

**RAMSEY SHADE TREE COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Ramsey Shade Tree Commission was called to order by Mr. Melso at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, February 17, 2022. Also present were Mr. Beltramini, Mr. Englishman, Ms. Geist, Mr. Martone, Mr. McMahon, Mr. Rutkowski (arrived at 8:00 p.m.), Mr. Schumacher, Commission members, Mr. Geist, Board Attorney, Ms. Cusick, Council Liaison, Mr. Trouf, Coordinator, and Mrs. Dey, Secretary. Mr. Gubala was 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 Thursday, December 23, 2021 and the RIDGEWOOD NEWS on Friday, December 24, 2021.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Melso led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon motion by Mr. Martone, seconded by Mr. McMahon, the minutes of the January 20, 2022 meeting were unanimously accepted as received.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. McMahon shared the plan for Arbor Day, which is celebrating 150 years in 2022. In observance of Arbor Day, April 29, 2022, a Dawn Redwood will be planted in a wet area at the Ramsey pool. A horseshoe pit is going in by the bocce courts at the pool as an Eagle Scout project. He and Mr. Martone found the best location. He reached out to Mrs. Hewitt and Mr. Jost of the Pool Commission to get their input. The tree will be gator bagged and staked. There will be a photo opportunity at a later date.

Regarding the involvement of the schools with Arbor Day, trees could be planted at the schools, one school per year, starting at the high school. Mr. McMahon suggested a sawtooth oak.

Chris Fix's contract expires at the end of April. The bid is available and has all of the necessary verbiage. It needs to go out as soon as possible. Upon motion by Mr. Martone, seconded by Mr. Beltramini, the bid renewal for a tree cutter for 2022 and 2023 was unanimously authorized.

	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

### COMMUNICATIONS

Board of Adjustment minutes-November 17, 2021

Planning Board minutes-November 16, 2021, December 7, 2021, January 18, 2022

Resolution-24 Grant Street

### TREE REMOVAL APPLICATIONS

#### 227 Shadyside Road, Block 2401, Lot 3

Mr. Martone had visited the residence. There are four ash trees which need to come out. Nine other trees are not in good shape. The residents are removing the trees to clean up the property. Upon motion by Mr. McMahan, seconded by Mr. Beltramini, the tree removal was 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

**SITE PLAN REVIEW**-None

**TREE REMOVAL PERMIT VIOLATIONS**-None

**LANDSCAPING PLAN REVIEW****Sal's Pizza, 71 West Main Street, Block 2308, Lot 3**

A new plan was submitted with the inclusion of the recommendations from the Shade Tree Commission. It was determined that the modifications were part of the new plan.

**Frezza, 24 Grant Street, Block 3608, Lot 21**

Alejandro Frezza of Airmont, New York, was present to explain the landscape plan for 24 Grant Street. He will be adding more boxwoods to the site. Green Giant Arborvitae will be planted to the right of the loading zone; that needs to be amended on the revised plan. A catalpa tree will be removed which is the only tree he is proposing to remove. A kousa dogwood and a red maple will also be put in. Irrigation will be put in. That fact will need to be added to the notes. One of the River Birches needs to be removed from the planting schedule. A revised plan will be needed. The amount of greenspace should be stated on that plan. The seal for the landscape architect is also needed. Deer barriers are needed at least for the dogwood and the red maple. The neighbor has a red oak along the property line which is not in the borough easement. The borough is not responsible for its removal. The parking spaces also should be numbered. "Residence" should be replaced with "Office." The landscape work will begin as soon as he receives all of his permits, which should take two to three weeks, and his materials. He was given nine months for completion by the Planning Board. The lawn area will be irrigated. The corner oak tree may be in the right-of-way. Mr. Trouf and Mr. McMahon will take a look at it. Mr. Frezza was asked to submit three copies of the revised plan for the March meeting so that it can be voted on.

**RESIDENTIAL SITE INSPECTIONS**

All trees must be marked and there must be a decision about what to do with the stumps. As noted earlier, Chris Fix is under contract until April, 2022.

Work Order #1

**11 Van Gelder Court**-Large trunks will be stacked off property.

**463 Island Road**-The tree will be removed (O&R).

**57 Momar Drive**-The tree will be removed (O&R); trimming will be done over the driveway.

**265 Norman Drive**-The tree will be removed.

**15 Lantern Lane**-Two trees will be elevated.

**114 Maple Street (rear DPW property)**-Two trees will be removed; the stumps will not be ground.

**86 Fuhrman Avenue**-Dead wood will be pruned.

**70 Fuhrman Avenue**-Two trees will be pruned.

**280 West Oak Street**-The tree will be removed.

**6 Valley View Drive**-Three trees will be elevated, and the dead wood will be removed.

**251 South Central Avenue**-One tree will be pruned, elevated, and cabled; one tree will be pruned and elevated.

**21 Sauna Road**-Two trees will be removed.

**35 Monroe Street**-Five trees will be removed, and two stumps will be ground.

**34 School Street**-The tree will be removed.

**1 Shadyside Road**-The tree will be removed.

**75 Ackerman Avenue**-Two trees will be elevated.

**236 Shadyside Road**-The declining tree will be removed and flush cut.

**113, 121, 124, 128, and 131 Fuhrman Avenue**-The trees will be elevated, and the dead wood will be removed.

**19 Hosking Way**-Three dead ash trees will be removed.

**20 Brookside Avenue**-The dead ash tree will be removed.

**27 Oakridge Road**-The damaged Red Oak tree will be removed.

**Ronald Court**-Branches hanging over the roadway will be trimmed.

**52 Elbert Court**-Two trees (behind in the soccer field) will be removed.

**183 East Main Street (Island Road side)**-The tree will be removed.

**299 East Main Street (Memorial Park)**-Two trees will be elevated and the dead wood will be removed. The second trunk will be removed for better balance.

**11 Joshua Drive**-Two broken limbs will be removed.

**63 North Spruce Street**-The tree will be removed.

**329 Elbert Street**-The branches hanging over the swing set (Green Acres) will be trimmed.

**COMMERCIAL SITE INSPECTIONS**

Regarding **Ramsey Mitsubishi, 1355 Route 17S, Block 3804, Lot 1**, a revised site plan is supposed to be submitted to the Planning Board by March 1<sup>st</sup>.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Geist spoke with Mr. Whitaker regarding Wawa. Judge Meehan approved the plan with no provision to go back to the Shade Tree Commission. The order is the order. They will not be coming back to Shade Tree. They must adhere to the landscape plan they have. They came before the Commission in 2014-2015 but Shade Tree never did approve Wawa’s landscape plan. There was discussion about a vote of no confidence. Upon motion by Mr. Melso, seconded by Mr. McMahan, and approved, the Shade Tree Commission issued a vote of no confidence on the planting plan as approved by the Superior Court. Mr. Martone asked who will do the final inspection since the plan was not approved by Shade Tree. An inspection will proceed as it always does.

	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				

**NEW BUSINESS**

Thirty-three trees will be planted in the spring, including one at the high school. The curbs need to be marked. The Commissioners should speak with the homeowners and also select any species which are missing on the list. Due to a possible short supply of

various species, the bid should go out as soon as possible. Upon motion by Mr. Martone, seconded by Mr. Beltramini, and approved unanimously, the bid for the spring planting should be sent out as soon as possible.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**-None

Mr. Mello announced that the Public Comment portion of the meeting would last approximately five minutes per person.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m. upon motion by Mr. Martone, seconded by Mr. Schumacher, and carried unanimously.

