

RSTC Minutes for September 9th, 2024

Meeting called to order at 1608 hours by Mr. Kissinger, Jr.

Special Notes: None

1. Attendance:
 - a. Lester Kissinger, Jr. – City Arborist, Shade Tree Administrator / Chair
 - b. Lori Bellman – Member
 - c. Thomas Ryan – Member – **ABSENT, on Vacation**
 - d. Pamela Gockley – Member
 - e. **Vacant – Member**
 - f. **Vacant – Member**
 - g. Melissa Ventura – City Council
 - h. David Moodhart - Support
2. Presenters / Guests:
 - a. None
3. Review of the minutes from August 2024
 - a. Motion to approve made by Lori Bellman, seconded by Pamela Gockley
 - i. All in favor, no objections
4. Report of permits for 2024
 - a. Removals: forty-one
 - b. Pruning: twelve
 - c. Plantings: thirty - two
 - d. Treatment none
5. Arborist Report
 - a. Classes Attended
 - i. None
 - b. Letters sent to Property owners for August 2024.
 - i. None
 - c. Notice of Violations Issued
 - i. Three for either hazards, pruning, removals or other violations from July.
 1. (5) moved to Citation.
 2. (9) for re-inspection coming up.
 3. (4) Cases pending Court for the year of 2023
 4. (15) closed cases in 2024

- d. Adopt-a-Tree.
 - i. 1 – Adopt-a-Tree agreements for Fall of 2024
 - 1. 1400 block N. 11th Street – Pending removal, stump, and making the tree pit larger.
 - a. Note this was from a year and a half ago. Property owner is ready to perform said work.
 - ii. 2 – Letter of interest for Fall 2024
 - 1. 1100 block N. 11th Street
 - a. Property owner notified stating unable to remove the previous root structure to allow for a replacement. Will be sealing the pit with concrete.
 - e. Invoices for 2024
 - i. 0 – to property owners
 - ii. In Housework totaling \$63,368.75 for the year
 - 1. In housework is varies jobs performed on city property and or emergency call outs. Varies jobs include pruning, removals, and storm clean up.
 - a. Most recent work
 - i. Kings Way – Tree blocking
 - iii. Contractor Invoices totaling \$76,219.28 for the year.
 - 1. Most recent jobs:
 - a. City Park around the splash pad
6. Request for Variance in having to replant.
- a. None
7. Review of Zoning Plans
- a. 1026 Franklin Street parking lot
 - b. Barta Solar Farm
 - c. Alvernia-American House – Land Development
8. Old Business
- a. Park Assessments
 - i. Mr. Kissinger states that additional hazardous trees will be scheduled to be removed in City Park.
 - b. Capital Budget 2024
 - i. Renewal of the Deer Management Plan with USDA for 2024-2025 season
 - ii. Treatment of overlooks – vegetation management completed for the season.

9. New Business

- a. Budget:
 - i. Mr. Kissinger reviewed the most current 2024 budget. States he has not heard any updates pertaining to the 2025 budget.
- b. Planting Projects for Fall
 - i. All numbers are tentative until sites are all marked.
 - 1. Schlegel Park – 28 new trees
 - 2. EJ Dives – 12 new trees
 - 3. City Park – 8 new trees
- c. Arbor Day 2025 will be the City's 40th year taking part.
 - i. Ideas
 - 1. Community outreach / engagement, School outreach / engagement, Proper planting education for children and adults
- d. Contracts
 - i. Nothing to report.

10. Information:

- a. Mr. Kissinger says the next meeting will be Monday, October 7th, 2024, at 1600 hours.
 - i. Kissinger notes he will not be in the office on October 14th to hold the meeting.
- b. Mr. Kissinger provides a brief update on the MP3 initiatives with regards to the trail feasibility study and forester management plan.

11. RSTC Observations / Concerns:

- a. Hazardous Tree – 901 Centre Av
- b. Hazardous Tree – 4th & Bingaman
- c. Hazardous Tree – 201 Douglass St
- d. Stump – 13th & Greenwich.
- e. Hazardous Tree – 1300 Hampden Blvd

12. Adjournment:

- a. Motion to adjourn by Lori Bellman, seconded by Pam Gockley at 1700 hours.