



Town of Bridgewater

Tree Committee

January 10, 2023

2:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order

The Tree Committee meeting was called order at 2:00p.m. The meeting took place via Zoom.

Committee Members Present:

Ray Ajemian, Shirley Krasinski, Nicole Holmes, Bill Maltby and Paul DeCosta.

Public Comment – None

Old Business

- a) Continued discussion of organizational issues, in particular the choosing of an arborist for the committee.

Mr. Ajemian noted that they spoke with an Arborist who is interested in helping the committee but at this time he cannot help because he is not a resident of the town. Town Manager Dutton is looking into how this can be changed. He also noted that Town Clerk Hunt suggested that he check the resident list to see if there were any arborists listed. There are a few. He will call and see if any of the residents have an interest and will schedule a subcommittee meeting for those that do.

Mr. Ajemian noted that there is \$27,500 in the kitty and asked if it should sit or spend now.

Mr. Maltby replied that it should be held and that the Town should pay for any equipment needed.

Mr. Ajemian made a motion to ask the Town Manager to set aside upwards of \$200k to fully fund a bucket truck for the DPW, which was duly seconded.

Roll-call vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: Ajemian – Yea; Krasinski – Yea; Holmes – Yea; Maltby – Yea; DeCosta – Yea. Motion passed 5-0.

Ms. Holmes made a motion to move forward with a Forestry Foreman in the DPW Department, which was duly seconded.

Roll-call vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: Ajemian – Yea; Krasinski – Yea; Holmes – Yea; Maltby – Yea; DeCosta – Yea. Motion passed 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Shade Tree Ordinance – does it need to be modified

After a brief discussion it was decided that each member would look at the Shade Tree Ordinance and

bring questions/edits to the next Tree Committee meeting and the committee will then start reviewing the ordinance

b) Mitigation Fund – discussion on whether to use now or late – Discussed above.

c) Discuss goals for the year

Ms. Holmes noted that a tree inventory should be done for the town. Many trees down in the storm and an asset map of the town trees would be great, maybe third party exercise to develop.

Ms. Krasinski noted that this was a great idea but the first priority should be finding an arborist to help with the committee.

Adjournment of Meeting

Ms. Krasinski made a motion to adjourn, which was duly seconded.

Roll-call vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: Ajemian – Yea; Krasinski – Yea; Holmes – Yea; Maltby – Yea; DeCosta – Yea. Motion passed 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 2:58p.m.

The next Tree Committee meeting will be held on February 14, 2023 at 2:00pm.

Meeting minutes being submitted in draft form by Debbie Ward.