

**BOROUGH OF GREEN TREE
COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 6, 2017**

Call to Order / Silence for Meditation / Pledge of Allegiance

Green Tree Borough Council met on Monday, March 6, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in the Green Tree Municipal Center, 10 West Manilla Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Mr. Sampogna said that Council had met in Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss a potential hiring and a recent Civil Service hearing.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Edward Schenck, Mayor
Mark Sampogna, President of Council
Rino Lindsey
David Lorenzini
John Novak
Ron Panza
David Rea
Arthur Tintori

Also Present:

W. David Montz, Borough Manager
Peter Molinaro, Jr., Borough Solicitor
Colin Cleary, Chief of Police
Deborah Gawryla, Stenographer

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

February 6, 2017

Motion:

Mr. Lindsey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to approve the February 6, 2017 Council meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

February 20, 2017

Motion:

Mr. Novak made a motion, seconded by Mr. Tintori, to approve the February 20, 2017 Council meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried, 6-0-1, with Mr. Lindsey abstaining because he had not attended this meeting.

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS

There was no one present who wished to be heard.

MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Schenck

- A.** Mayor Schenck said he would be holding Mayor's Office Hours on Saturday, March 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Birch Room of the Green Tree Municipal Center.

- B.** Mayor Schenck said that Council is still waiting to hear back from the Keystone Oaks School District regarding the property behind Aiken School. The borough currently has a long-term lease on this property.

REPORT OF GREEN TREE BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEES**A. FINANCE - Mr. Tintori****1. Motion:**

Mr. Tintori made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lindsey, to ratify the actions of the Borough Manager in paying the February 2017 invoices from the General Fund totaling \$118,069.74, Payroll Account totaling \$191,288.32, and Educational Service Agency totaling \$4,866.89.

Mr. Lorenzini asked about a charge for \$8,800.00 to DEP Technologies for IT Services. Mr. Montz said that was the borough's new IT service. The borough purchases blocks of hours at one time. By using this system, the borough receives a 20% discount for services. Mr. Rea said the borough is paying DEP Technologies an hourly rate but in a block for the borough's computer systems and infrastructure, i.e., desktop computers, email service, servers, etc. Mr. Montz said the service would support the hardware and the software for all these items.

Mr. Rea noted that the previous IT provider also had a charge in the invoices. Mr. Montz said the old provider was being phased out and the charges shown were for earlier services. DEP Technologies will be the new IT service for the borough and will cover all of the borough's IT services. Mr. Rea asked if Gannett-Fleming would continue to provide any services to the borough. Mr. Montz said they would continue to provide the borough's GIS mapping services and code enforcement software (GeoPlan).

Mr. Lorenzini asked why the borough switched IT providers. Mr. Montz replied that it was better service. Mr. Rea said that Council would agree that the borough needed better service, including wi-fi in the Sycamore Room, and he hoped that the new IT provider would help with these issues. When asked, Mr. Montz said the \$8,800.00 would continue until the hourly usage of IT services was expended. He hoped it would last longer than one year, but the block of service was purchased in order to get the 20% discount.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion:

Mr. Tintori made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lindsey, to approve payment of the March 2017 invoices from the General Fund totaling \$65,987.33, Sanitary Sewer Maintenance Fund totaling \$8,372.60, and Capital Projects totaling \$451.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Appointment of Official Voting Delegate and Alternate Delegate for the MRM Workers' Compensation Pooled Trust.

After a discussion it was determined that Mr. Tintori was the only representative that would be attending Allegheny League of Municipalities (ALOM) event. The appointment of delegates varies depending upon who will be in attendance, and without another representative in attendance there was no one to appoint as an alternate delegate.

Motion:

Mr. Lindsey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rea, to appointment Mr. Arthur Tintori as the official voting delegate for the MRM Workers' Compensation Pooled Trust.

Motion carried unanimously.

4. **Appointment of Official Voting Delegate and Alternate Delegate for the MRM Property & Liability Trust.**

Motion:

Mr. Lindsey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rea, to appointment Mr. Arthur Tintori as the official voting delegate for the MRM Property & Liability Trust.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. **Appointment to Local Tax Appeal Board (3-year term)**

Mr. Montz stated that the Local Tax Appeal Board is a committee that the borough is required to have under State law in the event that someone would want to appeal his/her taxes under certain provisions, i.e., earned income tax, Act 511 tax, business privilege tax, etc. To date, the borough has never had to convene this board, but it must be in place in the event that someone might appeal these taxes. Borough ordinance requires two members of Council and an elector.

