

MINUTES
Versailles Shade Tree Commission
October 5, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. at the Emergency Services Facility, 320 Baker Road.

Members in attendance were Lance Steinbrunner, Sharon Henry, Paula Darnell, and Virginia Moorman. Also in attendance were Village Administrator Michael Busse and Assistant Village Administrator Kyle Francis.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Virginia Moorman and seconded by Sharon Henry. A vote followed: all yeas.

A motion to approve the minutes from the July 14, 2021 meeting was made by Sharon Henry and seconded by Virginia Moorman. A vote followed with all members voting to approve the minutes with the exception of Paula Darnell who abstained from the vote.

Mr. Busse reviewed the previously approved tree removals 333, 405, and 417 N. West Street as well as 339 Wayne Street. Mr. Busse also reviewed the proposed tree removals at 406 N West Street, 687 E. Main Street, and 705 E. Main Street. A motion was made by Paula Darnell and seconded by Virginia Moorman to approve the tree removals. A vote followed with all members voting to approve the removals.

Kyle Francis gave a presentation to the Commission recommending that they approve the removal of 60 mature Bradford Pear trees along Grand Avenue and a couple along Woodland Drive at Ward Park that have grown up into the overhead power lines. Mr. Francis told the Commission that these trees have become a liability to the electric system and must be either drastically trimmed back or removed entirely. Mr. Francis stated that the cost of removal was approximately \$19,000. The trimming cost was estimated at \$10,000 and the trimming would likely need to be repeated every couple of years for the life of the trees.

Mr. Francis contacted Wendy VanBuren, an Arborist at ODNR, to obtain her recommendations. Ms. VanBuren is recommending that we consider adding varieties of Japanese Lilac such as Summer Snow to our approved tree list due to it only growing to a mature height of approximately 20'.

The Commission had a lengthy discussion about the proposed tree removals. It was decided that the Commission is ok with making a recommendation to the Village Council to remove the Bradford Pear trees as long as a plan for replanting trees along Grand Avenue and Woodland Drive as part of the annual tree purchase was developed and completed over the next couple of years. A motion was made by Paula Darnell and seconded by Sharon Henry to recommend to Council to proceed with the tree removals. A vote followed: all yeas.

The Commission indicated that they would like to discuss adding the Japanese Lilac Tree to the approved suggested tree list at the next Tree Commission meeting.

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Mr. Busse reviewed the bids received for the trees to be provided to winners of the 2021 Tree Lottery. Mr. Busse stated that the low bidder was A. Brown & Sons with a one-year tree guarantee price of \$3,027.00 and a bid price of \$2,724.00 for the trees without the guarantee.

Sharon Henry made a motion to recommend to Council to accept the low bid from A. Brown & Sons for the guaranteed option price of \$3,027.00, Paula Darnell Seconded the motion. A vote followed with all members voting to approve the recommendation.

With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sharon Henry and seconded by Virginia Moorman. Vote: all yeas. The meeting adjourned approximately at 12:05 p.m.

Village Administrator

Tree Commission Chairman