

**Tree Commission Meeting  
Village of Baxter Estates  
April 19, 2024  
2:30 PM**

**Meeting Minutes**

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

Absent: None

Commissioner Speisman called the meeting to order at 2:33 PM, hosted and noted the attendance of Commissioner Malloy and Commissioner Avila.

**1. Approval of December 11, 2023, Tree Commission Meeting Minutes**

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Avila, seconded by Commissioner Malloy, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2023, meeting.

**2. Approval of April 4, 2024, Tree Commission Meeting Minutes**

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Malloy, seconded by Commissioner Avila, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2024, meeting.

**3. Application of Todd Weiss, Owner of 22 Overlook Drive.**

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Avila, seconded by Commissioner Malloy, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to grant permission for removal of two (2) trees, as identified in the Application of Todd Weiss, owner of 22 Overlook Drive, Port Washington, NY 11050, conditioned upon payment of all permit fees, and depositing \$500.00 into the Village Tree Relief Fund. Let it be further,

**RESOLVED** that there is a mandated replant of two (2) replacement trees, which must be a minimum of 8 feet at planting and must reach a maximum maturity height of no less than 40 feet. The Commission resolved that one tree must be an evergreen species and the second must be a large canopy deciduous tree species. The exact variety within each requirement was left to the applicant's choosing, but must be consistent with the Preferred Species List, or the applicant must obtain written approval from the Commission prior to planting.

The tree relief fund deposit of \$500.00 can be refunded conditioned upon the completion of the mandated replanting, 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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**4. Application of Erin and Marc Mastronardi, Owners of 19 Central Drive.**

An application was made before the Commission for a removal upon the basis of a lantern fly infestation. Upon inspection of the site and the tree, it was found to already have been in severe decline prior to the infestation. It was noted that the tree had a weak root system, a “Y” crotch trunk, little to no upper canopy, and ivy suffocation up one trunk. The tree had not yet bloomed and there was doubt that the green would return to a tree in this state. Due to the preexisting conditions of the tree, the lack of benefit to the environment, and the potential hazard it may cause, upon motion duly made by Commissioner Avila, seconded by Commissioner Malloy, it was unanimously;

**RESOLVED** to grant permission for removal of one (1) tree, as identified in the Application of Erin and Marc Mastronardi, owners of 19 Central Drive, Port Washington, NY 11050, conditioned upon payment of all permit fees, and depositing \$250.00 into the Village Tree Relief Fund. The tree relief fund deposit of \$250.00 can be refunded conditioned upon replanting one (1) replacement tree 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, and must be consistent with the Preferred Species List, or the applicant must obtain written approval from the Commission prior to planting.

Upon motion duly made by Chairman Malloy, seconded by Commissioner Avila it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to adjourn the meeting at 2:49 PM.

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Submitted by Village Clerk-Treasurer Meghan Kelly