

8/30/2017
MEETING MINUTES
7:30pm Village Hall

Present: Tony Bardes (TB), Charles Day (CD), Kory Riesterer (KR), Gordon Robertson (GR), Jennifer Zwarich (JZ).

Summary:

TAB convened at 7:37pm.

Approval of 7/24/17 meeting minutes tabled to next meeting.

Evaluation of tree cutting application: Marie Early, 16 Grandview Ter., for tree pruning and removal work on the village parcel adjacent to her property.

- a. after JZ explained process of application, TAB heard applicant's summary of proposal, in which she spoke to the history of trees in that area. Applicant noted that she had an arborist look at the trees who recommended pruning of deadwood and removal of two.
- b. Preliminary questions were asked by TAB members. TB asked if applicant was willing to cover expenses which was confirmed. CD noted this area was too crowded so reducing tree numbers would improve health overall. GR had a procedural question regarding reimbursement of the arborist and applicant wondered if an escrow account would be needed. GR said this was not necessary as reimbursement would be a "donation" to the Village instead.
- c. There was no public comment.
- d. TAB applied standard Evaluation Criteria and voted 5-0 to recommend the application to VBOT.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Tree cutting application of 230 Main St. RFP/next steps: JZ reported that applicants were ready for work to begin, VBOT approved the application, and that the village will release a request for proposals and will require minimum of 3 written proposals as per village Procurement Policy. GR brought up the idea of saving money by possibly removing remaining yew trees not included in the application at time of work. GR also asked if mayor and VBOT were aware that village highway crew could do this work instead of contracting it out. JZ replied that she made that clear to them in her monthly report, but received the clear directive that they did not want to do any part of the project with HWY staff due to their current high workload.
2. 2 Kemble Ave. Tree Cutting Application update: JZ has notified the applicant of conditional positive recommendation and is waiting on the cost of sidewalk panel and structural soil work estimate. She will return the cost estimate to the applicant once received and see if he is agreeable to cost and then go from there.
3. Miscellaneous updates:
 - a) boat club update: GR planted the remaining Bald Cypress himself and set the boat club will likely want more Bayberry for that row.

- b) Main Street beautification phase 1 update: fabricator has scheduled work but there is not install date yet.
- c) Priority pruning working next steps: VBOT has returned to JZ a priority pruning list and since returning it has spoken about a few additions to it that JZ is looking into. The mayor likes the idea of a day rate for pruning work going forward, if that was possible. TB reported that breaking regular maintenance work into specific quadrants or sections (so that there is pruning work involved alongside large takedowns) was advisable. TB felt a certified three-man crew with a bucket truck and chipper should do the job. The village could remove large limbs left on street to also save money. TB agreed to create specs for the regular maintenance work if the village was to bid it out this way.
- d) County sharing of services update: GR reported that a chipper and grinder exist and could possibly be requested in the future for 3 to 4 day chunks of time.
- e) Law enforcement issues relating to public tree law tabled to future meeting
- f) Village tree walking tour update: KR noted that she will order signs once she receives a final copy of tree list from CD. JZ noted this would be good for Arbor Day celebration next year.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Fall tree moving and miscellaneous planning: JZ reported that one small prunus tree must be moved from area in front of 91 Main due to slight change in the new handicap parking spot. JZ reported that Central Hudson removed the 20" Ash tree directly in front of Village Hall that saw dieback of 50% of its canopy this summer. She noted that this dieback was most likely due to the large roots that were illegally removed during the Main Street sidewalk project. TAB will plan to have the stump removed and replace the tree with a more appropriate species for the site. She noted that the ash did have old insect damage and declining health due to periodic line clearance work by Central Hudson (which left the tree little vertical room to grow).
2. Correspondence:
 - a) 43 Main St. –Donors who have given funds for a tree guard communicated their chagrin at the weeds in front of their property and at the unfinished beautification work and length of time it was taking to fabricate the tree guard.
3. Public comment:
 - a) Tom Monroe of Parsonage Street requested trees be planted on the street. There are currently no street trees and he remembers trees being there when he grew up as a child. Right now, it appears there are no planting strip areas next to the street for trees. Mr. Monroe reported that years ago trees were actually planted "in the street". GR asked if there were any locations to consider and Monroe replied that there are no tree pits. Monroe volunteered to donate a tree at a reasonable cost if a space could be found. JZ will email Monroe about his donation and a potential fall planting if a site can be found. JZ also brought up the idea of perhaps posting signs on the street asking if other residents were interested in this initiative. GR thanked Tom Monroe for his labor in helping to plant the shrubs at the boat club.

- b) The Meyers of 46 Kemble Ave. thanked the board for their work and volunteered to water the tree nursery across the street from them if needed. They were thanked for their kind offer by the board, and were informed that the tree nursery project which was begun before the TAB was established has been put on hold. As a second comment, they inquired if trees can be planted on both sides of Kemble to make a shadier street and if so, how they can help. They believe 10 feet from the street must be kept open, and GR noted that because the old battery plant is a superfund site the property line might be different. GR told them to reach out to the property owner of the old marathon battery site. The Meyers also reported that they believe four trees still look viable at the nursery. JZ stated that the trees that survived are being allowed to grow on until such time as the TAB decides to tackle the tree nursery project. She thanked the Meyers for caring so much about the trees and GR said he would look into the property lines in this area.

Additional Notes: JZ reported that the village clerk had notified her that a tree limb on a Norway maple on Cherry Street recently fell. The tree had been recently pruned, and will now be scheduled for full removal. CD also reported that the Linden in front of Cold Spring Pizza was looking bad and said he would look closer at cause.