

**BOROUGH OF GREEN TREE  
COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 5, 2019**

**Call to Order / Silence for Meditation / Pledge of Allegiance**

Green Tree Borough Council met on Monday, August 5, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the Green Tree Municipal Center, 10 West Manilla Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Mr. Sampogna asked those present to think about the individuals who lost their lives in the mass shootings in Dayton and El Paso this past weekend.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Edward Schenck, Mayor  
Mark Sampogna, President  
Rino Lindsey  
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:**

David Rea

Mr. Sampogna noted that some Council members were dressed casually in an entertaining way to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Woodstock.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**July 1, 2019**

**Motion:**

**Mr. Tintori made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lindsey, to approve the July 1, 2019 Council minutes as presented.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**HEARING OF THE CITIZENS**

There was no one present who wished to be heard.

**MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Schenck**

**A.** Mayor Schenck said he had attended the annual Green Tree Senior Citizens Picnic. He also attended the annual Green Tree Volunteer Fire Company's picnic. National Night Out will be held tomorrow at the fire station from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Mayor Schenck stated that he would be holding Mayor's Office Hours on Saturday, September 21st from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Birch Room of the Municipal Center.

**B.** Mayor Schenck read a note from the citizen, which read:

"I do want to compliment your team [Green Tree Police Department] on their presence at the Green Tree baseball/softball tournament a few weeks ago. I saw a couple of officers driving, walking through, and one of the officers stopped two separate times to talk to parents and kids and see how the games were going. I have also heard great comments about their presence at Summer Recreation and some great interactions with the kids. Great job."

Mayor Schenck said it is anticipated that the police force will interact with the citizens, but it shows how some of the residents are noticing their involvement and taking the time to compliment the police on doing their job.

- C. Mayor Schenck said he had met with Chief Cleary over the past several weeks. The borough needs an additional crossing guard. Interviews for part-time and full-time crossing guards will be conducted in the near future before the start of school at the end of August. The Mayor said that the police department would soon be hiring another full-time officer with some applicant testing being done tomorrow.
- D. Mayor Schenck said he was familiar with the area where the recent Dayton mass shooting had taken place. He observed the mayors of Dayton and El Paso on the news handling these crises and said that they both had done good jobs. It is a very complicated situation and he hoped it would result in bi-partisan action on various levels to address many of these issues. He expressed condolences on behalf of Council to the families impacted by these tragedies.

**REPORT OF BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

**A. PUBLIC PROPERTY - Mr. Rea**

In Mr. Rea's absence there was no Public Property report this evening.

**B. 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 July 2019 invoices from the General Fund totaling \$60,273.05, Farmers Market totaling \$301.50, and Payroll Account totaling \$311,257.51.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**2. Motion:**

**Mr. Tintori made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to approve payment of the August 2019 invoices from the General Fund totaling \$231,882.15, and the Storm Sewer Fund totaling \$3,450.00.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**3. Motion:**

**Mr. Tintori made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to authorize the Borough Manager to lien the 2018 unpaid real estate taxes.**

Mr. Sampogna stated that the total amount of taxes and penalties owed are \$37,606.01 for 2018. Mr. Panza asked if many of the same properties are repeatedly responsible for non-payment of real estate taxes. Mr. Montz said many are the same people every year. Discussion continued regarding the collection of liened real estate taxes.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

- 4. Mr. Tintori reported that he, Mr. Sampogna, and Mr. Montz had presented the Key to the Borough to Mr. Sean McDowell upon his retirement from WDVE-FM after 40 years. WDVE's broadcast studios have been in Green Tree for many years.

**C. RECREATION & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS - Mr. Panza****1. Octoberfest**

Mr. Panza said that Octoberfest is about five weeks away. Plans are coming along smoothly and it is anticipated that the event will come off successfully. Much of this year's success is the result of the hard work that has gone into the festival over the past 23 years. The current Octoberfest Committee is continuing the effort because they feel that this community event is good for Green Tree. Mr. Panza said that the next Octoberfest Committee meeting will be held on Monday, August 12th at 7:00 p.m. and additional volunteers are always needed.

**D. PLANNING & ZONING - Mr. Lorenzini**

1. Mr. Lorenzini said that Mr. Kenneth Fritz, who was unanimously appointed to Planning Commission, has resigned due to health reasons.
2. Mr. Lorenzini stated that the proposed zoning ordinance has been reviewed by Allegheny County and returned to the borough with comments and recommendations. These recommendations are being incorporated into the proposed zoning ordinance.

**E. PUBLIC SAFETY - Mr. Lindsey**

1. Mr. Lindsey said he had attended the annual Green Tree Firemen's picnic and he had a great time. The Green Tree Volunteer Company's Sportsman's Bash will be held on Saturday, September 7th. Tickets are available from any member of the Green Tree Volunteer Fire Company.

**F. STREETS & PUBLIC HEALTH - Mr. Novak****1. Motion:**

**Mr. Novak made a motion, seconded by Mr. Tintori, to authorize the proper officers to sign the agreement with Cargill, Inc. for the purchase of rock salt for the 2019-2020 winter season at a cost of \$82.24 per ton as submitted through the SHACOG Purchasing Alliance.**

Mr. Novak noted that the cost of rock salt has increased this year.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

2. Mr. Novak said the Streets Committee had met to discuss the flooding on Elmhurst and they reviewed some designs. One of the plans being considered is to shave the road down somewhat and add a storm sewer with a catch basin. Mayor Schenck noted that there have not been any additional flooding problems recently on Elmhurst. Mr. Novak said that the heavier storms earlier this summer had created flooding problems.

