

**BOROUGH OF GREEN TREE
COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 1, 2019**

Call to Order / Silence for Meditation / Pledge of Allegiance

Green Tree Borough Council met on Monday, April 1, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the Green Tree Municipal Center, 10 West Manilla Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Mr. Sampogna reported that Council had met with a representative from Savvy Citizen prior to this meeting to discuss their proposed service.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Edward Schenck, Mayor
Mark Sampogna, President
David Lorenzini
John Novak
Ron Panza
Arthur Tintori

Also Present:

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

Absent:

Rino Lindsey
David Rea

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

March 4, 2019

Motion:

Mr. Tintori made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to approve the March 4, 2019 Council minutes with the following correction:

p. 5 Correct the name of the Duquesne Light CONNECT speaker from "Phil Wong" to "Phil Long."

Motion carried unanimously.

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS

Jane Terlion, Green Tree Library Board

Ms. Terlion said the Friends of the Library are having several special events next week as part of National Library Week. The Friends will be promoting a membership drive with an open house for people to learn more about the Friends in an effort to build membership and support the library.

MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Schenck

- A.** Mayor Schenck said he is making himself available at the Mayor's Office in the Police Department on Wednesdays from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.
- B.** Mayor Schenck stated that Office Diamond, Green Tree's newest police officer, is currently in training and is doing well.
- C.** Mayor Schenck said that he attended Keystone Oaks' high school musical, *Beauty and the Beast*. A number of Green Tree teens were in the play including T.J. Giger, Ryan Domalik, Jeramie Welch, and Olivia Opperman. It was a great performance.

- D. Mayor Schenck said the Police Department received several letters this past month praising Green Tree police officers. Officer Diehl installed an infant's car seat and the grandmother expressed her pleasure at his expert knowledge, help, and the time spent on public service. The second letter was from an elementary school teacher who received help from the police with kindness, protection, and support. Mayor Schenck said the Police Department provided a police escort at the funeral of Mr. Frank Aracri and the family had thanked the department.

REPORT OF BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEES

A. PUBLIC SAFETY - Mr. Lindsey

In Mr. Lindsey's absence, Mr. Montz presented the Public Safety information.

1. Mr. Montz stated that he had sent Council the arbitration awards from the police and it will be put together in contract form. It will be a four-year contract.

B. STREETS & PUBLIC HEALTH - Mr. Novak

1. Update on Curbside Recycling

Mr. Novak said Council decided on the purchase of the 32-gallon recycling containers for residents, which are the smaller-size recycling cans. Council thought the larger cans might be too big and unwieldy on hillside driveways. The smaller cans cost less and would incur less expense for the borough. Mr. Montz said that Scott Township and Whitehall purchased the larger recycling containers for their residents and they have been getting complaints about them because residents are having trouble maneuvering full containers to the curb. Discussion continued regarding the two sizes of recycling containers.

Mr. Montz said that curbside recycling bids should be in on April 24 and will coincide with the solid waste contract. Recycling collection will be every other week. Mr. Montz said the bid request also asks for a proposed cost for weekly collection for comparative purposes.

2. General Report

- (a) Mr. Novak said they would be meeting soon to discuss the proposed repaving of roads this year. They will be reviewing the information provided by Roadbotics to make decisions.
- (b) Mr. Montz said the borough is waiting for a permit for the Greentree Road sidewalks. The Mansfield Avenue sidewalks are in the design phase.

C. PUBLIC PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT - Mr. Rea

In Mr. Rea's absence, Mr. Sampogna provided the Public Property report.

1. Mr. Sampogna said there would be a clean up of the Green Tree Nature Center on Saturday, April 13 at 9:30 a.m. to clear of some of the existing trails and create some new trails. To volunteer, contact Mr. Gregg Earley at the Green Tree Administrative Office.

D. FINANCE - Mr. Tintori

1. Motion:

Mr. Tintori made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to ratify the actions of the Borough Manager in paying the March 2019 invoices from the General Fund totaling \$51,014.33, Sanitary Sewer Maintenance Fund totaling \$5,054.94, Payroll Account totaling \$193,350.33, and Educational Service Agency totaling \$4,030.40.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. **Motion:**

Mr. Tintori made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to approve payment of the April 2019 invoices from the General Fund totaling \$122,977.09 and Sanitary Sewer Maintenance Fund totaling \$238.31.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Update on Sanitary Sewage Billing**

Mr. Montz said Council has retained a new company to handle the borough's sanitary sewage billing since the current company is going out of business. The borough has been testing some simultaneous ghost systems and everything has worked well. The new software will be uploaded into the borough's systems tomorrow and the employees will be trained. The new system will go live in another month or two. Residents should not see much difference between the two billing systems.

4. **MRM Trust Representative**

Mr. Tintori said a representative must be selected to accept the checks from MRM Trust at the League of Municipalities event. Mr. Tintori said he has done it in the past and would be glad to be the representative again.

Motion:

Mr. Panza made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lorenzini, to appoint Mr. Arthur Tintori as borough's representative to pick up the MRM Trust checks for Green Tree.

Motion carried unanimously.

D. **RECREATION & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS - Mr. Panza**

1. **Resolution #1257**

Establishing Fees for Swimming Pool and Summer and Winter Recreation Programs.

