



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
gcresta@swampscottma.gov

Kelly Stevens, Assistant Engineer
kstevens@swampscottma.gov

The Department of Public Works conducted a Tree Hearing on Friday, September 24, 2021. The Tree Hearing was held virtually at 10:00am. The meeting was intended to be recorded but mistakenly was not. Thus all those in attendance may not be accurately reflected.

In Attendance: Gino Cresta Jr., Director of Public Works
Marzie Galazka, Community Development Director
Molly O'Connell, Town Senior Planner
Karl Witt, 64 Worcester Ave
Marco Mereu, 15 Palmer Ave
Yelena Varshal, 17 Pleasant Street
Amy Forman, 81 Bates Road
Haley Farrar-Muir, 69 Plymouth Ave
Adam Muir, 69 Plymouth Ave
Lindsey Whiteley, 78 Greenwood Ave
Danielle Miller, 26 Stanley Road
Lauren Urbanczyk, 12 Stanley Road
Nicholas Urbanczyk, 12 Stanley Road
Danielle Hanson, 385 Essex Street

Subject #1: The Norway maple tree located at 64 Worcester Ave. Karl Witt, 64 Worcester Ave, spoke in favor of the tree's removal stating that large limbs had recently fallen and that the large limbs that remain are posing a concern. Mr. Gardiner, forestry foreman, evaluated the tree and noted fungus at the base, girdling roots and a codominant crown. 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 34 Lewis Road. Mr. Cresta read an email that he received from Jon McHugh, 30 Lewis Road, in favor of the

tree's removal stating that tree did not appear to be healthy and was leaning precariously towards his home. He also mentioned that a sidewalk repair was recently made in front of his home at which time the tree's roots were shaved which could potentially further compromise the tree. Mr. Gardiner, forestry foreman, evaluated the tree and noted large deadwood, and decay at the base with carpenter ants. He too was concerned about the tree leaning towards the house. Affirming that there was no opposition to the tree's removal, Mr. Cresta authorized the tree be removed.

Subject #3: The Sugar maple tree located at 29 Andrew Road. Mr. Cresta read an email that he received from Dennis Barton, 40 Andrew Road, asking that the tree be evaluated due to it appearing to be rotted and infested. Mr. Cresta read a second email that he received via SeeClickFix from Carolyn stating that the tree was completely rotted. Mr. Gardiner, forestry foreman, evaluated the tree and noted significant decay from the base to seven feet. 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 on Walker Road at the corner of Devens Road (posted as 31 Devens Road). Mr. Cresta read an email that he received via SeeClickFix from Msamost stating that the tree is dying and apt to fall on a home on either side of it. Mr. Gardiner, forestry foreman, evaluated the tree and noted a large cavity at ten feet, significant rot at the base, and considerable deadwood. Affirming that there was no opposition to the tree's removal, Mr. Cresta authorized the tree be removed.

Subject #5: The Norway maple tree located at 15 Palmer Ave. Marco Mereu, 15 Palmer Ave, spoke in favor of the tree being removed expressing concern that the base of the tree was deteriorating. Mr. Gardiner, forestry foreman, evaluated the tree and confirmed the base of the tree was rotted and that the tree contained large deadwood. Affirming that there was no opposition to the tree's removal, Mr. Cresta authorized the tree be removed.

Subject #6: The Norway maple tree located at 11 Eulow Street. Mr. Cresta read an email that he received from Julie Callum, 11 Eulow Street asking that the tree be removed due to safety concerns. Mr. Gardiner, forestry foreman, evaluated the tree and noted codominant at twelve feet and decay in a large limb overhanging the driveway. Affirming that there was no opposition to the tree's removal, Mr. Cresta authorized the tree be removed.

Subject #7: The Norway maple tree located at 59 Stanley Road. Mr. Cresta read an email that he received from Joanna O'Neil, 59 Stanley Road be evaluated due to it appearing to be sickly. Mr. Gardiner, forestry foreman, evaluated the tree and noted root rot, deadwood and was concerned that the tree was one sided and subject to failure. Mr. Gardiner's recommendation was for the tree to be removed. Lauren Urbanczyk, 12 Stanley Road, protested the tree being removed believing it did not constitute an imminent hazard. Mr. Cresta acknowledged that the Town's tree bylaws state that if one or more persons contests the removal of a shade tree and if the tree in question does not pose an immediate hazard, then the tree shall remain standing. Mr. Cresta allowed the tree to remain.

