



HAWTHORNE

Shade Tree Commission

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

June 9, 2009 Meeting Notes

Attendance: Phil Savoie (PS), John Terry (JT), Pieter Slump (PSL), Declan Madden (DM), Arborist Patrick Allen (PA)

Absent: Rick Hockenberry (RH), Joe Wojtecki, Council liaison.

Meeting 07:30PM-10:15PM

1. Public session (if needed).

JT motion to open public session, PS seconded, unanimous approval to open public session of meeting.

Mr. Dello Buono of Signature Kitchens – request for removal of tree at 122 Washington Ave. Two trees at this location. Discussion of future tree health for second tree if the driveway gets put in. Mr. Dello Buono is prepared to put in replacement trees on the street if that allows him to renovate his property (approx. 3 – 4 trees). The Commission discussed the requested removal tree's health and the offer for replacement by Mr. Dello Buono. Mr. Dello Buono was informed that this matter would be discussed and a decision made at the end of the meeting. He was also informed that any decision made would be in writing to him.

David & Jennifer (last name unknown), Bamford Ave., attended the meeting for general interest in Shade Tree activities. Some of the activities were discussed and they attended the majority of the meeting.

PS motion to close public portion of meeting, seconded JT, unanimous approval to close the public portion of the meeting.

2. Review May 2009 meeting notes.

PS motion to approve May notes, seconded DM, unanimous approval to approve May 2009 meeting notes.

3. Budget review.

A. 2009 Budget. Budget passed at June 3, 2009 Council meeting.

PS – reviewed budget.

B. Recent purchases: tree removal service for 9 Norma Terrace (emergency removal), tree consulting service for same address, watering hose for various Borough plantings as needed.

Steve Chisholm-Aspen Horticultural Services, should be coming up to do several resistograph tests on various trees in the Borough, including trees for the 2009 road rebuilding projects, on June 19, 2009.

4. Old Business items.

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

1 Norma Terrace. Letter dated 2/17/09. Letter written, May 11, 2009.
Mention only.

B. General Borough planting planned for Spring '09. No additional planting by Tode, invoice signed for payment. Borst planting update, DM.

DM – we are waiting on 10 syringas to come in and then Borst will put those in. That should finish the Borough Spring 2009 planting.

C. Ordinance Committee. Update PS. Reviewed published proposed ordinance changes in the May 14, 2009 Hawthorne Press. Noted incorrect changes to ordinance Subchapter 174 in particular and spoke with Borough Attorney M.Pasquale regarding requested changes. To be changed by Council meeting when approval vote made on June 3, 2009 Council meeting. Changes not republished and not changed by June 3rd, 2009 Council meeting. Again spoke with Borough Attorney M.Pasquale regarding requested changes. During the vote for this ordinance he stated several minor changes would be made to the language of the ordinance to correct the oversight at publication. The Council agreed to this and voted upon the measure, which passed unanimously. Follow up required to make sure the correct language is published.

PS – mention only.

**D. Enforcement follow up activities: Updates PS. DM, Bartlett update.
Review list.**

1. 115 E. Prospect Ave. Court date May 28, 2009. Case dismissed by failure of Prosecutor to support case. Case for contractor may have to be dropped. Discussion.
2. 60 North Watchung. Summons written. Court date May 28, 2009. Guilty plea, case closed.
3. 200 Hillcrest Ave. Summons written. Court date May 28, 2009. Guilty plea, case closed.
4. New case, already resolved. 47 Beverly Rd. Illegal removal of tree(s) and pruning. Summons written. Court date May 28, 2009. Guilty plea, case closed.
5. New case, request letter written dated May 22, 2009. 45 Summit Ave. Burying of two Borough trees in planter. Follow up required by July 31, 2009.

Above are mention only. DM reported on follow up with Bartlett for Camistat treatments. Rhoades Park treated and completed, contractor paid for treatment. Not clear if Tuxedo Ave. and 10th Ave. can be treated due to restricted soil mass. Commission did not come to a conclusion of how to resolve these matters at this time.

**E. 280 9th Ave.(6th Ave.) PSE&G 9th Ave. substation. Planting completed, contractors responsible for watering plants.
PS – mention only, planting is done.**

F.1.Cool Cities Planting Update. Planting completed. Waiting for final address/species list from state for Borough records. Follow up care letters still need to be sent out. Additional offer, PSL update.
PSL – State will be putting in approx 150 trees in the fall. We will look for a proper contiguous areas for the trees, perhaps 2nd, 3rd, 6th, 7th, or 8th Avenues. The state representative also mentioned that some individual locations could be planted as well. Planning by state to begin in July 2009, representative would like HSTC to help with location planning.

2. Borough planting update-DM. Follow up care letters still need to be sent out.

PS-Letter written, waiting on final plantings by Borst.

**G. 136 Grand Ave. sidewalk guidance request. Assessments complete?
Discussion.**

PA looked at the tree and suggests it be removed. Tree is on removal list as per PA. Review by other Commissioners indicated that once this removal occurs that the area is a candidate for several smaller, underwire trees.

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

1. 122 Washington Ave. Request (Received 5/1/09) for removal of tree for installation of 2nd driveway at property. Discussion.

Discussion –The Commission recommends that the homeowner pay for four replacement trees (approximately 3" caliper/diameter) and he is responsible for the tree removal, as required by the Borough code. In order to protect the remaining tree, the new driveway should be located as far away as possible from the remaining tree, to be verified by HSTC inspection. If the remaining tree dies within four years, or if remaining tree is determined to be a hazard upon excavation of the driveway, the homeowner would be responsible for five new trees and the removal of the second tree. The total of 5 trees for the second tree is due to the fact that it is a larger, healthier tree. PS to draft agreement document and replacement assessment invoice for review by the requestor. To be submitted to the requestor by the end of the week or so.

**I. Hawthorne Press information articles. Subjects and write-ups?
PS – mention only.**

5. New items

A. Enforcement cases.

1. 9 Norma Terrace. Illegal root disturbance due to trenching of sewer replacement lateral resulting in removal of tree for safety considerations. PS cannot pursue case due to conflict of interest. Assignment?

PA will do this enforcement if he's given the time to do it. PSL will talk to Joe Clementi regarding PA's time. PS to prepare replacement assessment invoice.

2. 259 Diamond Bridge Ave. Illegal removal of recently planted tree during State of New Jersey planting, within several days of planting. Code Enforcement D.Turner pursuing case, HSTC to provide replacement cost assessment bill.

PS will give Don Turner a replacement cost value.

B. Arbor work schedule and building backlog. Discussion.

PA has done very little tree work this past month. He is concerned that high priority work is not being done, and the ensuing possibility for liability due to slow response times.

Meeting with Joe Clementi and Eric Maurer to discuss concerns?

C. Request for safety camera on tree truck by insurance department.

We will pay for the camera one time, but if it breaks, HSTC will not agree to pay for it again.

Motion to appropriate monies for one time purchase of tree truck camera system, PS-1st, PSL-2nd, unanimous approval to appropriate monies for this item.

D. 2009 road rebuilding project inspections. 12 roads proposed to be resurfaced, rebuilt. Field inspection consultation with Aspen Tree not yet completed.

Date to be set.

E. Hawthorne Day.

PSL to work on this.

F. Fall '09 planting schedule.

PS will give DM the updated planting list in several weeks time.

G. Anything else?

Motion to close meeting: 1st - PSL, 2nd by DM, unanimous approval to close meeting.