**DRAFT FOR PUBLIC HEARING – JUNE 2, 2015**

BILL NO.

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1318.28 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, AS AMENDED, ENTITLED TREE CONSERVATION.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BETHLEHEM HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That Section 1318.28 of the Zoning Ordinance, as amended, which reads:

1318.28 Tree Conservation.

(a) Where any existing healthy tree(s) that has a trunk diameter of 8 inches or greater (measured 4.5 feet above the ground level) are removed from a site as part of or in preparation for a development project, ~~2~~ new trees shall be planted for each such tree that is removed. ~~These trees shall be in addition to trees required by other City requirements.~~ The new trees shall have a minimum trunk diameter of 2.5 inches measured 6 inches above the ground level and shall meet the City species requirements that would apply to street trees, unless other species are approved by the City Forester. If there is mutual consent by the applicant and the City, some or all of the replacement trees may be planted on City owned land as an in lieu of requirement.

(b) Where an existing street tree is removed from a site as part of or in preparation for a development project, it shall be replaced with a new street tree meeting City street tree requirements. Where the planting of a new street tree is not feasible, such as because of conflicts with utility lines or sight triangles, the City may allow such tree to be planted at an alternative location on the site.

(c) See also Section 1319 regarding trees.

Be amended to read as follows:

1318.28 Tree Conservation.

(a) Where any existing healthy tree(s) that has a trunk diameter of 8 inches or greater (measured 4.5 feet above the ground level) are removed from a site as part of or in preparation for a development project, **1** new tree shall be planted for each such tree that is removed. The new trees shall have a minimum trunk diameter of 2.5 inches measured 6 inches above the ground level and shall meet the City species requirements that would apply to street trees, unless other species are approved by the City Forester. If there is mutual consent by the applicant and the City, some or all of the replacement trees may be planted on City owned land as an in lieu of requirement. **In the RR (Rural Residential) and CM (Office Research Center) Districts, all of the above provisions shall apply, except that 2 new trees shall be planted for each such tree that is removed.**

(b) Where an existing street tree is removed from a site as part of or in preparation for a development project, it shall be replaced with a new street tree meeting City street tree requirements. Where the planting of a new street tree is not feasible, such as because of conflicts with utility lines or sight triangles, the City may allow such tree to be planted at an alternative location on the site.

(c) See also Section 1319 regarding trees.

SECTION 2. All Ordinances and parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith be, and the same are hereby repealed.

 Sponsored by

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 PASSED finally in Council on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_.

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 President of Council

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City Clerk

 This Ordinance approved this \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

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 Mayor