

**BOROUGH OF GREEN TREE
COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 6, 2019**

Call to Order / Silence for Meditation / Pledge of Allegiance

Green Tree Borough Council met on Monday, May 6, 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 in Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss personnel and legal matters.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Edward Schenck, Mayor
Mark Sampogna, President
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 N. Gawryla, Stenographer

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

April 1, 2019

Motion:

Mr. Novak made a motion, seconded by Mr. Tintori, to approve the April 1, 2019 Council minutes as presented.

Motion carried, with Mr. Lindsey and Mr. Rea abstaining because they had not attended this meeting.

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS

Russ Barron, 8 Pocono Drive, Green Tree Octoberfest Committee

Mr. Barron said a discussion regarding Octoberfest was scheduled to be held later in this meeting. As a member of the Octoberfest Committee and a resident of Green Tree, Mr. Barron felt that Octoberfest has great value for the community. It is a great family event and a good networking opportunity to meet with neighbors, family, and friends.

Mr. Barron said that the Octoberfest Committee has recently had dwindling support. More people are needed on the committee as well as additional support from the borough itself to continue this valuable community event. He said some changes have been made to address the lessening of support, but more help is still needed. He hoped the committee could get additional manpower.

Christine Short, 251 Parkedge

Mrs. Short said that on behalf of the Green Tree Woman's Civic Club, she would like to thank Council and the borough for providing the money to hold this year's Spring Magic. This year's Spring Magic was the best one ever. There were 60 children in attendance with lots of activities.

Dan Terlion, 14 Elmhurst

Mr. Terlion asked for information regarding the roadwork taking place on the corner of Elmhurst and Greenridge. Mr. Terlion said he wanted to replace his driveway with a concrete parking pad, but did not want to do it until he was certain the roadwork was completed. Mr. Montz said the

borough is looking at a number of options regarding the sewer lines in that area, but none of the options would affect Mr. Terlion's property. All the sewer lines in that area are located in the street. Mr. Montz said he would check specifically on the work being done around Mr. Terlion's home and call him to confirm it.

MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Schenck

A. Swearing In of Officer Kevin Diamond

Mayor Schenck stated that in 1962 President Kennedy signed a proclamation that designated May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day in honor of federal, state, and municipal officers who have been killed or disabled in the line of duty. He noted that four of Green Tree's police officers were present this evening to witness the swearing in ceremony for new Officer Kevin Diamond. He thanked Chief Cleary, Lieutenant Rannigan, Officer Bacci, and Officer Diamond for attending.

Mayor Schenck said that Officer Diamond is still in training with the other officers. He noted that Officer Diamond had been sworn in at a private ceremony so he could begin working. This swearing in was to provide a formal public ceremony.

Mayor Schenck proceeded to swear in Officer Kevin Diamond to the Green Tree Police Department.

- B. Mayor Schenck said he would be holding Mayor's Office Hours on Saturday, June 15 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Birch Room of the Green Tree Municipal Center.

REPORT OF BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEES

A. PLANNING & ZONING - Mr. Lorenzini

1. SD-01-19

Approval of a subdivision of the Keystone Oaks School Authority of the Aiken Elementary School property, located at 881 Greentree Road, Lot & Block 17-B-25.

Motion:

Mr. Lorenzini made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to approve SD-01-19, a subdivision of the Keystone Oaks School Authority's Aiken Elementary School property, located at 881 Greentree Road, Lot & Block 17-B-25.

Mr. Lorenzini said this property included the Aiken ball fields and the soccer field, which will be separated from the actual school, school parking lot, and playground. Mr. Lorenzini noted that the Planning Commission had recommended approval of this subdivision.

Mr. Montz said the plan is a simple subdivision. Should the school district decide to sell this property in the future there might be a need to add additional easements for ingress and egress, but they are not needed at the present time and could be added later if needed.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Authorize the Borough Manager to advertise the zoning amendment to Chapter 420, Section 420-196.

Motion:

Mr. Lorenzini made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to authorize the Borough Manager to advertise the zoning amendment to Chapter 420, Section 420-196, regarding billboards.

Mr. Montz said that the proposed ordinance would be advertised under the requirements of the MPC, sent to both the Green Tree and County Planning Commissions for their reviews and recommendations. The public hearing would be held at the July 1st Council meeting.

