

COMMENTS REGARDING TREES PROPOSAL
March 13, 2018

The draft prior to the January 23 meeting eliminated § 281-3.B, which had allowed two trees to be removed within 12 months without a permit, meaning as a matter of right.

At the meeting it was explained that this would be changed, at least as I understood it, to restore the right to remove two trees as long as the village was notified. So, the permit would be automatic, just a rubber stamp. It should not even have been called permit, but just a notification.

But that is not what I see in this latest draft. This latest draft requires the same permit and formality as for the third or fourth or fifth tree. It requires an application. It exposes the property owner to the Village Engineer requiring plans and details, requiring payment to cover the cost of a tree expert and requiring a performance bond. It means you have to wait 30 days. In the latest draft, the only thing that makes the first two trees different from the third or additional tree is that the village waives the application fee on the first two trees. This is not what was explained at the January 23 meeting.

Also, the waiver of the application fee only applies to two trees in 24 months. The current rule is two trees in 12 months.

So, I ask that this be redrafted to allow the removal of two trees within 12 month as a matter of right, with the only new requirement being a notification to the village.

Also, previously you only had to replace if the DBH exceeded 36 inches. Now you have to replace if the DBH exceeds 24 inches. Since I think most property owners are concerned about large trees that will do major damages to wires if they fall, there really should not be any restriction based on the size of the tree. But at least go back to 36 inches.

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