

**Tree Commission Meeting
Village of Baxter Estates
December 11, 2023
3:00 PM**

Meeting Minutes

Present: Josh Speisman, Chairman
Michael Malloy, Commissioner
Pedro Avila, Commissioner
Meghan Kelly, Village Clerk-Treasurer

Absent: None

Chairman Speisman called the meeting to order at 3:09 PM, hosted and noted the attendance of Commissioner Malloy and Commissioner Avila.

1. Approval of November 16, 2023, Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

Upon motion duly made by Chairman Speisman, seconded by Commissioner Avila it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2023, meeting.

2. Application of Application of Benjamin and Ashley Shapiro – 11 North Washington Street

An appeal was made to the Board of Trustees at their December 4, 2023, meeting, requesting the removal of the two (2) Silver Maple Trees that were denied for removal at the July 26, 2023, Tree Commission Meeting. A relevant excerpt from the minutes are as follows:

*“Upon motion duly made by Chairman Kahn and by Commissioner Malloy it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to grant permission for removal of one (1) White Oak tree and one (1) Hemlock Tree as identified in the Application of Benjamin and Ashley Schapiro, owners of 11 North Washington Street, Port Washington, NY 11050, conditioned upon payment of all permit fees, and depositing \$500.00 into the Village Tree Relief Fund. The tree relief fund deposit of \$500.00 can be refunded conditioned upon replanting two (2) replacement trees in accordance with all other provisions listed in Chapter 161 of the Village of Baxter Estates Code. It was hereby also,*

***RESOLVED** to deny the removal of one (1) Silver Maple tree, and one (1) Maple tree, as identified in the application as being in the front yard. The application claims both trees to be dead, in the event that a certified arborist send a letter to the Village certifying that either or both trees are dead, the removal could then be approved, conditioned upon payment of all permit fees, and depositing \$500.00 into the Village Tree Relief Fund per tree. The tree relief fund deposit of \$500.00 can be refunded conditioned upon replanting two (2) replacement trees, that will reach a height of 50’ at maturity and 10’ at planting, in a location of the applicant’s choosing, in accordance with all other provisions listed in Chapter 161 of the Village of Baxter Estates Code.”*

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Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Avila, seconded by Commissioner Malloy it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to mandate the replanting of two (2) replacement trees that are no less than 8 feet at planting and will reach a mature height of 50 feet, in a location of the applicant's choosing, in accordance with all other provisions listed in Chapter 161 of the Village of Baxter Estates Code. The remittance of a permit will be conditioned upon payment of \$100.00 in permit fees and depositing \$500.00 for the above trees, and \$500.00 for the trees approved at the July 26, 2023, meeting for a total of \$1,000.00 into the Village Tree Relief Fund.

3. Application of Michael and Lisa Giaramita – 10 Hillside Avenue

An appeal was made to the Board of Trustees at their December 4, 2023, meeting, requesting the removal of the full Oak Tree, that had one trunk denied for removal at the September 12, 2023, Tree Commission Meeting. A relevant excerpt from the minutes are as follows:

*“Upon motion duly made by Chairman Speisman, seconded by Commissioner Malloy it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to grant permission for removal of one (1) Cedar tree and pruning one (1) leaning Oak trunk, noting the denial of the main upright trunk, as identified in the Application of Michael and Lisa Giaramita, owners of 10 Hillside Avenue, Port Washington, NY 11050, conditioned upon payment of all permit fees, and depositing \$500.00 into the Village Tree Relief Fund. The tree relief fund deposit of \$500.00 can be refunded conditioned upon replanting two (2) replacement trees in a location of the applicant's choosing, in accordance with all other provisions listed in Chapter 161 of the Village of Baxter Estates Code.”*

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Avila, seconded by Chairman Speisman, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to not mandate a replanting of replacement trees. The tree relief fund deposit of \$500.00 can voluntarily be refunded conditioned upon replanting two (2) replacement trees in accordance with all other provisions listed in Chapter 161 of the Village of Baxter Estates Code. The remittance of a permit will be conditioned upon payment of \$50.00 in permit fees and depositing \$500.00 into the Village Tree Relief Fund.

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Malloy, seconded by Commissioner Avila, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to adjourn the meeting at 3:25 PM.

Submitted by Village Clerk-Treasurer Meghan Kelly