Mr. Rea asked why this ordinance was being pushed ahead of the proposed zoning ordinance. Mr. Montz replied that it was in the best interest of the borough to move forward with this ordinance. Once it is advertised it is considered a pending ordinance and can tentatively be in effect if needed. Mayor Schenck asked if the proposed ordinance was the same one that was in the proposed zoning ordinance. Mr. Montz said there were a couple of changes from the proposed ordinance because of the difference between the current zoning districts and the proposed zoning districts in the revised ordinance.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Mr. Lorenzini said that Planning Commission elected the following 2019 officers: Mr. James Turocy - Chairman, Mrs. Cheryl Bakin - Vice Chair, and Mr. Ed O'Donnell - Secretary. Mr. Lorenzini noted that Ms. Rebecca Chembars, who has been the Planning Commission Chairman for a number of years, would remain on the board.

Planning Commission also voted on keeping the same meeting schedule for 2019, with workshop meetings on the second Wednesday of each month as needed, and business meetings on the fourth Wednesday of each month as needed, except for November and December, which will be combined workshop/business meetings on the second Wednesdays of those months because of the holidays. Mr. Lorenzini said that Council had received Planning Commission's 2018 Annual Report. Mayor Schenck commented that the members of the Planning Commission have served on this board for a long time and they are dedicated and knowledgeable members.

Planning Commission will be reviewing a conditional use application for an AT&T antenna installation on the roof of Foster Plaza Building #8.

Mr. Lorenzini said the Zoning Hearing Board had met and approved a variance for a fence at 1 Clearview Drive.

4. Mr. Lorenzini asked about the status of a proposed demolition of a property in Rook that had been discussed at the budget review meeting. Mr. Molinaro said that he is in the process of reviewing this issue and it should be addressed within the next month.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY - Mr. Lindsey

1. Reappointment to Civil Service Commission

Motion:

Mr. Lindsey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Tintori, to reappoint Mr. Donald Sortwell to the Civil Service Commission for a six-year term.

When asked, Mr. Montz said the term would run from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2025.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. **Authorize the proper officers to sign the memorandum of understanding between the Borough and the Keystone Oaks School District for law enforcement policy and procedures.**

Mr. Lindsey said this memorandum of understanding (MOU) is re-signed every few years. Mr. Montz said the school district is required to file an MOU under the school code with the state. It was renewed two years ago. There is one change between the previous and current MOU. Under Section 4 - Subsection (D)(e) there is a sentence that is not completed and needed to be finished. The school district corrected the error and informed the borough that this section would read: "Where there are discrepancies between the school entity's incident data and the police incident data, the following shall occur: Law Enforcement Authority and Chief School Administrator shall meet and discuss any discrepancies." Mr. Montz said the borough's law enforcement authority would be Chief Cleary. The Borough Solicitor has reviewed the agreement and he agrees with it.

Mr. Montz noted that the document is not dated and a date will be added to the document.

Motion:

Mr. Lindsey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rea, to authorize a Memorandum of Understanding between the Borough and the Keystone Oaks School District for Law Enforcement Policy and Procedures.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Mr. Lindsey said the Green Tree Volunteer Fire Company lost one of its members, Mr. Steve Carlson. Mr. Carlson had been with the GTVFC for about 12 years. He was also a career District Chief with the City of Pittsburgh EMS and was a valuable resource. The flag at the fire company has been flown at half-staff in honor of Mr. Carlson.

C. STREETS & PUBLIC HEALTH - Mr. Novak

1. **Ordinance #1802**

Approving a contract for the collection of recyclables and authorizing the proper officers to execute the contract with Waste Management of Pennsylvania, Inc.

Motion:

Mr. Novak made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lindsey, to place Ordinance #1802 on first and final reading by title only.

Mr. Montz said the borough would most likely have over 5,000 residents in the 2020 census and that is the number that triggers the state's requirement for curbside recycling. The borough has been awarded a grant that will help purchase the recycling containers for the residents and reduce costs. The borough went out to bid on the purchase of recycling containers and there was only one bidder. It was Waste Management, the company that currently holds the borough's trash collection contract. Mr. Montz recommended that Council accept the bi-weekly recycling collection at a cost of \$4.07 per month per unit for a total of \$93,772.80 per year. Mr. Montz said the bid amount was approximately one dollar more than anticipated per unit, but this was caused by the changes that have limited the types of acceptable recyclable materials. The extra dollar covers the recyclers' contamination removal expenses.

