

**BOROUGH OF GREEN TREE  
COUNCIL MEETING  
OCTOBER 3, 2016**

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

Green Tree Borough Council met on Monday, October 3, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. in the Green Tree Municipal Center, 10 West Manilla Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Mayor Edward A. Schenck  
Mark Sampogna, President of Council  
Rino Lindsey  
David Lorenzini  
John Novak  
Ron Panza

**Also Present:**

W. David Montz, Borough Manager  
Peter Molinaro, Jr., Borough Solicitor  
Colin Cleary, Chief of Police  
Ryan Bacci, Green Tree Police Officer  
Janice Adamski, Stenographer

**Absent:**

David Rea  
Arthur Tintori

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**September 12, 2016**

**Motion:**

**Mr. Lindsey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to approve the minutes from the September 12, 2016 Council meeting as presented.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**HEARING OF THE CITIZENS**

There was no one present who wished to be heard.

**MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Schenck**

1. Mayor Schenck said he had held Mayor's Office Hours for the public last Saturday.
2. Mayor Schenck said that he recently performed his sixth wedding for a gay couple on Mt. Washington.
3. Mayor Schenck stated that Keystone Oaks Homecoming is this Friday. The mayors from the three KO communities have been invited to participate.
4. Mayor Schenck said Officer Bacci, who was present, has done quite well during his probationary period and has shown a willingness to learn. Should Council choose to appoint Officer Bacci to full-time police officer later this evening, Mayor Schenck felt he would make an excellent officer for the Green Tree Police Department.

**REPORT OF GREEN TREE BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

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

In Mr. Rea's absence, Mr. Panza presented the Public Property & Equipment report.

**1. Ordinance #1759 - Amending Green Tree Public Library Board Bylaws.**

**Motion:**

**Mr. Panza made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to place Ordinance #1759 on first and final reading by title only.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Molinaro read Ordinance #1759 by title only.

Mr. Sampogna said that Library Board regularly reviews the bylaws and discovered that a section of the bylaws did not accurately reflect the method used by the Library Board Treasurer to pay the library's invoices. New language would be adopted to better reflect the actual way the library pays its bills.

**Motion:**

**Mr. Panza made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to pass Ordinance #1759 on first and final reading by title only.**

**Roll Call Vote**

<b>Mr. Panza</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Novak</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Lorenzini</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Lindsey</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Sampogna</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion:**

**Mr. Panza made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to authorize the proper officers to sign Ordinance #1759 and that it be advertised according to law.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**2. General Report**

- (a) Mr. Montz reported that the Municipal Center boiler has been removed and the installation of the new boiler started today.
- (b) Mr. Montz said that the Green Tree Park hockey rink is currently being rehabilitated by Public Works.
- (c) A new wall and concrete has been installed behind the fire hall.
- (d) Mr. Lorenzini asked if anything has been done about the possible installation of a wall between Hale Park and the residential properties. Mr. Montz replied that nothing has been done yet.

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

**1. Set Public Hearing Date - CU-03-16**

Mr. Lorenzini said that the Zoning Hearing Board had denied the variance requesting a second drive-thru lane for the proposed Burger King restaurant at 2379 Noblestown Road. The applicant appealed the decision and the court granted the second drive-thru lane. The applicant is now going through the approval process a second time with the addition of the

second drive-thru added to the plans. After a discussion, Council agreed that the Public Hearing for CU-03-16, applicant, Boos Development should be set for Monday, November 7, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Molinaro stated that the Zoning Hearing Board had rendered a decision on this matter and the applicant had been dissatisfied with the decision. The applicant appealed the decision, which is authorized by the Municipal Planning Code. This case was assigned to the Court of Common Pleas, with briefs submitted by the applicant. The judge made a decision to rule in favor of the applicant to permit the second drive-thru lane as part of the conditional use approval.