Motion:

Mr. Lindsey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to appoint Mr. Mark Sampogna, Mr. Arthur Tintori, and Mr. Robert Gustine to the Green Tree Local Tax Appeal Board for three-year terms.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Mr. Tintori noted that the spring Green Tree newsletter had a breakdown of the borough's anticipated 2017 budget expenditures.

B. STREETS & PUBLIC HEALTH - Mr. Novak

1. **Authorize the proper officers to execute GROW Program Grant Agreement through ALCOSAN.**

Mr. Novak said that Council has received the agreement for the GROW (Green Revitalization of Our Waterways) grant from ALCOSAN.

Motion:

Mr. Novak made a motion, seconded by Mr. Tintori, to authorize the proper officers to execute the GROW Program Grant agreement through ALCOSAN.

Mr. Sampogna stated that the GROW grant will provide up to \$428,000 or 85% of the project's cost, depending upon the final cost. When asked, Mr. Montz said that the agreement allows the borough to have up to two years to complete the project; however, he hoped this project would be underway during this year's construction season, taking approximately one month to complete. Mr. Montz provided additional project details. Mayor Schenck said the project is on Poplar Street between Kearns Avenue and Noblestown Road. Mr. Novak said that when completed, the project will remove approximately 24 million gallons of storm water annually. The project will probably go out to bid within the next several months.

When asked, Solicitor Molinaro stated that the contract, as proposed, was satisfactory.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 2. Mr. Novak said that Streets Committee would meet after this meeting to review the borough's street paving program.

C. PUBLIC PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT - Mr. Rea

1. Resolution #1239 - Disposition of Public Records

Mr. Rea said that the records being disposed of were from 1993 to 2003. He asked why it was a ten-year window. Mr. Montz replied that the records to be disposed are determined by the State's Museum Act. The borough is still getting caught up on some of the items that need to be disposed, but it should be able to get down to annually disposing of one year's worth of public records soon.

Motion:

Mr. Rea made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lindsey, to adopt Resolution #1239 by title only.

Mr. Molinaro read Resolution #1239 authorizing the disposition of public records as described as "Exhibit A."

Roll Call Vote

Mr. Rea	Yes
Mr. Novak	Yes
Mr. Panza	Yes
Mr. Lindsey	Yes
Mr. Lorenzini	Yes
Mr. Tintori	Yes
Mr. Sampogna	Yes

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Smoke-Free Parks

Mr. Rea stated that the Public Property Committee would be presenting an ordinance next month prohibiting tobacco use in borough parks. He asked for Council's input before writing that ordinance. Currently there is no ordinance in place covering tobacco use in borough parks. Mr. Montz said there is a designated smoking area at the pool, but other than that, tobacco use at the parks is very informal.

Mr. Lorenzini suggested that a smoking area should be designated at each park. Mr. Sampogna said that designated smoking areas tend to become toxic waste dumps because of cigarette butts. The hazardous material in cigarette butts would have to be cleaned up by the Public Works Department. He felt that smokers should have to smoke in their cars at the parks. That way smokers can deal with the disposal of their own cigarette butts. He said that having a designated smoking area is counter to the public health concern of creating "No Smoking" areas. Mr. Sampogna said that the borough passed a resolution last year to become a Live Well Community and one of the goals of a Live Well community is to eliminate smoking in public places.

Mr. Rea said that the designated smoking area at the pool often blows the smoke towards the non-smokers and the pool. Mr. Lindsey asked if there was any way to create a designated smoking area outside of the pool area itself. Mr. Rea said he hoped to prohibit smoking at all public parks. Mr. Lindsey agreed with getting smoke away from children and even out of sight if possible. Mr. Lorenzini felt that some parents would not want to leave

their children out of their sight at the ballparks or the pool to have a cigarette, so he felt there should be a designated smoking area.

Mr. Sampogna said the ordinance should include smokeless tobacco, too. Mr. Tintori said he did not care to have an ordinance regarding smoking at all because it would be difficult to enforce. Mr. Sampogna said it would be self-policing with sufficient signage. Mr. Rea said there is a county program that would pay for the signage. Mr. Montz said if a "No Smoking" ordinance was passed there would need to be a commitment to enforce it, or there would be no point in passing such an ordinance. Discussion continued regarding the items to be considered in adopting a no smoking policy in borough parks and pool.