Mr. Montz said that the bi-weekly recycling collection would cover half the borough one Wednesday and the other half on the next Wednesday. There will be recycling collection each Wednesday, but only half of the borough will be collected on any given Wednesday.

Waste Management will determine where the division of recycling collection will take place and the residents will be informed before recycling collection begins in July.

Recycling containers will be delivered to each home in the borough with Green Tree's identification on it. The cost for the container and its delivery is \$33 each for a total of approximately \$63,000. The purchase of the containers and delivery will be totally covered by the grant the borough received.

Mr. Montz said the glass-recycling bin would remain at the Public Works/Pool parking area since glass is not permitted in the curbside recycling. The Rotary's aluminum can recycling bin will also remain there for those who wish to separate their aluminum cans and donate them to the Rotary for charity.

When asked, Mr. Montz said curbside recycling would begin on July 1, 2019. The term of the contract would end on December 31, 2020, which will coincide with the end of the borough's garbage collection contract. Waste Management will deliver the curbside containers to residents' homes before July. Discussion continued regarding curbside recycling.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Molinaro read Ordinance #1802 by title only.

Motion:

Mr. Novak made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lindsey, to pass Ordinance #1802 by title only.

Roll Call Vote

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion:

Mr. Novak made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lindsey, to authorize the proper officers to sign Ordinance #1802 and that it be advertised according to law.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Lorenzini asked if recycling becomes mandatory for the borough or for the residents when the population of a municipality reaches 5,000. Mr. Montz said it was mandatory for the borough to provide recycling when the population reaches 5,000 residents. Discussion continued regarding curbside recycling.

2. Mr. Novak said the Streets Committee met and discussed the Elmhurst drainage area and reviewed the options for this work. Mr. Montz said the borough is in the final phases of the engineering concepts that were explained to the committee. They are trying to make sure

that there are no unexpected costs and to make certain of the approximate cost of the project. A final recommendation should be available within the next few weeks.

The committee also looked at which roads should be repaved this year as well as those roads that could be considered for reclamite treatment. Mr. Novak said they had considered repaving the borough areas of Hillsview/Oriole and Pocono. Mr. Novak said reclamite resurfacing was being considered for some of the newer repaved roads to seal out moisture. Mr. Montz said the borough would check the repaving that was still outstanding this year and see if these roads could be added to the contract.

3. Mr. Novak reported that the recent Electronics Recycling Event for Green Tree residents brought electronics from 292 households in the borough. This Saturday, there will be a Shredding Event in Green Tree Park from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m.

D. PUBLIC PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT - Mr. Rea

1. Mr. Rea reported that a group of volunteers came out on April 13th to help with clean up of the Nature Center. They added over a mile of new trail and the existing trails are a lot safer and clear. He encouraged residents to visit the Nature Center.
2. Mr. Rea said the Public Property Committee met and looked at the work the Public Works Department has been doing to prepare the pool for the summer season. It looks like the pool will need a new slide next year. It is structurally safe and Public Works has been working on removing the rust. Some sections of the apron around the pool also need to be repaired in the future.

E. 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 April 2019 invoices from the General Fund totaling \$74,881.97, Payroll Account totaling \$193,403.37, and Educational Service Agency totaling \$4,521.26.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion:

Mr. Tintori made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lindsey, to approve payment of the May 2019 invoices from the General Fund totaling \$506,609.30, and the Sanitary Sewer Fund totaling \$4,521.26.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Ordinance #1803

Establishing the annual salary for Library Director and Assistant Director.

4. Ordinance #1804

Setting the annual and hourly pay rates for certain administrative employees.

5. Ordinance #1805

Reappointing Lou Casadei as Borough Engineer and Code Enforcement Officer and setting the terms and conditions of employment.

- 6. Ordinance #1806
Setting the salary and benefits for W. David Montz as Borough Manager.
- 7. Ordinance #1807
Setting the salary and benefits for Colin Cleary as Chief of Police
- 8. Ordinance #1808
Setting the hourly rates for recreation and pool employees.
- 9. Ordinance #1809
Setting the hourly rates for library employees.

