

**FERGUSON TOWNSHIP TREE COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, August 17, 2020
5:00 PM**

I. ATTENDANCE

The Tree Commission held its public meeting on Monday, August 17, 2020 via ZOOM. In attendance were:

COMMISSION:

Scott Pflum Chair
Marc McDill – Vice Chair
Allyson Muth
Josh Potter
Mike Jacobson

STAFF:

Lance King, Arborist
David Modricker, Public Works Director
Summer Krape, Recording Secretary

Others in Attendance: Ferguson Township residents Wes Glebe & Christine Bailey; Cindy Petrick,; and Robert Puzak, , and NVEC representatives David Stone and Mike Agosto.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Scott Pflumm called the Monday, August 17, 2020 Ferguson Township Tree Commission (FTTC) meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

III. JULY 13TH MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Pflumm called for a motion to approve the July 13, 2020 meeting minutes. Dr. Marc McDill made a motion to approve, Mr. Joshua Potter seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

IV. CITIZEN'S INPUT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mrs. Cindy Petrick requested the honey locust in front of her house be removed. Mrs. Petrick stated that the tree was supposed to be removed and replaced with a scarlett oak but S&A replaced it with another honey locust. She has noticed that the honey locust trees drop seed pods and she is concerned about the cleanup of these pods. Mrs. Petrick stated that she has rheumatoid arthritis and will not be able to clean up the pods herself. The Commission had a lengthy discussion on Mrs. Petrick's request. Mr. Robert Puzak stated that he is a former HOA member and stated that the residents are responsible for the stormwater basins and the pods are a hazard for the basins. **Mr. Pflumm made a motion to vote on removing and replacing the honey locust. Dr. McDill provided a second. The Commission voted 4 to 1 in opposition to the motion. The motion failed.**

Mr. Puzak stated that he received a letter regarding a street tree removal and replacement and the letter did not give him an option on selecting a tree species Mr. Puzak and Mr. King will discuss his options for tree species prior to the public

hearing on tree removals. **Dr. McDill made a motion to authorize Mr. Lance King to work with Mr. Puzak on selecting a mutually agreeable tree species. Mr. Potter seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.**

V. COMMUNICATIONS TO COMMISSION MEMBERS

None.

VI. TREE PRESERVATION ORDINANCE REVIEW

Mr. Pflumm stated that some community members were present to provide input on the Tree Preservation ordinance. Mr. Pflumm stated that he would like to address the items on a point by point basis and he would take notes. Mr. David Stone with NVEC stated for the record they oppose a certain provision dealing the requirement to retain 20% of the existing tree canopy and suggest that 40% of the existing tree canopy be saved consistent with the TTD ordinance.. Mr. Pflumm stated that the Commission will start on page two of NVEC's comments to the proposed ordinance.

- General 1. Differentiate between native and non-native trees on a given property. The Commission discussed this item. **Mr. Pflumm made a motion to include this into the ordinance. There was no second but the Commission voted 4 to 1 in opposition to the motion.. The motion failed.**
- Applicability g-(regarding timber harvesting)**The Commission unanimously opposed additional language.**
- Applicability h- (regarding applicability of the ordinance to public works operations) Mr. Modricker explained how the Township's public works operations abide by the Township's regulations though there are cases where public works operations are exempt, he did not see applicability to the ordinance under consideration and consented to removing this provision. **Mr. Pflumm made a motion to remove clause "applicability h", while there was no second, the motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Pflumm suggested the Commission have a work session to continue review of the proposed tree preservation ordinance. The Commission scheduled a work session on August 31, 2020 at 5:30 pm.

- **The Commission unanimously consented to rename item "3e"to its own item number 4.**

Item 2- The Commission discussed this item and then tabled discussion until the work session on August 31st.

VII. HERITAGE & SIGNIFICANT TREE ORDINANCE REVIEW – no discussion

VIII. OFFICIAL TOWNSHIP PLANT LIST REVIEW – no discussion

IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

X. OTHER

None.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The August 17, 2020 Tree Commission meeting ended at 6:45 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,


David J. Modricker, Director of Public Works
For the Tree Commission