Motion:

Mr. Panza made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to adopt Resolution #1257 by title only.

Mr. Molinaro read Resolution #1257 by title only.

Mr. Sampogna noted that Mr. Montz had distributed a revised list of prices prior to the meeting and that was the list of prices that Council would be voting on. Mr. Montz said the pool and recreation rates have not been increased in a decade. Mr. Lorenzini asked why the rates were being raised. Mr. Montz said the pool runs on a deficit of \$187,000 a year and the increase in rates will help make that deficit somewhat smaller.

Roll Call Vote

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

Motion carried unanimously.

- 2. Mr. Panza said that the Fall Fest Committee would be meeting on April 8th at 7:00 p.m. A few additional volunteers responded to a recent request, but additional volunteers are always welcome and encouraged to attend any Fall Fest meeting.

3. Mr. Panza hoped that Council would schedule a meeting at City Vista this August, along with a possible question and answer period after the meeting for interested residents. Mr. Sampogna agreed that a Council meeting at City Vista would be a good idea

E. PLANNING & ZONING - Mr. Lorenzini

1. Mr. Lorenzini said the proposed, revised zoning ordinance is in the process of being sent to Allegheny County for review and comments. Discussion continued regarding the next steps that need to be taken before the final zoning ordinance can be approved.
2. Mr. Lorenzini said that Planning Commission would soon be reviewing a subdivision to change the property line of the Aiken ball fields and soccer field from Keystone Oaks to Green Tree Borough ownership.
3. Mr. Lorenzini thanked the Chief of Police, Mayor Schenck, Mr. Montz, and other officials who attended the recent funeral of Green Tree restaurant owner, Mr. Frank Aracri, and for their assistance in providing a police escort at the funeral. The Aracri family was touched and impressed with the escort.

LIAISON REPORTS

A. MRTSA - Mr. Montz

Mr. Montz had nothing to report at this time.

B. Char West COG - Mr. Novak

Mr. Novak said the COG discussed an intergovernmental cooperation agreement with the Universal Construction Code Board of Appeals. Salt prices remain at \$70.01 per ton. Later this month, members of the Char West COG will be meeting with the Quaker Valley COG.

Mr. Novak noted that Green Tree Borough would be holding an electronics recycling event for residents this Saturday, April 6th.

C. Library - Mr. Sampogna

Mr. Sampogna reported that the library has started a kitchen lending gadget program. Some items that are available to borrow from the library include a Belgian waffle maker, hand blender, or a spiral vegetable slicer.

Upcoming library events include:

- Spring Storytime and a visit from the Easter Bunny on April 29.
- Hoarding program on April 2.
- Solar Electricity presentation on April 30.

The library also conducts ongoing events, such as a monthly Art Discussion Group and a Cookbook Club. The Friends of the Library will be holding a membership open house on Wednesday, April 10 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. The Friends have provided vital library assistance for many years, but are in need of some new volunteers.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Mr. Sampogna

- A. Mr. Sampogna and Mr. Montz met with Ms. Melissa Girty, the government relations person with the Port Authority. They discussed the state of public transit in the borough and possible improvements in servicing the borough and the Parkway Center area in particular.
- B. Mr. Sampogna stated he had attended the PEL-RAS Conference along with Mr. Montz, Mr. Lindsey, and Chief Cleary.

- C.** Mr. Sampogna said the monthly CONNECT meeting was held in Carnegie, where resolutions were reviewed for CONNECT's upcoming legislative session on April 18th. He can provide additional information to anyone who might be interested. CONNECT also discussed the issue of double-stacked trains and railroads in general.
- D.** Mr. Sampogna mentioned some additional upcoming borough events that might be of interest to residents:
 - Saturday, April 6 - Electronics Recycling Event for Green Tree residents only.
 - Thursday, April 11 - "Battling Bambi" presented by the Green Tree Garden Club.
 - Thursday, April 25 - Snapology - Planes, Trains & Automobiles - for children.
 - Wednesday, May 1 - Rain Barrel Workshop presented by the Pennsylvania Resource Council.
 - Saturday, May 11 - Shredding Event, co-sponsored by Sen. Fontana and Rep. Deasy.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT - Mr. Molinaro

Mr. Molinaro had nothing to report at this time.

MANAGER'S REPORT - Mr. Montz

- A.** Mr. Montz said the Public Works Department is starting to get the pool ready for the summer season.
- B.** The borough has received a grant from the Local Government Academy for a summer intern. Several candidates were interviewed and he and the Financial Director will be following up with these interviews to select an intern.
- C.** Mr. Montz said that bids for the updated lane signals along Greentree Road would be opened on April 24th. The borough has received a grant towards the cost of these new lane signals.
- D.** The borough's SINC-UP program for the traffic signals along Greentree Road, from Potomac to Parkway Center, is about 98% completed. Some information from the motoring public has been forwarded onto SPC and some adjustments are being made.
- E.** Mr. Montz said that he has received some complaints about pedestrian problems at Foster Plaza Building 0 and Foster Plaza Building 10. He thought the problems could be addressed with some signage. Discussion continued regarding the details of the pedestrian issues at Foster Plaza.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

Mr. Panza made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Sampogna, President

W. David Montz, Manager