Motion:

Mr. Tintori made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rea, to set the terms, conditions, benefits, salaries, and hourly rates for certain employee positions, certain administrative employees, the Library Director and Assistant Library Director, the Chief of Police, the Borough Manager, the Borough Engineer, Code Enforcement Officer, and these ordinances be adopted by Council and the proper borough officers be authorized to execute the said ordinances.

Mr. Sampogna said that Council members may vote "Yea" or "Nay" for all or a portion of these ordinances.

Roll Call Vote

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

Motion carried unanimously for Ordinances #1803, #1804, #1805, #1806, #1807, #1808, and #1809.

F. RECREATION & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS - Mr. Panza

1. Discussion on Octoberfest

Mr. Panza said that 23 years ago, he and three other individuals, brought a new event to Green Tree Borough to help bring the community closer together. Octoberfest has accomplished this goal. It has been a lot of work and the event has seen a lot of changes. Mr. Panza said he has received hundreds of positive feedbacks about the event. Twenty-three years ago the children who came to Octoberfest and played the games are now bringing their children to the event. However, the event has run out of volunteers and some changes need to be made. The committee felt they could handle holding a one-day event this year instead of two days.

Mr. Panza said that there had been borough help in the past, but there is not much right now. Mr. Rea asked if there had been borough help last year and Mr. Panza said there had not been borough help last year. Mr. Rea asked what a fully staffed Octoberfest committee would need. Mr. Panza said there were ten volunteers last year and there are now only six volunteers. Mr. Montz added that last year there were three core people and these people got burned out and left. Mr. Rea asked if a call had been put out for new volunteers.

Mr. Panza said they have put out a request for volunteers and two new people have expressed interest. Requests were put out on Facebook, the Next Door app, and the newsletter. There are currently problems with the transition this year and there is a need to find someone to handle and organize all the Octoberfest files and accounts. He suggested that the borough hire someone to officially manage this event.

Mr. Tintori asked what could be done to improve the situation. Mr. Panza replied that it had been decided to make it a one-day event. Letters will be sent out to vendors, but there will be no additional follow up calls. He hoped that previous participants would continue to participate and those who made donations would continue to donate. Octoberfest would be more of a musical event with food and fireworks. However, if additional help became available it could continue as it has in the past. This year it is planned to be a much smaller event. When asked, Mr. Panza said that although they had initially decided to change the name of the event to Fall Fest, it will remain as Octoberfest because it is too expensive to change all the signage at this time.

Mr. Rea said that one organization had indicated that a large portion of their fundraising comes via Octoberfest. Mr. Montz said that, on the other hand, another organization had indicated they would not return because they do not raise enough money for all the work they put into Octoberfest. He said that like many other organizations and events, they are struggling for volunteers. Mr. Panza said that there also needs to be someone at the borough to keep the event's plans, money, and invoices organized on a regular basis. Mr. Sampogna said it sounded like Octoberfest needed a manager, whether it is a paid employee or a volunteer. Discussion continued regarding some of the details that needed to be addressed or dropped from the event.

Mr. Panza said that currently the plan is to have a one-day event. Community vendors who wish to participate can set up; there will be music, food vendors, and fireworks. Perhaps it will draw in additional volunteers for next year. If it is not a success, perhaps the event will end. Mr. Panza said there have been a lot of donors and participants and he would hate to lose these people.

Mr. Sampogna said if the committee can only handle a one-day event it should be tried, but the committee needs to get moving by contracting the entertainment, reaching out to vendors and community groups, etc. Discussion continued regarding what has already been planned.

Mayor Schenck asked if it was possible to have the inflatable rides for the kids. He felt there needed to be something at the event to draw in children and families. Mr. Panza said it is possible that there may be some of those rides, but probably not as many as in the past. The event will be scaled back.

Mr. Tintori said it sounded like the Octoberfest Committee would try to make it work this year. Mr. Panza said that the letters needed to be sent out to past vendors immediately. It will be a one-day event with no crafters, no commercial business tents, etc. Discussion continued regarding Octoberfest.

