

TOWN OF HAMDEN
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
1125 SHEPARD AVENUE
HAMDEN, CONNECTICUT 06518
203-278-2600

Final Decision of the Tree Warden
RE: Tree Removal—154 Westminster Street

September 24, 2021

Background:

On or before July 30, 2021, Hamden Tree Warden Mike Siciliano observed the condition of a certain tree located on the east side of Westminster Street immediately abutting #125 Westminster Street. His initial observation confirmed that:

1. The tree is located in the public right of way of Westminster Street.
2. The tree is located in an area where other trees have been damaged due to recent storms, and where the Town intends to re-plant new trees to improve the streetscape.
3. There appeared to be significant deterioration of the tree that may have warranted its removal.

Following his own inspection, Mr. Siciliano consulted Geoff Harris, a professionally licensed arborist, for his opinion. Upon his own inspection, Mr. Harris found the tree to be failing without any likelihood of restoration (Mr. Harris's written report is available from the Hamden Public Works Department).

Based on these facts, Mr. Siciliano determined that the current condition of the tree poses a threat to public safety as well as the service lines to the abutting home, and that over time the tree will continue to pose a continued public hazard. On or after July 30, 2021, pursuant to §23-59 of the Connecticut General Statutes, Mr. Siciliano posted a notice on the tree indicating that the tree would be removed. Since the posting of the notice, I have replaced Mr. Siciliano as the Hamden Tree Warden, and based on my review of the facts, I concur with Mr. Siciliano's decision.

Within (10) days of the posting of the notice, the Town of Hamden received an appeal of the decision from the following parties:


- a. Caitlin Claffin Mongillo & Nicholas Claffin Mongillo
154 Westminster Street

Pursuant to statute, a hearing was held on the appeal on September 22, 2021, at which time I, Mr. Ciciliano and the Mongillos presented information for review.

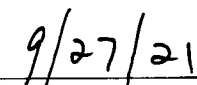
Final Decision:

Based on my own observations, the assessment of the arborist as well as the testimony offered at the hearing, my final decision on this matter is that the tree shall be removed. This decision includes a stipulation that two replacement trees will be planted by the Town in the planting strip following the tree's removal.

Signed:


Chris Rhone, Tree Warden
Town of Hamden

Date:


9/27/21