

RSTC Minutes for September 20th, 2021

Meeting called to order at 1640 hours by Mr. Kissinger, Jr.

Special Notes:

- Meeting was held at Public Works in the lunch room with social distancing measure in place. All the necessary safety precautions were in place and all participants wore Mask.
 - No meeting held for the month of August
 - No Quorum for this meeting

1. Attendance:

- a. Lester Kissinger, Jr. – City Arborist, Shade Tree Administrator / Chair
- b. Robert Reimer – Member - **ABSENT**
- c. David Moodhart – Member - **ABSENT**
- d. Margaret Yevics – Member
- e. Thomas Ryan – Member - **ABSENT**
- f. Donna Reed – City Council, **ABSENT**
- g. Jeff Thompson – Support
- h. John Denick – Support, **ABSENT**
- i. Kyle Zeiber – Public Works Operations Manager

2. Presenters / Guests:

- a. None

3. Review of the minutes from July, 2021

- a. No motion to approve. Lack of Quorum

4. Report of permits for the month of July and Aug

- a. Removals: 18
- b. Pruning: 18
- c. Plantings: 6

5. Arborist Report

- a. Classes Attended
 - i. Urban Tree Pest Update Part 2
 - ii. Are your trees storm ready
 - iii. Landscape Pest Identification Walk
- b. Letters sent to Property owners for the month of July and Aug
 - i. 1212 Oak Lane
 - ii. 1216 Oak Lane
 - iii. 427 McArthur
- c. Notice of Violations Issued
 - i. 18 for either hazards, pruning, removals or other violations for the month of July and Aug

1. 10 – have be moved to citation
2. 7 – cases still pending Court for the year of 2020 or listed as open out of 111
3. 30 – cases open pending inspection or court for of 2021
4. 40 – cases have been closed for the year of 2021
- d. Adopt-a-Tree
 - i. 0 – Adopt-a-Tree agreements for Fall of 2021
 - ii. 0 – Letter of interest for Fall 2021
- e. Invoices for 2021
 - i. 0 – to property owners
 - ii. 38 – for In House work totaling \$103,295.00 since the start of the year
 1. Most recent jobs:
 - a. Duryea Drive, Turn 6 & 7
 - b. 14th & Walnut St
 - c. 13th St. Extension
 - d. Stadium
 - e. 700 McKnight St
 - f. 000 N. 6th St
 - g. 1000 N. 12th
 - h. 2100 Downing
 - iii. 26 – Contractor Invoices totaling \$112,592 since the start of the year
 1. Most recent jobs:
 - a. Northmont Playground
 - b. Keffer Park
 - c. Schlegel Pool
 - d. 700 N. 4th St
 - e. 1500 EcKert Av
 - f. 500 Elm
 - g. 400 Elm
 - h. 200 N. 4th
 - i. 100 Douglass
 - j. 200 Douglass
 - k. 300 Douglass
6. Request for Variance in having to replant
 - a. None
7. Review of Zoning Plans
 - a. 916 N. 9th Street – Tree Planter Opinion
 - b. I have reviewed the Preliminary Land Development Plan for Iglesia Pentecostal Movimiento de Fe, 1124 Schuylkill Av and 1119 Luzerne Street City of Reading – Berks Co. Pennsylvania. I approve the proposed Landscaping presented on Plan number T20-018-D, SHT 3 of 5 dated June 10th, 2021.
 - c. I have reviewed the Final Plan for the Schaeffer Subdivision, 116 Belvedere Ave City of Reading – Berks Co. Pennsylvania. It appears there is no Landscaping

presented on Work Order number 110258.0001, revision #2 dated March 17th, 2021.

8. Old Business

- a. Park Assessments
 - i. Mr. Kissinger states work continues on an as needed basis. He states all the major parks have been completed.
- b. Mr. Slifko – Memorial Stone
 - i. Mr. Kissinger states the Centre Park Committee reached out about moving this forward.
 - 1. Nothing new to report
- c. Spotted Lantern Fly
 - i. Mr. Kissinger states there is some activity but nothing to the extent in the past few years.
- d. Capital Budget 2022
 - i. Mr. Kissinger asked for ideas for 2022
 - 1. The commission would like to continue with large pruning projects such as the one that just occurred on N. 5th

9. New Business

- a. Budget:
 - i. Mr. Kissinger reviewed the budget for 2021 up to the end of August. No majors changes or expenditures
- b. Planting Projects
 - i. Mr. Kissinger states the Reading Parking Authority is looking to do a large planting to replenish what was recently removed during the sidewalk project.
 - 1. He notes 83 trees are to be planted next month. He states he is currently working with Berks Nature to assist
 - ii. Mr. Kissinger states Larry Lloyd from Berks Nature is interested in doing some plantings around the City.
 - 1. Initial wave will be in varies City Parks. More details to come

10. Information:

- a. Mr. Kissinger states he continues to address the commission concerns. He asked if anyone had anything new to present.
 - i. No one has nothing new to report.
- b. Mr. Kissinger states the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 18th, 2021 at 1800 hours.

11. RSTC Observations / Concerns:

- a. 139 Windsor – Hazardous Tree

12. Adjournment:

- a. Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Yevics, at 1715 hours