

TREE WARDEN MEETING JANUARY 15, 2008 AT 7 P.M., 2008

Present: Anne Bussler, John Kuzeja, Osa Flory, Paul Jahnige,

Absent: Michael Beattie

Minutes from November: postponed for review until February meeting.

Old Business:

Status of Driveway Permit Letter: Anne had submitted the letter in the high way department drawer for distribution; there must have been a misunderstanding as to the purpose of the letter because it was returned to Anne's box. We will again do some revision of the letter. Osa will distribute letters to builders and excavation companies doing business in the area.

7 Kingsley Ave.: Anne received a letter from an insurance company in regard to the damage a town tree limb caused to a car parked below the tree when a branch fell.

Anne and Paul were authorized by the committee to fill in the form outside the meeting.

Jeff Ciuffreda asked that we have this tree pruned. John will contact the homeowners and let know that their driving over the tree roots undermines the strength of the tree and more branches may die in the future if they continue driving so close to the tree.

Bill: Anne received a bill from Shumway in the amount of \$3,150 for tree removal in the town of Williamsburg. Anne made a motion that we pay the bill; Paul second the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Anne will ask Shumway to itemize the trees worked upon so that we have an inventory of the status of these trees. Because the Shumway contract was based upon an hourly rate, no list of tree removals were included in the bill.

National Grid: Anne reported having spoken on the phone with a representative (Jessie) who removes trees for National Grid regarding tree removals. After a rather disinterested response to her concerns that trees we have identified as needing removal, Jessie said he may consider removing the rock maple on Depot Rd. and the dead beech on Upper Depot Rd. if the end of the year budget allows him to do so. The tree on 20 Petticoat Hill Rd. Jessie does not feel is in danger of falling and if it does, the probability is that it will fall away from the electric wires so he is not concerned. Jessie is not concerned that the Maple trees on South St. will fall down. These trees cannot be cut down; we asked they be pruned. Anne will let Jessie know this.

Michael Beattie: Jeff Ciuffreda says that a person who is not sworn in on an annual basis to serve on a town board is not a member. This is contradictory to communications from other town officials. John will communicate with Michael.

Arthur King Fund: Anne reported having met with the board of the Arthur King Fund to request money for some tree removals. The committee felt the request was outside of their purpose and invited us to return in the event we need money for planting trees as a beautification project.

1/21/2008

Gazette Bill: A bill for \$39.74 is owed the Gazette for our notice regarding tree removals. The committee voted to authorize its payment.

50 Briar Hill Rd.: Anne reported that Mr. McMaster called from 50 Briar Hill Rd. in regard to removing a tree we approved removal of on Sept. 18, 2007. Mr. McMaster will hire a licensed person and he will pay for the removal.

Tree Warden Policy: Anne reported having written a page regarding goals for our committee and tree warden policy. Paul suggested she contact Alan Snow and Eric Seeborn of Amherst for expertise.

Arbor Day: Osa suggested in celebration of Arbor Day we have a poetry reading event: "In honor of our trees". The public can be invited to the Meekins Library community room to read their own or their favorite poems about trees. The committee agreed to sponsor the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Next meeting will be held on February 19th, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Osa Flory