

RSTC Minutes for March 16th, 2022

Meeting called to order at 1805 hours by Mr. Kissinger, Jr.

Special Notes: None

1. Attendance:
 - a. Lester Kissinger, Jr. – City Arborist, Shade Tree Administrator / Chair
 - b. Robert Reimer – Member
 - c. David Moodhart – Member
 - d. Margaret Yevics – Member
 - e. Thomas Ryan – Member
 - f. Pamela S Gockley – Member
 - g. Donna Reed – City Council
 - h. Jeff Thompson – Support
 - i. Kyle Zeiber – Public Works Operations Manager - **ABSENT**
2. Presenters / Guests:
 - a. None
3. Review of the minutes from January, 2022
 - a. Motion to approve made by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Reimer
 - i. All in favor, no objections
4. Report of permits for the months of January and February
 - a. Removals: 12
 - b. Pruning: 16
 - c. Plantings: 0
5. Arborist Report
 - a. Classes Attended
 - i. Estimating and Bidding for Landscape Installations
 - ii. Improving Oak Wilt Management
 - iii. Penn Del Shade Tree Symposium
 - b. Letters sent to Property owners for the month of January and February
 - i. None
 - c. Notice of Violations Issued
 - i. 3 for either hazards, pruning, removals or other violations for the month of January and February
 1. (0) moved to Citation
 2. (3) for re-inspection
 3. (19) Cases open pending Court for the year of 2021

- d. Adopt-a-Tree
 - i. 0 – Adopt-a-Tree agreements for Spring of 2022
 - ii. 1 – Letter of interest for Spring 2022
- e. Invoices for 2021
 - i. 0 – to property owners
 - ii. 8 – for In House work totaling \$5,756 for the year
 - iii. 6 – Contractor Invoices totaling \$26,155.45 for the year
 - 1. Most recent jobs:
 - a. Brookline Plz
 - b. Essig Park
 - c. S. 4th St
 - d. Franklin St
 - e. Willow St
 - f. N. 9th St
- 6. Request for Variance in having to replant
 - a. None
- 7. Review of Zoning Plans
 - a. I had reviewed the Preliminary Landscape Plan, 1403 Chester Street, City of Reading – Berks Co. Pennsylvania. I approve the proposed Landscaping presented on Plan Number D-20-24-4, revision dated December 6th, 2021
- 8. Old Business
 - a. Park Assessments
 - i. Mr. Kissinger had nothing to report
 - b. Capital Budget 2022
 - i. Mr. Kissinger states he would like to use the funds for the purchasing of a new truck and the remaining funds would go to a pruning project. The current dump truck could then be used by another department or reallocated.
- 9. New Business
 - a. Budget:
 - i. Mr. Kissinger reviewed the budget for 2022.
 - b. Planting Projects
 - i. Mr. Kissinger states he is continue to work with Larry Lloyd from Berks Nature for additional plantings this year.
 - ii. Mr. Kissinger states the first planting is scheduled for April 6th at Eglemans park, followed by the Arbor Day plantings at E.J. Dives
 - 1. Mr. Kissinger notes 25 to 30 trees to be planted at Eglemans and 26 at E.J Dives

10. Information:

- a. Mr. Kissinger states the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 19th, 2022 at 1800 hours.
- b. Mr. Kissinger states he has begun evaluating the Ash trees scheduled for retreatment and will provide an update next month.
- c. Mr. Kissinger notes Arbor Day will be held on April 29th. Celebration will be scheduled for E.J. Dives

11. RSTC Observations / Concerns:

- a. None

12. Adjournment:

- a. Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Reimer, seconded by Ms. Gockley at 1930 hours