

**The Ocean City Shade Tree Committee
City Hall Council Chambers
861 Asbury Avenue
Ocean City, NJ 08226**

**Meeting Minutes from Wednesday, February 4th, 2026
(Rescheduled from January 28th, 2026)
9:00 A.M. Meeting**

Meeting Called to Order: 9:04 A.M.

Open Public Meetings Act Announcement: Adequate notice of this meeting has been given pursuant to Public Law 1975: Chapter 231

Roll Call:

Present: Joseph Clark, Mary Louise Hayes, J. Michael Lehman, Joshua Linthicum, Donna Moore, Sandra Simpson, Kyle Costello (City Liaison)

Absent: Marie Crawford

Approval of the Minutes: Minutes from December 17th, 2025 were approved by The Committee.

Public Comment: none

Old Business: none

New Business:

- 2026 Officer Installment by nomination and vote:
 - Joseph Clark - Chairman
 - J. Michael Lehman - Vice Chairman
 - Marie Crawford - Recording Secretary
- The following property plans were submitted for compliance review and comments by the Committee:
 - 1833-35 Wesley Avenue - Approved - proposed new duplex with two trees shown
 - 2316-18 Simpson Avenue - Approved - proposed construction of new single family home with 2 trees shown on plan
- No update to the Shade Tree account was provided.
- Kyle Costello reported that renovations are in process at the Cape May County Dog Park which include removal of a retaining wall and ornamental Crape Myrtle trees. There were also routine prunings at the Henry Knight building. Routine pruning of street trees in the downtown section is scheduled for spring.
- A discussion took place regarding Arbor Day planting projects at the Ocean City Primary School's memorial garden and North Street Park.
- A discussion took place about planting ideas for the new police substation. The Committee will revisit this at a later date.
- A list of monthly meeting dates for 2026 was edited and approved by The Committee in session.

Meeting Adjournment: 10:45 A.M.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 25th, 2026 @ 9:00 A.M. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Minutes Submitted by J. Michael Lehman, Vice Chairman

(jml 2-4-2026)