

**RAMSEY SHADE TREE COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Ramsey Shade Tree Commission was called to order by Mr. Melso at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, September 21, 2023. Also present were Mr. Beltramini, Mr. Englishman, Ms. Geist, Mr. Martone, Mr. Schumacher, Commission members, Mr. Geist, Board Attorney, Ms. Cusick, Council Liaison, Mr. Trouf, Coordinator, and Mrs. Dey, Secretary. Mr. Gubala, Mr. McMahon, and Mr. Rutkowski were absent.

Mr. Melso announced that this meeting is being held in accordance with the Sunshine Laws of the State of New Jersey. Public notice of this meeting was published in the legal ads section of the BERGEN RECORD on Wednesday, December 7, 2022 and the RIDGEWOOD NEWS on Friday, December 9, 2022.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Melso led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon motion by Mr. Martone, seconded by Mr. Schumacher, the minutes of the August 18, 2023 meeting were unanimously accepted as received.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Schumacher reported that he visited The Store; all of the plantings are in place, and they are the right size. An in-ground sprinkler has been put in.

Mr. Trouf called attention to the envelopes which were in front of some of the Commissioners. Contained in the envelopes were yellowish-green safety vests, a donation from OEM, which should be worn when visiting a site.

**COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS**

At the latest Planning Board meeting there were several waivers and no public hearings. The Ramsey Run is scheduled for Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup>.

The deadline for the upcoming fall issue of the *Ramsey Journal* is Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. Councilwoman Cusick and Mr. Martone will work on the Shade Tree submission.

She noted that if anything needs to be shared at a meeting of the governing body, she should be told.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Zoning Board of Adjustment-July 19, 2023

Planning Board-July 18, 2023

Resolution for the Pine Street/Alder Drive minor subdivision

**TREE REMOVAL APPLICATIONS**

**Brothers Realty LLC, 50 East Main Street, Block 4902, Lot 2**

There was discussion about the proposed removal of eleven trees, ten alanthus trees and one maple tree whose top had snapped off, at 50 East Main Street. It was noted that the plan for 14 Mechanic Street was approved at the July Shade Tree Commission meeting and cannot be revoked. Work has already begun at that site. Upon motion by Mr. Martone, seconded by Mr. Melso, the removal of eleven trees, with no replacements, at 50 East Main Street was unanimously approved. Mr. Beltramini suggested that the Commissioners look at Mechanic Street since the east side of the street will soon have no trees.

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Beltramini	X			
Ms. Geist	X			
Mr. Gubala				X
Mr. Martone, Vice-Chairman	X			
Mr. McMahan				X
Mr. Schumacher	X			
Mr. Melso, Chairman	X			
Mr. Englishman, Alt. 1	X			
Mr. Rutkowski, Alt. 2				X

**SITE PLAN REVIEW**-None

**TREE REMOVAL PERMIT VIOLATIONS**-None

**LANDSCAPING PLAN REVIEW**-None

**RESIDENTIAL SITE INSPECTIONS**

All curbs must be marked, and there must be a decision about what to do with the stumps. Mr. Trouf also included the tree work which is being done by DPW. It was noted that they are doing an excellent job for the borough.

Work order #7

**161 Ramview Avenue**-The tree will be removed.

**148 Deer Trail North**-The tree will be removed.

**92 Oakridge Road**-The stump will be ground.

**14-18 North Spruce Street**-Dead wood will be removed.

**105 Park Street**-Dead wood will be trimmed from two trees.

**108 East Oak Street**-The tree will be dropped. The stump will be left, with no need to chip.

**34 Elm Avenue**-One maple tree will be cabled and pruned.

**28 Elm Avenue**-One oak will be pruned.

**96 Elm Avenue**-One tree will be dropped in the woods and the stump will be left. Dead wood will be pruned from the oak trees adjacent to the property that poses a safety issue.