Mr. Panza asked if a no smoking policy would include electronic cigarettes that often do not include tobacco. After a discussion, Council felt that they did not want to pursue the electronic cigarettes at this time, but a no smoking ordinance could be amended at a later time to include it.

Mr. Dan Gall, from the audience and chairman of the Farmers Market Committee, stated that there are a number of farmers who participate in the Farmers Market that smoke or chew tobacco. He asked how the ordinance would impact these vendors. Mr. Sampogna and Mr. Rea said that the Farmers Market takes place in the parking lot, so it would probably be permitted. Discussion continued regarding possible details to be considered.

D. RECREATION & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS - Mr. Panza

1. Appointment to Library Board (to fill a 2-year term that expires January 2018)

Motion:

Mr. Panza made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lindsey, to appoint Mr. Ed Giles to fill an existing two-year term on the Green Tree Library Board that expires January 2018.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Appointment to Recreation & Community Affairs Board (3-Year Term to March 1, 2020)

Motion:

Mr. Panza made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lindsey, to reappoint Mrs. Christine Short to the Recreation & Community Affairs Board for a three-year term to expire March 1, 2020.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Mr. Panza asked for Council's thoughts on a two-day moratorium on the no dogs rule by allowing dogs in borough parks during Octoberfest. The trend appears to be that people wish to bring their dogs along with them to more places. At previous Octoberfests, people have brought their dogs for the Dog Parade, but were asked to leave immediately afterwards since dogs were not permitted on the property and this did not seem fair. After a discussion, Council felt that dogs should not be allowed in borough parks during Octoberfest or at other times.

4. Mr. Panza stated that there would be a Recreation Committee meeting after the April Council meeting.

E. PUBLIC SAFETY - Mr. Lindsey**1. Police Car**

Mr. Lindsey asked about the status of the new police car. Mr. Montz replied that the new vehicle is having preliminary work done to it to allow it to be put into service when the other police car reaches the recommended mileage mark to remove it from rotation. He anticipated the new car being put into service in about three to four months.

When asked, Mr. Montz said that the new GPS system for the police cars is up and running. The new cameras for the cars should be in place in about three to four weeks and when that happens Council will need to discuss the buy-back/take-back for the old cameras.

F. PLANNING & ZONING - Mr. Lorenzini**1. General Report**

- (a) Mr. Lorenzini reported that there would be a Zoning Hearing Board meeting tomorrow regarding a request from Steel City Billboards and the Hampton Inn to construct and maintain a double-sided billboard. One side would be digital and the other side would be static. This would not be a sign for the Hampton Inn, but would be an advertising billboard. Mayor Schenck mentioned that he had sworn in the newest member of the Zoning Hearing Board.
- (b) Mr. Lorenzini said that the Green Tree Planning Commission had submitted its 2016 Annual Report to Council.
- (c) Council will be meeting on Monday, March 27 at 7:30 p.m. to continue the review of the proposed zoning ordinance. He asked Mr. Montz if Council should submit questions and comments to him regarding changes and updates to the definitions and terms. Mr. Montz said he would welcome any recommendations.
- (d) Mr. Novak asked when the construction of the proposed Burger King on Noblestown Road would begin. Mr. Montz said construction should begin soon as the developers obtain their building permit. The PennDOT HOP issue has been resolved. When asked, Mr. Montz said he would try to find out when the laundromat on that property would be closing and when demolition of the existing buildings would begin.

LIAISON REPORTS**A. MRTSA - Mr. Montz**

Mr. Montz reported that Carnegie Borough has approached MRTSA with a request for proposal (RFP) for ambulance services. Carnegie's ambulance service recently went out of business and they are looking for another ambulance service. The MRTSA Board will be meeting to decide whether or not to respond to the RFP. Two considerations must be given: (1) No additional financial burden on the existing communities, and, (2) It cannot increase response times for the existing communities in MRTSA. Mr. Montz said he would continue to keep Council informed regarding this issue.

B. Char West COG - Mr. Novak

- (1) Mr. Novak said the Mr. Frank Polito was the guest speaker at the most recent COG meeting. Mr. Polito spoke about Comcast X-1 converter internet-based modems and smart TV. There are currently 2,500 hot spots in Allegheny County. There is a program called, "Internet Essentials" for children on reduced or free school lunch programs that provides

internet service to them for \$9.95 per month. This program is also available for families with low income, HUD families, and families in public housing.

