

**BOROUGH OF GREEN TREE
COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 1, 2018**

Call to Order / Silence for Meditation / Pledge of Allegiance

Green Tree Borough Council met on Monday, October 1, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. in the Green Tree Municipal Center, 10 West Manilla Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Mr. Sampogna said 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

Also Present:

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

Absent:

Arthur Tintori

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

August 6, 2018

Motion:

Mr. Lindsey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to approve the September 10, 2018 Council minutes as presented.

Motion carried, with Mr. Rea abstaining because he had not attended this meeting.

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS

Kris Pusateri, 13 Terrace

Ms. Pusateri stated that she is one of the individuals impacted by the landslide on Clearview. The large row of bushes at the back of her property seems to be the only thing preventing the landslide from rolling down further. She said she had heard there would be a meeting of involved residents before the next magistrate's hearing.

Ms. Pusateri said the borough requires permits for fences and pools. She asked if a permit had been required for the Clearview property owner to drop dirt onto his property, or if was done without the borough's involvement. Mr. Sampogna said he could not answer that question at this time.

Ms. Pusateri said that because of the landslide at the rear of her property she would be unable to sell her home at this time. She was considering having her property reappraised to lower her taxes. She asked that another engineer's report be done as was done in 2013-14 to determine why this land is continuing to slide.

Christine Short, 251 Parkedge

Mrs. Short thanked Council for supporting Octoberfest. It was a huge task. She thanked Mr. Novak for helping with the setup and handling the layout. She thanked Mr. Montz for his help with Rotary contributions and for assisting throughout the Octoberfest weekend. She thanked

Chief Cleary and the Green Tree Police Department for their help, assistance, and presence during the event. As a result, Oktoberfest was a big success.

MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Schenck

A. General Report

1. Mayor Schenck thanked Mrs. Short for all the work she did on Oktoberfest this year.
2. Mayor Schenck said he attended the Green Tree Volunteer Fire Company's Sportsman's Bash and Oktoberfest during September.
3. Mayor Schenck stated that he would be holding Mayor's Open Office Hours on Saturday, October 6 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Birch Room. At the last Mayor's Office Hours 13 people were in attendance.
4. Mayor Schenck said Green Tree's new full-time police officer would be sworn in in a moment, but he thanked Chief Cleary, Officer Rannigan, Officer Bacci, Officer Feller, and Officer Diehl for attending the swearing-in ceremony.

B. Swearing In of GTPD Officer

Mayor Schenck swore in Ms. Dannielle Ripper as the Green Tree Police Department's newest officer. The audience applauded. Mr. Sampogna said Council welcomed Officer Ripper to the Green Tree Police Department and he thanked the other officers for attending and showing their support.

REPORT OF BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEES

A. PUBLIC SAFETY - Mr. Lindsey

1. Mr. Lindsey welcomed Officer Ripper to the Green Tree Police Department. He had nothing else to report at this time.

B. STREETS & PUBLIC HEALTH - Mr. Novak

1. Poplar Street Sewer Project

Mr. Novak said the Poplar Street sewer project is underway. Poplar Street has been closed at times, which required drivers to take a temporary detour. Mr. Montz stated that the sewer project should be completed by the end of the week. Poplar Street will be repaved after the sewer work is completed. Both Mansfield and Poplar will be repaved.

C. PUBLIC PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT - Mr. Rea

1. Mr. Rea reported that the Code Enforcement Officer, Mr. Gregg Earley, would be hosting a clean up of the Green Tree Nature Center this coming Saturday, October 6 from 8:30 a.m. to approximately 12:30 p.m. Some people have volunteered, but more are needed. Anyone interested in helping with the Nature Center clean up should come to the Nature Center on Saturday morning. The Hollow Oak Land Trust's report will provide guidance regarding what needs to be done at the Nature Center. Mr. Sampogna said that some of the work would be to reroute some of the paths to make them less steep and add a few switchbacks to some of the existing pathways. All the tools to do the work will be provided.

D. FINANCE - Mr. Tintori

Mr. Rea presented the Finance report in Mr. Tintori's absence.

1. **Motion:**

Mr. Rea made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to ratify the actions of the Borough Manager in paying the September 2018 invoices from the General Fund totaling \$49,428.06, Sanitary Sewer Maintenance Fund totaling \$4,305.99, Capital Projects totaling \$500.00, Farmers Market totaling \$402.00, and Payroll Account totaling \$218,647.69.

Mr. Lorenzini asked about the payment to Gannett-Fleming for \$2180 for Geoplan and GIS support. Mr. Montz said that was payment for assistance with the borough's mapping system for engineering.

Mr. Lorenzini asked about the payment to Herrmann Associates for the pool heater. Mr. Montz said it was a maintenance item for the pool heater.

Mr. Lorenzini asked about the payment to Tucker Arensberger for \$2100. Mr. Montz replied that it was payment for the legal services provided to the Civil Service Commission by Attorney Fred Wolf for the hiring of a police officer.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. **Motion:**

Mr. Rea made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to approve payment of the October 2018 invoices from the General Fund totaling \$505,596.79, and Capital Projects totaling \$23,418.58.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Resolution #1254**

Allocating the distribution of State Aid Funds to the non-uniformed employees money purchase plan and Green Tree Borough Police Pension Fund.