**10 New England Drive**-The tree will be removed.

**2 Collette Drive (Grove Street side)**-The tree will be removed.

**384 Elbert Street**-Two small limbs that are hanging over Park Street will be elevated.

**75 East Oak Street (Ramsey pool)**-Three oaks will be trimmed.

**31 North Island Avenue**-The tree will be elevated.

**100 Buckingham Drive**-Dead wood will be trimmed on two trees.

**21 Forest Avenue**-The tree will be elevated.

**289 Elizabeth Avenue**-The tree will be removed.

**45 Buckingham Drive**-The branch over the driveway and wire will be trimmed.

**297 Elizabeth Avenue**-Two trees will be elevated, and dead wood will be trimmed.

**2 Valley View Drive**-Two trees will be elevated, and dead wood will be trimmed.

**4 Valley View Drive**-One tree will be elevated, and dead wood will be trimmed.

**5 Valley View Drive**-Three trees will be elevated, and dead wood will be trimmed.

**134 Snyder Avenue**-The dead limb hanging over the roadway will be trimmed.

**128 Snyder Avenue**-The tree will be elevated, and dead wood will be trimmed.

**38 School Street**-The tree will be elevated, and dead wood will be trimmed.

**537 North Central Avenue (Myrtle Avenue side)**- The tree will be removed.

**60 East Crescent Avenue**-The branch over service will be trimmed.

**56 Eton Court**-The tree will be removed, with Rockland Electric.

**8 Elbert Street**-The tree will be removed, with Rockland Electric.

Work order #8

**32 Franklin Street**-The dead wood will be trimmed.

**491 Darlington Avenue (left side towards soccer field)**-The multi-trunk tree will be dropped.

**158 Norman Drive**-The tree will be removed; dead wood will be trimmed from two trees.

**8 Hubbard School Lane (West Oak Street side)**-The tree will be elevated, and dead wood will be removed.

**345 Elbert Street**-Dead wood will be trimmed.

**14 Pine Tree Road**-One tree will be removed; one tree will be elevated, and branches will be pruned away from the wire.

**13 Pine Tree Road**-The tree will be removed.

**157 Orchard Place (behind, next to wellhouse)**-The tree will be dropped, and the stump will be left.

**322 Elizabeth Avenue**-Dead wood will be trimmed.

**117 Sherwood Drive**-The suckers will be removed at the wires; dead wood will be removed.

**98 Dogwood Terrace**-Dead wood will be trimmed.

**34 Linden Street**-Two trees will be removed.

**25 South Central Avenue (New Street side)**-Three trees will be removed; two trees will be trimmed.

**54 Center Street**-One tree will be pruned.

**46 Garland Avenue**-One tree will be pruned.

**269 East Crescent Avenue**-Four trees will be elevated, two on East Crescent Avenue and two on New England Drive; branches over the roadway will be removed.

DPW Tree Work #4

**146 Elbert Street**-The tree will be elevated.

**14 Elm Place**-The tree will be elevated.

**103 Main Street**-The base of the tree will be cleaned up.

Regarding the budget, \$45,912 was left after the August meeting. Work order #7 is \$25,452 and work order #8 is approximately half of that. The decision was made to do the work which is left on work order #8 and hold off on any other work, other than any emergency work. Leaf work will be occupying DPW's time going forward. Any tree work which should be completed by the county and Orange & Rockland is slow. Additionally, the county now has a "hold harmless" form which must be completed.

## **COMMERCIAL SITE INSPECTIONS**

Mr. Melso reminded the Commissioners to keep an eye on the commercial properties in their zones, especially on Route 17.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

The spotted lanternfly grant of \$15,000 was discussed. Mr. Melso read the communication from Mr. Milde, detailing his estimate for the work on the bikepath. It is assumed that two applications of the cedar oil-based product would be needed on the two portions of the bikepath, 218 North Spruce Street, near Tisdale School (\$2,000 per application), and three parts of Arch Street (\$2,250 per application). The majority of complaints about the spotted lanternfly are on the bikepath. The total for that work would be \$8,500, leaving \$6,500 from the \$15,000 grant. Upon motion by Mr. Martone,

seconded by Mr. Beltramini, two applications on the bikepath, totaling \$8,500, were unanimously approved.

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Beltramini	X			
Ms. Geist	X			
Mr. Gubala				X
Mr. Martone, Vice-Chairman	X			
Mr. McMahan				X
Mr. Schumacher	X			
Mr. Melso, Chairman	X			
Mr. Englishman, Alt. 1	X			
Mr. Rutkowski, Alt. 2				X

Upon motion by Mr. Beltramini, seconded by Mr. Martone, and approved unanimously, the \$6,500 balance of the \$15,000 grant will be used by Mr. Milde, based upon his location recommendations within the borough.

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Beltramini	X			
Ms. Geist	X			
Mr. Gubala				X
Mr. Martone, Vice-Chairman	X			
Mr. McMahan				X
Mr. Schumacher	X			
Mr. Melso, Chairman	X			
Mr. Englishman, Alt. 1	X			
Mr. Rutkowski, Alt. 2				X

## NEW BUSINESS

Regarding **75 East Oak Street**, Mr. McMahan asked Mr. Milde to take a lot at the three oak trees in front of the municipal pool. Three options were presented, trim, trim and remediate, and remove. The trees are not in good condition. Doing nothing is not an option. Remediation could cost approximately \$4,500 for all three trees. Removal would be approximately \$3,000 per tree. It was decided to table the issue until the October meeting and speak with Borough Administrator Vozeh to ascertain if the Pool Commission could contribute to payment for the work.

**PUBLIC COMMENT-None**

Mr. Melso announced that the Public Comment portion of the meeting, beginning at 8:45 p.m., would last approximately five minutes per person.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m. upon motion by Mr. Martone, seconded by Mr. Schumacher, and carried unanimously.