

**BOROUGH OF GREEN TREE
COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 4, 2018**

Call to Order / Silence for Meditation / Pledge of Allegiance

Green Tree Borough Council met on Monday, June 4, 2018 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 matters regarding the upcoming negotiations with the police department.

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

May 7, 2018

Motion:

Mr. Lindsey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Tintori, to approve the May 7, 2018 Council minutes as presented.

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

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS

Steven Baux, 1138 Tranter Ave.

Mr. Baux said he has been having problems with his neighbor who has a number of spotlights around his property, some of which point directly only Mr. Baux's property and deck. Mr. Baux said he has attempted to talk to his neighbor about this issue, but the neighbor will not do anything about it. Additionally, Mr. Baux said he believes his neighbor is running two businesses from his home since the business addresses given for these businesses are not occupied by these businesses. However, Mr. Baux said he is more concerned about the floodlights from the neighbor's property that are pointing onto his property. He said there were borough ordinances that could possibly apply in these instances.

Mayor Schenck asked what was the purpose of the spotlights. Mr. Baux said it could be for security, but was not sure. He presented Council with several photos of the lights. He said he is unable to sit on his deck in the evening without the lights shining in his eyes and lighting up his property.

Sheri Arnold, 49 Robinhood Road

Mrs. Arnold said she and her husband were considering installing solar panels on their home. They had a company give them an estimate. However, when researching the ordinance, the company informed them that Green Tree does not permit solar panels to be installed on the front of a house. She asked when the solar ordinance might be amended to allow solar panels

on the front of a house. Mr. Montz asked Mrs. Arnold for her contact information and said he would contact her tomorrow about how to apply for a variance.

Christine Short, 261 Parkedge Road

Mrs. Short said that Octoberfest preparations are coming along. The committee has garnered a lot of donations, with a number of new vendors. The deadline for vendor applications has been extended to June 30, 2018.

Mr. Lorenzini asked why there have been so many additional vendors applying this year. Mrs. Short was not sure why there has been an increase. She said the committee got vendor information out earlier than in past years. The information was placed on the borough's website, and flyers and emails were sent to various businesses. When asked, Mrs. Short said that many of the same vendors are returning along with approximately 15 new vendors. Some of the vendors said they had applied before, but had never received an answer. Mr. Lorenzini congratulated the Octoberfest Committee on the great work they are doing.

Don Folkmire, 1006 Avacoll

Mr. Folkmire said that he and his neighbors recently discussed holding a block party on Avacoll and blocking the street for the event. He asked if a special permit was needed for a block party and what specific steps needed to be taken. Mr. Panza said there are guidelines for block parties and the borough should be able to assist Mr. Folkmire with the details. Mr. Montz said he would be in touch with Mr. Folkmire regarding block party details.

Mr. Folkmire said that the stop sign at Pocono and Avacoll is covered by shrubbery and should be trimmed to make the sign visible. He said that most residents are pleased with the change in the turning prohibitions, which has cut traffic on Avacoll substantially.

Mr. Lorenzini said that there is also overgrowth on some speed limit signs along Mansfield Avenue that should be trimmed. Mr. Montz said he would look into it.

MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Schenck

A. Proclamation: David Domalik - Mayor's Award for Community Service.

Mayor Schenck said he had attended the Honors Dinner for Keystone Oaks High School Seniors and handed out the Community Service Award to David Domalik at the banquet. Mr. Domalik had over 325 hours of community service that included flag placement on veterans' graves on Memorial Day, setting up at Our Lady of Grace Church Festival, and litter clean up alongside a road on Bower Hill. Mr. Domalik is an Eagle Scout, captain of the cross-country team, member of the KO Marching Band, stage crew, Student Senate, National Honor Society, and the French Club. He will be attending Carnegie-Mellon University to major in Information Systems.

B. Mayor Schenck said he had attended a new business on Greentree Road called Brutus Monroe with four full-time employees, owned by Green Tree resident Chris Cropp.

C. Mayor Schenck said Mr. Lindsey would be giving a report on the progress of obtaining full-time and part-time police officers.

