

Longmeadow Tree Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday February 13, 2020
Public Meeting Room, Longmeadow Fire Station.

The Tree Committee meeting was opened at 6:00 PM. The following members were present: Chair/Tree Warden David Marinelli, Steve Steiner, Bari Jarvis, Kathy Kucab, and Patrick Carnahan. Absent were Wayne Ottani and Mark Tolosky.

Public comments and discussion: Evan Cournoyer, 45 Riverview Avenue. Owner would like to remove one tree due to acorns which are creating a hazard at house (trip/fall hazard and injury from falling acorns) falling on vehicles causing damage to vehicles (approximately \$7000.00 thus far). Owner is willing to remove tree at his cost, approximately \$2500.00.

Tree Warden Report and Old Business: Tree damaged on Laurel Street during repair of water main break. Arborist was brought in and reviewed work in order to ensure stability. Air spading was done which showed that some roots were removed during excavation. Broken roots were trimmed and arborist advice regarding soil pH, fertilizer and mulching were followed in order to enhance the tree's survivability.

Tree inventory is now on-line and available via Tree Committee website hyperlink. Link is also available on Facebook page.

Grant updates: Town did not receive Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) grant that it had applied for. Full town tree risk assessment and long-term plan was a part of this grant request. Alternative means of achieving goal have been identified. Tree Warden has not yet heard from DCR regarding the tree planting grant which was applied for last fall.

Arbor Day planning-good progress has been made on this years Arbor Day ceremonies. Gardeners on the Green will be joining Longmeadow Gardeners in this year's programs. Tree saplings will be given out the week following Arbor Day. A tree will be planted at Blueberry Hill School this year with the assistance of Cub Scout Park 94.

Lorenz Street planting is being planned. This was a long-term request that is being addressed.

Easements for tree preservation. Tree Warden has been seeking, and the homeowner of 194 Colony Road has been willing to grant an easement to the town to allow the deviation of a sidewalk around a public shade tree. There has been no further action on this issue since the resignation of the town engineer.

New Business: Route 5 to Converse Street revision could affect street trees, especially the roots. A public hearing on the 25% plan has yet to be scheduled.

Discussion regarding tree removal on Riverview Avenue. The committee regrets the loss of a mature public shade tree but sympathizes with the resident's concerns.

Set next meeting date: 03/26/2020 6:00pm Location TBA

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Patrick Carnahan, Recorder

The purpose of the Tree Committee is to promote a healthy and sustainable community forest by planting and maintaining quality trees and providing education and advocacy to the public on the benefits of trees.