contact with residents.*

**B.** Brookside Place replanting. General Borough planting plans for Fall '08 & Spring '09. Planting location list updated from Spring'08 planting. Projected planting date October 2008 through November 2008. Planting proposal requests sent out by Pieter.

*Mention only.*

**C.** Replacement plantings at pool update. Administration waiting for planting invoice when available. A. Goodall contacted for planting and actively seeking two trees for planting at pool as soon as trees can be located.

*DM is on top of this.*

**D.** Ordinance Committee. No action, still to be pursued. Issue regarding legal actions for discussion.

*PS to send out proposals to commissioners, will review at next meeting.*

**E. Enforcement follow up activities:**

1. PSE&G Wagaraw Rd. update. Trees planted, correct species & size. Job overseen by PA & PS.
2. Roughgarden replanting issue. Still to be done, Spring'09.

*Mention only.*

**F.** PSE&G project at the Ninth Ave. Substation. Letter written by Phil to PSE&G dated 9/19/08 regarding this issue with approval for project based upon written acknowledgement of Commission requests for additional items, see Sept.'08 meeting notes. Written confirmation received by the Commission Sept.29, 2008 from PSE&G. Project to begin over Fall'08 for removals and planting in Spring'09.

*Mention only.*

**4. New items**

**A. Administration requests for feedback.**

1. Proposal for shared services lease agreement of aerial truck to Borough of Pompton Lakes.

*Discussion of Administration's written proposal to lease the Borough's aerial bucket truck to the Borough of Pompton Lakes. In general, the Commission is not in favor of this proposal. The Commission believes this is bad idea for the Borough for many reasons. A letter is to be generated to Administration to outline the Commission's objections to this lease.*

*PSL made a motion to not support lease proposal with Pompton Lakes' use of aerial truck. PS seconded, unanimous approval to not support this lease agreement.*

2. Verizon plan for cellular tower on Borough Hall property and tree issue.

*PSL motion to support placement of 4 x 8' foundation for Verizon, with the suggestion that the 8' length be placed parallel to the wall. DM seconded, unanimous approval to approve this request.*

**B. Enforcement cases.**

1. 53 Florence Ave. Mason contractor failure to notify issue.  
Discussion.

*PSL motion to write a warning letter to contractor asking for future cooperation. Seconded by JT. Vote: YES: PS, JT, PSL. NO: DM, no abstentions.*

2. 8 Cider Mill Rd. Illegal trim and partial removal. Case to be developed shortly. Discussion.

*PS motion to fine the contractor and the homeowner for violating town policy. Seconded JT, unanimous approval to proceed with case.*

**C. Letters/request for removal/other, discussion & action:**

1. 50 Braen Ave. Letter from Building Dept. & referral from Planning Board. Sub-division of property. Removal issue for at least one street tree. Comments requested shortly. Meeting before Board on Oct. 7, 2008.

*HSTC should look at 12" Norway maple where the proposed driveway will be put. Commissioner PS provided testimony to Planning Board on this date. See previous notes from public portion of meeting. Follow up with applicant and Board as needed.*

2. E-mail from C.Elvin (Administration) regarding Grand Ave. parking spaces and tree trimming /falling branches and "dirty cars".

*HSTC will request borough arborist to assess the trees and trim as needed.*

3. 17 Dogwood Drive-Removal request and follow up for service requests, letter received 10/7/08.

*HSTC should look at tree to discuss at next meeting*

**D. Training/educational issues:**

1. Shade tree Federation Meeting 2008. Federation documents should be coming soon. Any other issues?
2. ACRT class @ Downes in Feb. 2009. Discussion.

*Mention only for both items.*

**E. Request from Arborist for assistance to get individual remaining, unresolved work orders printed out. Request for Administration?**

*Not clear how to resolve this issue at this time. Will have to taken up with Administration again.*

**F. Anything else?**

*Motion to close meeting JT, seconded DM, unanimous approval to close meeting.*

October 7, 2008 HSTC Meeting

**Budget Addendum-Final Cost Projections**

**\$Totals**

Current remaining budget:	40,018.04
1. Trees & planting: Fall'08 & Spring '09.	- 25,000.00
	<u>15,018.04</u>
2. PA clothing allowance.	- 500.00
	<u>14,518.04</u>
3. ACRT training, 3 people.	- 2,100.00
	<u>12,418.04</u>
4. Hawthorne Press Meeting announcement for 2009.	- 30.00
	<u>12,388.04</u>
5. JIF money, labor or crane work.	- 6,600.00
	<u>5,788.04</u>
6. File cabinet for HSTC materials.	- 300.00
	<u>5,488.04</u>
7. ANSI A300/Z133 standards, ISA.	- 200.00
	<u>5,288.04</u>
8. Mileage and toll reimbursements for '08 NJSTFM.	- 200.00
	<u>5,088.04</u>
9. Back up camera for shade tree truck.	- 750.00
	<u>4,338.04</u>
10. Downes trim fee for Reservoir Rd.	- 300.00
	<u>4,038.04</u>
11. Truck maint. account balance.	+ 250.00
	<u>\$4,288.04</u>
Remaining balance.	^