REPORT OF BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEES

A. PLANNING & ZONING - Mr. Lorenzini

1. Mr. Lorenzini said neither Planning Commission or Zoning Hearing Board have met recently, so he had no report at this time. Mr. Sampogna said the revised zoning

ordinance draft that Council is currently reviewing includes a new section on solar installations. If the new section on solar installations is approved roof installations on the front of a home would be permitted with certain height restrictions.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY - Mr. Lindsey

1. Request Civil Service provide list of candidates for one patrol officer position from the Eligibility List.

Mr. Lindsey stated that testing has been completed in the search for a full-time patrolman to fill the vacant position in the Green Tree Police Department.

Motion:

Mr. Lindsey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rea, to request that the Civil Service Commission provide a list of candidates for one patrol officer position from the eligibility list.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Montz said he would notify the Civil Service Commission of Council's request. Mr. Montz said the next step would be to do a background check on the three candidates. When the background checks are completed and the results are received, Council will interview the candidates. He suggested that Council meet to interview the candidates on June 25 or July 11. Discussion continued regarding the Council members' availabilities.

2. Mr. Lindsey said that the borough is also in the process of hiring a part-time police officer. The background checks are almost completed and the borough is awaiting the results from the psychological testing before Council can move forward with hiring a part-time officer.
3. Mr. Lindsey said the American Legion would be holding a Flag Day ceremony at the Veterans Memorial and fire hall on June 14 at 7:00 p.m. The fire department will be providing food.

C. STREETS & PUBLIC HEALTH - Mr. Novak

1. Extension of 2017 Street and Sewer Maintenance Contract with Casper Colosimo & Son, Inc.

Motion:

Mr. Novak made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lorenzini, for a one-year extension of the 2017 Street and Sewer Maintenance Contract with Casper Colosimo & Son, Inc.

Mr. Novak said the current contract expires on July 1, 2018. This will be the first one-year extension of a six-year agreement with a 2.5% increase.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Mr. Novak said the Trumbull Drive Bridge needs some repairs. Cracking problems were found during a routine inspection of the bridge. Mr. Montz said that the Borough Engineer has determined that the needed repairs should be considered an emergency. If the repairs are not made within a six-month period it could create a weight limit requirement on the bridge that could jeopardize the needs of the 13 businesses that use

that bridge daily. Mr. Montz said he is working on expediting this project and attempting to find funding for the project. PennDOT indicated that there could be monies for a total bridge replacement using a new method that could be done in one weekend. Discussion continued regarding the repairs to the bridge and the impact it might have on the businesses in the area.

Mr. Rea asked if the borough had ever received a report from the railroad regarding the status of the railroad bridge in Green Tree. Mr. Montz said he would contact State Senator Fontana's office that was supposed to look into the issue.

3. Mr. Novak said the borough is waiting for the gas company to move the gas line before the Poplar Street storm sewer work can begin. Mr. Montz said the gas company would be disconnecting the 16" high-pressure line in the street in July and capping it off temporarily to allow for the installation of the sewer line. Mr. Montz said that he has discussed the paving of Poplar Street with PennDOT. There have been negotiations regarding having the paving done after the sewer work is completed. Discussion continued regarding various ways the gas line, sewer work, and paving would be done.

D. PUBLIC PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT - Mr. Rea

1. Mr. Rea thanked the Public Works Department for their outstanding job in getting the borough parks and pool ready for the summer months. Mr. Montz reported that the pool had a record number of patrons on opening day with over 800 people passing through the gate. Mr. Rea commented that the entry gate to the pool has a problem with carpenter wasps. Mr. Montz said he would take care of this problem.
2. Mr. Rea thanked Mr. Gregg Earley, the borough's new code enforcement officer, for taking on the work that needs to be done at the Nature Center. Volunteers are needed to help revitalize the Nature Center trails and work dates are scheduled at the end of the month.

