# swampseal**Town of Swampscott**

##### **Department of Public Works**

##### 22 Monument Avenue

##### Swampscott, Massachusetts 01907

Tel: 781-596-8860 Fax: 781-596-8828

Gino A. Cresta Jr, Director Natalie Swanstrom, Business Manager

[gcresta@swampscottma.gov](mailto:gcresta@swampscottma.gov) [nswanstrom@swampscottma.gov](mailto:nswanstrom@swampscottma.gov)

The Department of Public Works conducted a Tree Hearing on Thursday, October 13, 2022. The Tree Hearing was held virtually at 2:00pm. The meeting was recorded.

**In Attendance**: Gino Cresta Jr., Director of Public Works

Marzie Galazka, Community Development Director

Aleena Alsaraby, Assistant Engineer

Jim Olivetti, Tree Committee

Mike Garvey, 85 Monument Ave

Mike Cohen, 86 Nason Road

Joshua Pritchard, 19 Stanley Road

Corona Pritchard, 19 Stanley Road

Lauren Urbanczyk, 12 Stanley Road

Joanna O’Neil, 59 Stanley Road

Danielle Miller, 26 Stanley Road

Ashley Althoff, 50 Eastman Ave

**Subject #1**: The Norway maple tree located at 4 Plymouth Ave. Mr. Cresta stated that the Public Works office had received a call from Susan Bounopane requesting that the tree be evaluated due to concerns that it may be dead. Mr. Cresta acknowledged that the tree was in poor condition; that it contained a large amount of deadwood, a large cavity, and a mechanical wound in the canopy. Affirming that there was no opposition to the tree’s removal, Mr. Cresta authorized the tree be removed.

**Subject #2**: The Norway maple tree located at 73 Plymouth Ave. Mr. Cresta stated that the Public Works office had received numerous calls regarding this tree. Most of the concerns were due to the tree leaning adversely toward the house at 73 Plymouth Ave. Jim Olivetti, Tree Committee member, stated that he was not opposed to the tree’s removal. However, he noted that Plymouth Ave had lost several trees over the past few years and suggested that the Public Works Office reach out to the homeowner to see if she would support the Town planting an ornamental tree in her front yard. Mr. Cresta agreed with Mr. Olivetti’s suggestion acknowledging that the sidewalks on Plymouth Ave were narrow and did not include a grass strip. Affirming that there was no opposition to the tree’s removal, Mr. Cresta authorized the tree be removed.

**Subject #3:** The ornamental cherry tree located at 50 Eastman Ave. Mr. Cresta said that the Public Works office had received a Seeclickfix report from Beth Bellante requesting that the tree in front of her house be removed due to it loosing many limbs during windstorms. Mr. Cresta noted that decay was evident in the tree’s trunk and that the tree contained ample deadwood. Affirming that there was no opposition to the tree’s removal, Mr. Cresta authorized the tree be removed.

**Subject #4:** The Norway maple tree located at 11 Grant Road. Mr. Cresta stated that the Public Works office had received a request from Donald Peterson requesting that the tree be evaluated believing that it was dead. Mr. Olivetti, Tree Committee member, stated that he was not opposed to the tree’s removal due to its species. Mike Garvey also spoke on the relatively poor condition of the tree and was not opposed to removal. Affirming that there was no opposition to the tree’s removal, Mr. Cresta authorized the tree be removed.

**Subject #5:** The Red oak tree located at 38 Thomas Road. Mr. Cresta stated that the Public Works office had received a request from Lindsey Bosken asking that the tree be evaluated for viability and the potential of falling. Mr. Garvey spoke in opposition of the tree being removed but did acknowledge that there was decay at the base. Mr. Olivetti, Tree Committee, also opposed the tree’s removal, but suggested that a certified tree arborist evaluate the tree to affirm it did not present an imminent hazard. Mr. Cresta supported Mr. Olivetti’s recommendation.

**Subject #6:** The Norway maple tree located at 86 Nason Road. Mike Cohen spoke in favor of the tree’s removal believing it to be diseased. Mr. Cresta acknowledged the poor condition of the tree while also noting a dead main leader. Affirming that there was no opposition to the tree’s removal, Mr. Cresta authorized the tree be removed. Mr. Cohen asked to be added to the tree replacement waiting list.

**Subject #7:** The Norway maple tree located at 79 Morton Road. Mr. Cresta stated that the Public Works office had received a request from the Gold family asking that the tree be evaluated due to it having lost many large leaders of the past few years. Mr. Cresta remarked that there were two Norway maples located at this address and that the one located closest to Lawrence Road was in the poorest condition. He added that the tree had a large wound with significant decay from the base to six feet. Affirming that there was no opposition to the tree’s removal, Mr. Cresta authorized the tree be removed.

**Subject #8:** The Norway maple tree located at 15 Bradlee Ave. Mr. Cresta stated that the Public Works office had received a request from Larry Levine asking that the tree located at the left of his driveway be evaluated due to his belief that the tree may come down during the next storm. Mr. Cresta mentioned that there were two Norway maples and one Honey locust located at this address and that the Norway maple located to the left of Mr. Levine’s driveway was in the poorest condition. Mr. Cresta confirmed that the tree in question had multiple pruning cuts and was now unbalanced. Affirming that there was no opposition to the tree’s removal, Mr. Cresta authorized the tree be removed.

**Subject #9:** The Norway maple tree located at 19 Stanley Road. Joshua Pritchard spoke in favor of the tree’s removal concerned that it was not study at its base. Mr. Prichard provided photos of the tree showing how it had begun to separate from the concrete sidewalk and was now leaning dangerously towards his house. Mr. Garvey spoke in favor of the tree being removed believing it represented a danger if it were to fall. Lauren Urbanczyk asked Mr. Cresta if he had a copy of the SavATree report, and if so, what was the mitigation recommendation. Mr. Cresta replied that the SavATree report stated removal was an option. Mr. Olivetti, Tree Committee, also supported removal of the tree. Affirming that there was no opposition to the tree’s removal, Mr. Cresta authorized the tree be removed.

**Subject #10:** The Norway maple tree located at 59 Stanley Road. Mr. Cresta stated that he had received an email request from Joanna O’Neil asking that the tree be removed due to her belief that the tree had recently uprooted and was presenting a hazard. Mr. Cresta stated that this tree was considered for removal at a previous Tree Hearing. Mrs. O’Neil spoke in favor of the tree being removed stating it was extensively pruned by National Grid, and the tree was now unbalanced and leaning dangerously towards her home. Mr. Cresta reported that while posting the tree for the hearing, Peabody’s Forestry Foreman, Chris Farwell, was in the area and upon examination believed that the tree should be taken down as soon as possible. Affirming that there was no opposition to the tree’s removal, Mr. Cresta authorized the tree be removed. Mrs. O’Neil asked to be added to the tree replacement waiting list.

**Subject #11:** The ornamental cherry tree located at 56 Middlesex Ave. Mr. Cresta said that the Public Works office had received a request from the Tree Committee to have the tree removed in lieu of a healthy replacement. Mr. Cresta noted that decay was evident in the tree’s base and trunk, and that the tree contained ample deadwood. Mr. Olivetti, Tree Committee, stated that he did not oppose the removal due to there being a plan in place to replace it. Affirming that there was no opposition to the tree’s removal, Mr. Cresta authorized the tree be removed.

**At 3:00 pm, Mr. Cresta made a motion to adjourn.**