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

Mr. Montz said that three members of MRTSA's management staff have resigned to take other jobs. MRTSA is in the process of looking at restructuring the company. When asked, Mr. Montz said the management staff consisted of four people.

**B. Char West COG - Mr. Novak**

Mr. Novak said the COG is on summer break and there was no report at this time.

**C. Library - Mr. Sampogna**

Mr. Sampogna said the main topic of discussion at the recent Library Board meeting was the Friends of the Library's Used Book Sale and other fund-raising opportunities.

Upcoming library events include a screening of the movie *Taking Woodstock* on Thursday at 2:00 p.m. Next Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. there will be a presentation by Dr. Bernard Hagerty entitled "The Music of Woodstock." There will be mini-golf in the library on August 22nd. The Summer Reading Program's pool party will be held on August 16th.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Mr. Sampogna**

- A.** Mr. Sampogna thanked the Green Tree Volunteer Fire Company for hosting a great picnic, and the Recreation Board did a great job with the Seniors Picnic.
- B.** Mr. Sampogna said that he, Mr. Tintori, and Mr. Montz presented a proclamation and the Key to the Borough to Sean McDowell at WDVE who recently retired after a broadcasting career spanning 41 years.
- C.** Mr. Sampogna stated that the borough's annual road paving program is scheduled to begin on the week following Labor Day. Streets to be paved are Poplar from Mansfield to Rhodes, Andersen from Foster 7 to Holiday Drive, Holiday Drive from Foster 10 to Noblestown, Pocono from Greentree Road to Oakville, and all of borough's portion of Oriole and Hillsvie Terrace. Discussion continued regarding the paving details.
- D.** Mr. Sampogna said that curbside recycling seems to be going well. The borough will be receiving a detailed report from Waste Management in another week.
- E.** Mr. Sampogna said that November 5th is Election Day, which includes contests for municipal, school district, county, and judicial offices.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT - Mr. Molinaro**

Mr. Molinaro had nothing to report at this time.

**MANAGER'S REPORT - Mr. Montz**

- A.** Mr. Montz said that U.S. Representative Conor Lamb would be holding a Town Hall Meeting on Thursday, August 29 at 7:00 p.m. at the Green Tree Municipal Center.
- B.** Mr. Montz stated that some repairs have been done on Reed Alley. He said he received a tentative price of \$20,830 to repave both sections of Reed Alley. The paving needs to be done by a smaller contractor because the large contractors do not have the smaller paving machines needed for a narrow alley. He suggested that Reed Alley could be repaved this year with a shot-and-chip application on top of it next year. Shot-and-chip applications have been used in the past on borough parking lots, lower Glencoe, previously on Reed Alley, as well as widespread usage by the state.

Mr. Lindsey asked if the pool drive would be repaved. Mr. Montz replied that he would like to hold off on repaving the pool drive since consideration is being given to possibly redesigning the area.

**Motion:**

**Mr. Novak made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lindsey, to approve the repaving of Reed Alley at a cost of \$20,830 by Hilltop Paving.**

When asked, Mr. Montz said the cost of the Reed Alley repaving was under the borough's bid minimum. He said Hilltop Paving would be able to repave Reed Alley sometime during the fall. Discussion continued regarding the details of the paving of Reed Alley.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

- C.** Mr. Montz said that the emergency storm sewer repair at the intersection of Glencoe and Norsis was done under the borough's maintenance contract. A 36-inch corrugated line blew out during one of the heavy rainstorms with an eight-foot section replaced. The line was about 16-feet deep. An adjacent driveway still needs to be restored to complete the project. This area will now have a liner inserted through it from manhole to manhole.
  
- D.** The borough is preparing a five-year budget, which will include all of the corrugated pipes in the borough areas in an effort to obtain some estimated pricing. The corrugated pipes throughout the borough are beginning to reach the end of their lifespan. The borough will try to line as much of these areas as possible, starting with the deeper piping and working toward the shallower areas. This will be a considerable cost for the borough. Mr. Lorenzini asked if all the pipes in this project belong to the borough. Mr. Montz replied that many of the pipes are located in the rear yards of people's homes, but the borough has easements to go through those areas. The borough will try to address most of these areas with lining that does not require surface digging. Lining the existing pipes saves the borough money in the long run. Residents would be notified when this type of work would be scheduled on or near their property. Discussion continued regarding specific locations of some of the pipes.

Mr. Montz said that as part of the five-year plan, he created a number of focus groups to discuss what they would like to see the borough do in the long term, what they would like to see the borough do in the near future, and provide general feedback. The different focus groups are: retirees, residents soon to retire, residents in their 40's, and residents who have just moved into the borough. Mayor Schenck asked if someone had recommended the five-year plan or if the borough decided to do it on its own. Mr. Montz replied that the borough decided to do it on its own. Mayor Schenck felt that the five-year plan was a good idea.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:**

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

**Motion carried unanimously.**

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Mark Sampogna, President

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W. David Montz, Manager