

VERONA SHADE TREE COMMISSION
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES FOR
September 9, 2019

MEETING STARTED: 5:15 pm

MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:45 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Prout, Schwartz, & Val Ryan

ALTERATIVES PRESENT: Dubowsky

COUNCIL LIASIAN: Kevin Ryan

PUBLIC PRESENT: John Linson

APPROVING LAST MONTH'S MINUTES: August 12 approved

BUDGET:

- 2019 Maintenance Budget = \$125,000 (same as last year)
 - \$73,822.49 spent (\$54,796.75 encumbered) as of August 2019
 - 41% left (\$51,177 left)
- Capital Ordinance = \$66,000
 - Remaining Funding Left for 2019 = \$16,141.75
 - Remaining Funding as of 8/1/19 = \$0

CORRESPONDENCE:

TREE WORK:

DPW WORK ORDERS – August Work Orders

MEMBERS LIST – n/a

PARKS & PUBLIC AREAS:

OLD & NEW BUSINESS:

Street Tree Inventory –

- RichView Consulting has completed the inventory on all of the town trees
 - 100% of the data has been extracted from the GPS units
 - Consultant is reviewing and organizing data

Community Forestry Management Plan –

- John Linson (Urban Forestry Consultant)
 - He has been awarded the contract to develop the new Community Forestry Management Plan for Verona.

- He received a letter from NJ State DEP – the state is extending all town Community Forestry Management Plans to accommodate the new State Plan Guidelines that are expected to be released in October 2020.
- Verona’s Management Plan has been extended to 12/31/23
- The Shade Tree Commission voted unanimously to proceed with creating a new Management Plan (MP) and not wait until 2023 due to:
 - The importance of this plan
 - This current management plan was created back in 2013, almost 7 years ago.
 - A lot has happened and changed since the last MP was issued – we need to develop new strategies and plans on how to proceed in the next 4-5 years, and a plan on how to implement them
 - Kevin Ryan spoke to the Town Manager about this decision, and he is in agreement

New Shade Tree Commission Member -

- Appointments made on July 15th, 2019 at Town Council Meeting
 - Matthew Cavallo – confirmed Val Ryan filled a vacant Full Member position
 - Unexpired Term of Bob Dickinson – term ending 12/31/2021
- Roster full – 5 Full Time Regulars & 2 Alternates

Training –

- Riverdale Shade Tree Commission Class – Wednesday, Sept 25th
- As per latest Verona Accreditation Status Report from the NJDEP on 6/6/19:
 - Satisfied Core Training Requirement for 2019 – need 2 people Core Trained:
 - 1 volunteer & 1 municipal employee
 - Need 8 CEUs per year among at least 2 people
 - We have 13 CEUs among 3 people

**NEXT MEETING DATE: TUESDAY, October 15th, 2019 @ 5:00 PM
(Monday is Columbus Day)**