Subject #8: The Crimson King maple tree located at 17 Pleasant Street. Yelena Varshal, 17 Pleasant Street, stating that the tree looks rotten at the base and was concerned that students walking to the Middle School could be injured. Mr. Gardiner, forestry foreman, evaluated the tree and noted decay at the base, poor flare, and large deadwood. 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 73 Magnolia Road. Mr. Cresta stated that the DPW office had received a request from Mrs. Francis Corcoran 73 Magnolia Road asking that the tree be evaluated. Mr. Gardiner, forestry foreman, evaluated the tree and noted leader failure at 25 feet, dead bark, and cavities with carpenter ants. Affirming that there was no opposition to the tree's removal, Mr. Cresta authorized the tree be removed.

Subject #10: The two Cherry trees located at 370 Puritan Road. Mr. Cresta stated that the DPW office had received a request from Betty Eliopoulos, 370 Puritan Road asking that the two tree be evaluated. Mr. Gardiner, forestry foreman, evaluated the tree and noted small cavities and some deadwood. Amy Forman, 81 Bates Road, requested that the trees not be removed unless they were considered a hazard. Confirming that the two trees in question did not pose an imminent threat, Mr. Cresta allowed the trees to remain and recommended pruning of the deadwood.

Subject #11: The Norway maple tree located at 69 Plymouth Ave. Haley Farrar-Muir, 69 Plymouth Ave, acknowledged that her and her husband had recently purchased the home at 69 Plymouth Ave, and it was actually the previous owner that had requested the tree's removal. Ms. Farrar-Muir stated that if the tree foreman did not think the tree posed a risk, then she would

prefer to have the tree remain. Mr. Gardiner, forestry foreman, evaluated the tree and noted an unbalanced crown and rot at the crotch. Mr. Cresta recommended the tree not be removed and advised that the tree would continue to be monitored.

Subject #12: The Silver maple tree located at 72 Greenwood Ave. Mr. Cresta stated that the DPW office had received a request that the tree be evaluated. Mr. Cresta read an email that he received from Patti Jones, 25 Farragut Road opposing the removal of the tree unless it was a public safety hazard. Mr. Gardiner, forestry foreman, evaluated the tree and noted some deadwood and recommended that the tree be pruned. Mr. Cresta authorized the tree remain standing.

Subject #13: The Silver maple tree located at 76 Greenwood Ave. Mr. Cresta read an email that he received from Lindsey Whiteley, 78 Greenwood Ave be requesting that the tree be removed due to it posing a significant threat to the wellbeing of her family. Mr. Gardiner, forestry foreman, evaluated the tree and noted extensive dieback, large deadwood, and root decay. He also acknowledged that a large limb had recently fallen causing damage to two vehicles. Affirming that there was no opposition to the tree's removal, Mr. Cresta authorized the tree be removed.

Subject #14: The Norway maple tree located at 12 Stanley Road. This tree had been the subject of two previous tree hearings. Due to numerous opposition to the tree's removal, the tree has remained standing. Both Lauren and Nicholas Urbanczyk, 12 Stanley Road, spoke in favor of the tree being removed due to their belief that the tree was constituting a hazard. Mr. Cresta disclosed that he had received emails from Lauren Williams, 25 Stanley Road; Josh and Danielle Miller, 26 Stanley Road; and Patty Colone, 4 Stanley Road; opposing the tree's removal. However, Mr. Cresta now in receipt of Tree Assessment Report provided by Maya Tree and Lawn Care, overruled the objections and authorized the tree be removed.

Subject #15: The Norway maple tree located at 385 Essex Street. Danielle Hanson, 385 Essex Street, spoke in favor of the tree's removal stating that she had recently had an arborist doing work on her property and he advised that the tree should be taken down. Mr. Gardiner, forestry foreman, evaluated the tree and noted four large limbs had been removed in the past and there were decay wounds. He also noted that there was considerable rot at the base and

a large amount of deadwood. Affirming that there was no opposition to the tree's removal, Mr. Cresta authorized the tree be removed.

Subject #16: The Norway maple tree located at 177 Walker Road. Mr. Cresta stated that the DPW office had received a request from Ms. Jodie Barnett, 177 Walker Road, asking that the tree be evaluated due to it losing several large leaders. Mr. Gardiner, forestry foreman, evaluated the tree and noted rot at the base and a large amount of deadwood. Affirming that there was no opposition to the tree's removal, Mr. Cresta authorized the tree be removed.

At 11:30 am, Mr. Cresta made a motion to adjourn.