- (2) Mr. Novak said salt prices have increased by 45¢ with the fuel cost adjustment and now costs \$69.74 per ton.
- (3) Mr. Novak said North Fayette is seeking to possibly save \$30,000 a year by using online advertising. Mr. Molinaro said he was not aware that online legal advertising was permitted and currently such advertising must be in a newspaper of general circulation. He said the legislature has not changed the definition of "newspaper of general circulation."

C. Library - Mr. Sampogna

- (1) Mr. Sampogna said that ACLA (Allegheny County Library Association) had come out with a Governance Standards Checklist, a checklist of standards that they wanted good libraries to adhere to. Green Tree Public Library was in compliance with most of the standards on the checklist, but it does not have a fraud/whistleblower policy, and neither does the borough. Mr. Sampogna asked that Mr. Montz and Mr. Molinaro work together to create a whistleblower policy for the borough that could also be followed by the library. Mr. Montz said he would check the borough's personnel manual to see if there was already something in it and let Mr. Sampogna know.
- (2) Mr. Sampogna said the library would be purchasing two digital signature pads to create a more paperless application process when applying for a library card.
- (3) Mr. Sampogna said that the date of the May Library Board meeting needs to be changed because there are no rooms available in the Municipal Center due to the primary elections.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Mr. Sampogna

- A.** Mr. Sampogna and Mr. Montz attended the press conference at ALCOSAN's auditorium for the recipients of the GROW grant. Mr. Montz spoke to the public and answered some questions from the media.
- B.** Mr. Sampogna said that Farmers Market Committee has met and discussed plans for the tenth anniversary season for the Farmers Market.
- C.** Mr. Sampogna said that Three Rivers Wet Weather in conjunction with the Allegheny County Watershed Plan Advisory Board had met in the Municipal Center to discuss target flows.
- D.** Mr. Sampogna said that CONNECT held a meeting in Stowe Township and had a presentation on immigration by Change America, talking about the organizations and resources available to newly arriving residents in Allegheny County and the economic impact these residents would have on our area.
- E.** CONNECT's Transportation Policy Working Group held a meeting in Carnegie in February and heard from a number of groups regarding the adoption of complete streets policies. Mr. Sampogna commented that the borough does not appear to have any streets that lend themselves the full complete streets treatment, but communities can adopt a philosophy of making a community walkable and bikeable.
- F.** Mr. Sampogna said that he, Mr. Montz, and the Chief would be attending a PELRAS (Public Employer Labor Relations Advisory Service) conference in State College.

- G.** Green Tree would be holding its annual Green Tree Night at PNC Park on Saturday, June 17 with the Pittsburgh Pirates versus the Chicago Cubs.
- H.** Mr. Tintori stated that LGA (Local Government Academy) is seeking a new Executive Director and there should be an ad out by the end of the week about it. The "Contemplating Governing" course offered by LGA will be held in the near future and he can provide details to those who might wish to attend. At the end of the year, LGA will be holding its "Newly Elected Officials" class. Green Tree has always participated in the LGA.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT - Mr. Molinaro

Mr. Molinaro had nothing to report at this time.

MANAGER'S REPORT - Mr. Montz

- A.** Mr. Montz reported that the borough has not yet purchased any salt that it has under contract this year. The borough uses approximately 2,000 tons of salt in an average winter, but has only used 400 tons of salt so far this winter season. This means that the borough has approximately 1,600 tons of salt that still needs to be delivered and stored. It has not yet been determined where this salt will be stored. Last year, the salt company agreed to store it, but that remains to be determined this year. Mr. Montz said that today he was required to put in the borough's request for next year's state salt contract and decided to put in for 1,000 tons.
- B.** Mr. Montz said he and Mr. Sampogna attended a CONNECT meeting where the new Port Authority Connect Cards were discussed. The borough is considering selling the Port Authority Connect Cards at the Green Tree Library.
- C.** Mr. Montz said the dek hockey court is almost ready to be opened. He asked that Mr. Rea and the Public Property Committee determine when it might be a good time to have an official ribbon-cutting for the new court.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

Mr. Panza made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lindsey, to adjourn the meeting until the March 27, 2017 workshop meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Sampogna, President

W. David Montz, Manager