

## **Tree Committee Presentation to Town Board September 14, 2021 7:00 pm meeting**

### **PRESENTATIONS:**

Tree Committee: Presentation to Town Board

Michael Veitch, Gay Leonhardt and Cindy Muro

Thank you for having the Tree Committee in on September 14, 2021. This email is a follow up to our presentation with most of our points highlighted. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns involving town trees. Michael Veitch, chair Woodstock Tree Committee 845-750-0036

1. WTC is celebrating 5 years this year of Woodstock NY being a Tree City
2. A grant from Tree City has been applied for that if awarded will fund the planting of 4 trees in the hamlet.
3. Selected for planting: corner of Rock City and Mountainview parking lot-town property, two trees in front of Overlook bakery on Tinker to replace large dead maple, Lutheran Church on Mill Hill.
4. Bill McKenna is assisting with permission to plant in front of the Lutheran Church. They removed a large shade tree several years ago with the proviso they plant two new trees.
5. WTC is requesting \$1000 from the town's 2022 budget. This money will only be used with town approval for tree planting, stump removal, or other tree related items that come up during the year.
6. WTC is starting to develop a plan to "Plant Out" the town's urban forest/canopy. These will be spots earmarked for shade tree plantings to enhance the local environment, economy and streetscape. WTC hopes to have this plan ready for TB approval by spring 2022. A couple pictures of what Woodstock looked like 8 years ago and today will be sent via separate email as example.
7. WTC will be reaching out to the Chamber of Commerce for their support and participation.
8. WTC is recommending at least one highway employee with interest be paid to take specific training on maintaining trees. This would include proper trimming techniques, safe removal, stump removal, and replanting of suitable species.
9. Several stumps on town property require removal. WTC will provide a list to Bill.
10. WTC spoke to difficulties with certain tree situations that need town enforcement. Cumberland Farms is an example of a tree being threatened by illegal parking and lack of protection. A picture taken today 9/15/2021 will be sent via separate email.
11. Town tree law will need amending to protect trees along certain byways under 8 inches in diameter. Christina McLaughlin at DEC explained to Cindy Muro and myself that the state would not fund tree planting if the town law did not protect newly planted trees. That said, enforcement of the existing tree law for trees over 8 inches in diameter has been deficient and needs better enforcement.
12. The Tree Committee recommended the Town purchase a stump grinder to remove stumps. It was stated the Town already owns one.

Thank you again for your continued support of the tree committee.