F. 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 May 2018 invoices from the General Fund totaling \$63,109.86, Payroll Account totaling \$308,981.81, and Educational Service Agency totaling \$7,608.67.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion:

Mr. Tintori made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lindsey, to approve payment of the June 2018 invoices from the General Fund totaling \$101,352.43, Sanitary Sewer Maintenance Fund totaling \$17,020.90, and Capital Projects totaling \$90,024.03.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Authorize Borough Manager to lien the 2017 unpaid real estate taxes

Motion:

Mr. Tintori made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lindsey, to authorize the Borough Manager to lien the 2017 unpaid real estate taxes.

Mr. Montz said the borough's delinquent rate is 3.7% with many of the same properties appearing on this list. A 96% collection rate is very good.

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Motion:

Mr. Tintori made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lorenzini, for the exoneration of W. David Montz, Tax Collector, who has paid over or accounted for, according to law, the whole amount of taxes, penalties and interest received and collected that were assessed in duplicate, for the year 2017 in accordance with the laws of Pennsylvania.

Motion carried unanimously.

F. RECREATION & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS - Mr. Panza

1. Mr. Panza said the Octoberfest Committee is actively seeking a new sponsor for the Car Cruise. There have been a good number of vendor applications, but the committee is always seeking additional food vendors. Discussion continued regarding the car cruise.

LIAISON REPORTS

A. MRTSA - Mr. Montz

Mr. Montz had nothing to report at this time.

B. Char West COG - Mr. Novak

1. Mr. Novak said representatives from a company called Roadbotics spoke about their business that electronically reports on the conditions of roads and inputs the data to a GIS system. They will provide a 15% discount through the COG. Mr. Novak stated that the COG is in the process of revising its by-laws and personnel policies.

C. Library - Mr. Sampogna

1. Mr. Sampogna said the Library Board met on May 15 and discussed the need for release forms for the library's kitchen-gadget lending library. Mr. Montz is checking if it would be covered under the borough's insurance liability policy.
2. Mr. Sampogna said the Historical Society is preparing descriptions to accompany the historical photographs hanging the Municipal Center, as well as the historical plaques throughout the borough. A QR code will be added to the photos that can be scanned so visitors can access the additional information.
3. Mr. Sampogna said the library and the Historical Society would be co-sponsoring a program on the early history and the construction of the Green Tree Railroad Tunnel. The program is scheduled for Wednesday, June 27 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Mr. Sampogna

A. CONNECT

Mr. Sampogna said he had attended the CONNECT meeting on May 17th. The Community Opioid Response Coordinator from the Allegheny County Health Department spoke about providing municipal-level data on overdoses and can provide a community opioid awareness meeting.

The director of Three Rivers Wet Weather discussed the effects of the expiration of the municipal consent orders.

Alcosan has created a new government affairs division.

The Coordinate PA website is operational. It will help coordinate utility work and paving projects between the municipalities and the utility companies. Duquesne Light and Columbia Gas have started inserting their projects onto the website.

The new CEO of the Port Authority also attended the recent CONNECT meeting and spoke about neighborhood transit options. The Port Authority plans to offer a "Voice of the Customer" survey along with some other new ideas.

- B.** Mr. Sampogna said that the pool would hold Dive Into Summer on June 7, offering free admission to Wilson Park Pool to celebrate the end of the school year.
- C.** The Green Tree Farmers Market started two weeks ago. There are several new vendors. Some vendors will be coming to the Farmers Market starting later in June.
- D.** Mr. Sampogna said that the borough would be hosting a presentation on Understanding Borough Government in Pennsylvania on Wednesday, June 13 at 7:00 p.m.
- E.** Mr. Sampogna said that there would be a Movie at the Pool on Saturday, June 16 with Disney's "Zootopia."
- F.** Green Tree's Summer Recreation Program begins on June 18.
- G.** The Green Tree Summer Concert Series begins on Thursday, June 28 at 7:00 p.m. with Jamie Wright.
- H.** Mr. Sampogna said that borough's 4th of July Celebration at Wilson Park Pool will be on July 4th from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT - Mr. Molinaro

Mr. Molinaro had nothing to report at this time.

MANAGER'S REPORT - Mr. Montz

Mr. Montz had nothing to report at this time.

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