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 met with the Quaker Valley COG and reviewed some consolidation bullet points. The annual COG banquet will be at Rockefeller's on Thursday, May 16 at 6:00 p.m. The COG's guest speaker was Representative Valerie Gaydos. There was also a presentation on reclamite and he noted that Peters Township and Mt. Lebanon have been using reclamite in their paving.

C. Library - Mr. Sampogna

Mr. Sampogna reported that the Library Board met on April 16th and reviewed and approved its monthly financial information. The library's office copier has been replaced and it is anticipated that the new copier will save \$1000 a year due to better copy rates and a better lease arrangement. It is a less expensive machine.

The library is circulating tablets called Launch Pads for kids with each one following a different theme. Upcoming library events include a visit by a cookbook author on May 9, Computer for Beginners class on May 21, and Dinosaur Encounter featuring a nine-foot dinosaur operated by an actor on May 23 from the Carnegie Museum of Natural History.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Mr. Sampogna

A. Mr. Sampogna said that he and others recently spent a Saturday morning maintaining and clearing the trails at the Nature Center under the direction of a person from the Hollow Oak Land Trust. Several days later Mr. Sampogna and Mr. Don Gaupp from the Public Works Department worked on clearing several fallen trees in the Nature Center.

B. Mr. Sampogna reported that he and Mr. Montz had attended two Capstone Project Presentations given by students from Pitt's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs. One of the presentations highlighted the concern about the shortage of volunteer firefighters during daylight hours and the overabundance of firefighting equipment in Allegheny County. The study compared Allegheny County (1.2 million residents), New York City (8.6 million residents), and Mecklenburg County in North Carolina (1.1 million residents). Allegheny County has 137 aerial fire trucks and 425 engines. New York City has 143 aerial fire trucks and 197 engines. Mecklenburg County has 50 aerial fire trucks and 42 engines. Mr. Sampogna said that the CONNECT communities alone have 69 aerial trucks with a population of 725,000 residents. An average aerial truck costs \$1.1 million. Mr. Sampogna said that not only is there a shortage of volunteer firefighters, there is also an overabundance of fire equipment in Allegheny County. He commented that it is probably easier to purchase a piece of fire equipment than to recruit new volunteer firefighters. Mr. Sampogna said several potential solutions were presented including the possibility of a countywide pool of paid drivers to cover daylight hours. It would take several years to put such a system into place.

Mr. Sampogna said another Capstone presentation focused on suggested methods for the Pittsburgh Water & Sewer Authority to use in calculating storm water fee assessment.

C. Mr. Sampogna said the Shredding Event would be held this Saturday, May 11th from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. in Green Tree Park, sponsored by State Representative Dan Deasy and State Senator Wayne Fontana.

D. Mr. Sampogna said the Green Tree Recreation Department would be hosting a Bike Rodeo on Saturday, May 18 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in Green Tree Park. There will be bike safety checks, helmet giveaways and fittings, bike raffles, and a hot dog lunch.

- E.** Mr. Sampogna reminded residents to get out and vote on Tuesday, which is Primary Election Day.
- F.** Mr. Sampogna said the Green Tree Farmers Market would start on Thursday, May 23 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. in Green Tree Park.
- G.** Wilson Park Pool will open on May 25th.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT - Mr. Molinaro

Mr. Molinaro had nothing to report at this time.

MANAGER'S REPORT - Mr. Montz

- A.** Mr. Montz said the borough went out to bid for the three-lane signal rehabilitation along Greentree Road. The borough had received a grant for this project. There were no bidders. The bid deadline was extended by two weeks. Some bidders were concerned about the time limits to work on the installation and get it done by the end of the year. Mr. Montz said he would be looking into the possibility of a grant extension and anticipated that several contractors would be bidding on the project soon.
- B.** Mr. Montz said the borough had teamed up with a number of other COG communities to get a better price on Roadbotics, a start-up tech company. Roadbotics has videoed the roads in the borough and analyzed the results. The need for the repaving of different roads are classified in a color-coded system. Some of the roads in the worst condition in the borough are better than some roads in other communities. As the years progress, the borough will gain long-term data on road conditions and it will take out a lot of the guesswork about repaving. This will also help the borough with its five-year budget plan.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Sampogna, President

W. David Montz, Manager