**C. PUBLIC SAFETY - Mr. Lindsey**

**1. Proclamation - Recognizing Medical Rescue Team South Authority's 40th Anniversary.**

Mr. Lindsey read the following proclamation honoring MRTSA's 40th anniversary:

"Whereas, in 1975 Mt. Lebanon Police Chief David Varrelman recognized the need for a paramedic response unit in Mt. Lebanon. Chief Varrelman developed a comprehensive plan and submitted it to the Allegheny County Commissioners as a means of applying for Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) grant money; and

Whereas, at the same time, Robert Fryer, owner of the South Hills Ambulance Service in Bridgeville, applied for a grant to begin a similar paramedic service in the communities of Dormont, Castle Shannon and Baldwin Township; and

Whereas, on October 27, 1975, the Mt. Lebanon Police Medical Team began responding to medical emergencies in Mt. Lebanon and South Hills Ambulance began servicing Baldwin Township, Dormont, and Castle Shannon; and

Whereas, after the rescue units became operational, it was recognized that the call volume was too low for the paramedics operating in two separate systems to hone their skills as Advance Life Support providers; and

Whereas, in 1976, Medical Rescue Team South was organized as a multi-community emergency medical service. A board of directors was created with each community appointing a representative; and

Whereas, in 1984 MRTS became Medical Rescue South Authority (MRTSA), Inc., thereby establishing the agency's legal status in Pennsylvania. The authority also receive designation as a non-profit organization.

Whereas, in October 1992 MRTSA began to provide emergency medical services to the Borough of Whitehall.

Whereas, in April of 1995 MRTSA began to provide emergency medical services to the Borough of Green Tree.

Whereas, MRTSA responds to approximately 10,000 calls per year and provides 24/7 advanced life support to the communities of Baldwin Township, Castle Shannon Borough, Dormont Borough, Green Tree Borough, Mt. Lebanon Municipality, and Whitehall Borough;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Green Tree Borough Council and Mayor Schenck recognize and commend all past and present staff, faculty, administration, along with the greater communities comprising MRTSA for the past 40 years of providing emergency medical services and we wish Medical Rescue Team South Authority continued success in the future."

**2. Proclamation**

**Declaring October 17-21, 2016 as National School Bus Safety Week in Green Tree, encouraging all motorists to continue their efforts to promote safety and school bus**

**awareness, and all drivers to share the road and respect the unique needs of school buses.**

Mr. Lindsey presented the following proclamation:

"Whereas, the safety of all Pennsylvania school students is a concern of the highest consequence, and all motorists should unite in the safe sharing of roadways throughout the Borough of Green Tree; and

Whereas, school bus drivers dutifully transported over 1.5 million school students to and from school daily across the Commonwealth, and the Commonwealth's 45,000-plus licensed school bus drivers traveled more than 394 million miles last school year; and

Whereas, it is especially important that the citizens of our community be aware of school buses on the streets and roadways and also to recognize the importance of staying alert, practicing safe driving techniques, and obeying existing traffic laws to protect the safety of our school-aged children.

WITNESSETH

Now, therefore, be it proclaimed that Green Tree Borough Council hereby declares the week of October 17, 2016 through October 21, 2016 as School Bus Safety Week in the Borough of Green Tree and encourage all motorists to continue their efforts to promote safety and school bus awareness and encourage all drivers to share the road and respect the unique needs of school buses."

**3. Appointment of Ryan Bacci to full-time police officer.**

Mr. Lindsey stated that Officer Ryan Bacci's six-month probationary period ends on October 11, 2016. Based upon the recommendation of Chief Cleary and Officer Bacci's training officers, Mr. Lindsey recommended that he be appointed to a full-time police officer.

**Motion:**

**Mr. Lindsey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to appoint Mr. Ryan Bacci to full-time police officer, effective October 11, 2016.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**D. FINANCE - Mr. Tintori**

In Mr. Tintori's absence, Mr. Lindsey agreed to present the Finance report.

**1. Motion:**

**Mr. Lindsey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to ratify the actions of the Borough Manager in paying the September 2016 invoices from the General Fund totaling \$62,751.86, Payroll Account totaling \$208,633.60, and Educational Service Agency totaling \$4,131.19.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**2. Motion:**

**Mr. Lindsey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to approve payment of the October 2016 invoices from the General Fund totaling \$209,560.42, Sanitary Sewer Maintenance Fund totaling \$223.86, and Capital Projects Fund totaling \$30,837.16.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**3. Resolution #1234**

**Setting contributions for 2017 by participants of the Borough of Green Tree Police Pension Plan at 5% of total compensation, based upon the actuarial soundness of**

the Plan as stated in a letter dated August 18, 2016, by the Plan's Actuary, Hallet Associates, Inc.

**Motion:**

Mr. Lindsey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Novak, to adopt Resolution #1234 by title only.