Motion:

Mr. Rea made a motion, seconded by John Novak, to adopt Resolution #1254 by title only.

Mr. Molinaro read Resolution #1254 by title only.

Roll Call Vote

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

Motion carried unanimously.

E. RECREATION & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS - Mr. Panza

1. **Octoberfest**

Mr. Panza stated that the Octoberfest wrap-up meeting would be held on October 11 to review and discuss the details of the event.

2. Glass Recycling

Mr. Panza said that he had spoken with a company that would like to meet with the Streets Committee of Council to discuss the recycling of glass. Since the recycling of glass will not be accepted after January 1, 2019, this company would like to present information about its recycling program to see if the borough would be interested in providing glass recycling to the residents. Discussion continued regarding the recycling issue.

F. PLANNING & ZONING - Mr. Lorenzini

1. Mr. Lorenzini stated that Planning Commission has not had to meet recently. The Zoning Hearing Board will be meeting soon to discuss the construction of a garage in Rook.

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 was considering a joint animal control service, and would be offering driver training for police officers on November 6. The COG discussed the downsizing of police vehicles in 2019 and the issues that could arise in getting the necessary police equipment to fit into smaller cars.

Mr. Novak said Ingram uses a product called reclamite for road resurfacing. It is applied to newer paved roads so it does not dry out and helps preserve the paving. Mr. Sampogna asked if Green Tree's repaving would be done with a latex/asphalt mix. Mr. Montz replied that Poplar Street would be repaved with a latex/asphalt mix if possible. It helps to eliminate rutting.

C. Library - Mr. Sampogna

1. Mr. Sampogna said the Library Board met on September 18. The Assistant Librarian presented a report on the results of the 2018 Summer Reading Challenge and a copy would be provided to Council and the Mayor. Participation more than doubled from the 2017 program with 499 adults, 250 student readers, and a similar number of young readers taking part in the program. Each student and young reader received three prizes including a free book. The total number of participants who completed the challenge increased in every category except teen readers. The concluding survey was positive and feedback from the survey will be used to improve the program in 2019.
2. The Library Board authorized the Library Director to move forward with transferring the library's website hosting from its current host.
3. The Friends of the Green Tree Public Library's Used Book Sale begins on Thursday, October 4 with a Preview Sale, and runs through Monday, October 8. Set up begins tomorrow.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Mr. Sampogna

- A. Mr. Sampogna worked at the library's Octoberfest booth. Octoberfest was a big success this year and he thanked the Octoberfest Committee and the volunteers.
- B. Mr. Sampogna said he attended the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC) Workshop on September 14. The topic was "Forces of Change and Our Region's Future." The forces discussed that will impact the area's future in the next several years are: the economy,

technology, funding, environment, and demographics. About 200 municipal leaders and others from the area were in attendance.

C. CONNECT

Mr. Sampogna said CONNECT discussed a proposal to update CONNECT's dues policy for member municipalities. Dues payment has not been a mandatory requirement for CONNECT members, but this will likely change in the near future.

The search for a new CONNECT Executive Director is underway.

The Allegheny County Health Department announced it is available to provide Narcan and CPR training for any committee or group that is interested.

- D.** Mr. Sampogna reported that there will be a referendum question on the November ballot asking voters if they would like to amend Allegheny County's Home Rule Charter to establish a special purpose Children's Fund, funded by a 0.25 mill increase in the real estate property tax. More information is available at www.ourkidsourcommitment.org.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT - Mr. Molinaro

Mr. Molinaro had nothing to report at this time.

MANAGER'S REPORT - Mr. Montz

- A.** Mr. Montz said the Poplar Street project is moving forward. Most of the work has been at night. The work on Elmhurst is also progressing with the lowering of the street by 1-1/2 inches to take it back to its original design. The Elmhurst work should be completed in a week or two. He detailed the work that was being done on Elmhurst.
- B.** Mr. Montz said the borough would be putting out an RFP for the total replacement of the Trumbull Drive Bridge. Mr. Montz said he has contacted agencies regarding possible funding and grants that might be available for the bridgework. The borough would seek an accelerated bridge program where the bridge could be replaced in one weekend.
- C.** Council will be holding Public Hearings on November 5 for the revised solar ordinance and the assisted living ordinance revisions. These ordinance revisions have been advertised and sent to the County for review.
- D.** Mr. Montz thanked Mrs. Chris Short for all the work she did to make Oktoberfest a success this year. Mrs. Short and Mrs. Adele Bonassi did a lot of work behind the scenes in the past year in running the Oktoberfest Committee.
- E.** Mr. Montz attended the Alcosan Open House where Mr. Sampogna received a Clean Water Stars Award from Alcosan. Mr. Sampogna was one of six people who received this award. He was commended for the time and effort he has put into sanitary sewer issues. Mr. Sampogna said he had accepted the award on behalf of Borough Council, Mr. Montz, and Mr. Casadei, who all work hard on achieving clean water. Mr. Montz said that he was recognized for the Poplar Street sewer project, which will provide one of the largest removals of storm water from the sanitary sewer in the region. Once the project work is completed, the borough is required to monitor the amount of storm water actually removed.

- F. Mr. Montz reminded Council and the Mayor that work on the 2019 budget has begun. He asked them to contact him soon if they had additional requests they had not already presented.
- G. The warning system for the Green Tree Volunteer Fire Company is operational and working correctly.

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

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