Mr. Molinaro read Resolution #1234 by title only.

Mr. Sampogna noted that the actuary had stated that the contribution should be 5% of total compensation.

**Roll Call Vote**

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

Motion carried unanimously.

**E. STREETS & PUBLIC HEALTH - Mr. Novak**

**1. General Report**

Mr. Novak reported that the Rook Station sidewalks have been completed and the work on the ADA ramps along Greentree Road should begin sometime this month. He hoped that the road-paving project would begin sometime this month as well. Discussion continued regarding the upcoming tree work in Rook and the construction of the Rook Parklet, which would be done at the same time.

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

**1. Octoberfest**

Mr. Panza said that this year's Octoberfest had been well attended with near record-breaking attendance on Saturday. The Octoberfest wrap-up meeting was held last week. It was decided not to have a dog parade next year since dogs must be removed from the grounds immediately after the parade. Mrs. Adele Bonassi remains as the Chair of the Octoberfest Committee. The committee felt that the laser show had been unprofessional and there had been a number of problems with it. Next year's Octoberfest will be held on September 16-17, 2017.

**2. General Report**

Mr. Panza said the Parkedge Sound Barrier Committee would meet on October 27 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sycamore Room. There would be information about sound barrier efforts made in 1980 and the avenue that had been pursued at that time.

**LIAISON REPORTS**

**A. MRTSA - Mr. Montz**

Mr. Montz thanked Council for the proclamation honoring MRTSA. He said there would be a MRTSA celebration for its 40th anniversary on November 17. MRTSA will be having an increase in 2017. New defibrillators will be purchased next year, with new vehicles scheduled for purchase in 2018. A long-term plan has been established. Discussion continued regarding the rate increases for the municipalities.

Mr. Sampogna said that the police department is required to complete a form for the DEA when there is a drug overdose incident. Discussion continued regarding the reasons for collecting this information in the fight against opioid abuse.

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

Mr. Novak said the COG had discussed salt costs. This year's cost is \$69.29 per ton depending upon the fuel costs. Mr. Dan Garcia from the Pipeline Compliance Group spoke at the COG meeting regarding the safe transportation of natural gas via pipelines.

**C. Library - Mr. Sampogna**

Mr. Sampogna stated that the library recently concluded "Love Your Library" month in September.

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

**A. CONNECT**

Mr. Sampogna said he had attended a CONNECT meeting on September 15th in Wilkesburg. They had an update on the Health Policy Working Group, the main focus of which is the opioid addiction crisis.

Mr. Sampogna said he had attended a CONNECT Utility Meet-Up with utilities, municipal engineers, and municipal managers in Shaler. PA One Call had a presentation regarding a new system to be implemented statewide to avoid utility work and paving conflicts. Most municipalities decide on their paving projects only 6-12 months prior, whereas the utility companies have a 2-5 year plan. There currently is no coordination between the communities and the utilities. PA One Call's new system would create a paving and utility coordination system. The new system should be available in the Pittsburgh area around the end of December.

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

Mr. Molinaro had nothing to report at this time.

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

A. Mr. Montz said the Green Tree Farmers Market would be ending at the end of October. He suggested that Council consider recognizing the individuals who volunteer for the Farmers Market. Mr. Montz said that besides the weekly set up and tear down, the committee is always looking for new ways to make the market more interesting with cook-off competitions and other special events to attract customers.

Mr. Sampogna said that Farmers Market Committee always does a great job and he has received comments about how nice Green Tree's Farmers Market has been.

B. Mr. Montz reported that the borough currently has a large supply of salt for the winter with more to be delivered. The borough will be under budget for salt purchases this year, but January is predicted to be a cold month with above-average precipitation.

C. Mr. Montz said the adult co-ed softball league is underway. There are over 100 participants with 14 teams.

- D.** The MedReturn Drop Off box outside the administration office has been a success. Chief Cleary will also be participating in the DEA's Drug Take Back pharmaceutical collection on October 22. Mr. Montz hoped that in 2017 the borough could get the word out about the opioid crisis.
  
- E.** Mr. Lorenzini asked about the status of the borough's application for the grant for the Noblestown sewer project. Mr. Montz said the application must be submitted by the end of October. Mr. Sampogna said that grants are usually awarded towards the end of the year. Discussion continued regarding how this projected work would be budgeted in the 2017 budget.

**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

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