BOROUGH OF GREEN TREE
COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 3, 2014

Call to Order / Silence for Meditation / Pledge of Allegiance
Green Tree Borough Council met on Monday, November 3, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. at the Green Tree Municipal Center, 10 West Manilla Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Mr. Sampogna reported that council had held an Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss legal and personnel matters.

Roll Call
Members Present:
Mark Sampogna, President
David Lorenzini
Rino Lindsey
Ron Panza
David Rea
Arthur Tintori

Also Present:
W. David Montz, Borough Manager
Peter Molinaro, Jr., Borough Solicitor
Deborah N. Gawryla, Stenographer

Absent:
John Novak
Edward Schenck, Mayor

COMMUNITY PRIDE PRESENTATION
Resolution #1214 - Green Tree Farmers Market Committee
Mr. Sampogna turned the gavel over to Council Vice Chair, Mr. Arthur Tintori, so he could make the following motion.

Motion:
Mr. Sampogna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lindsey, to adopt Resolution #1214 as follows:

"Whereas, the Green Tree Farmers Market Committee originated in 2008 with a mission to provide our community with the opportunity of buying locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables without traveling from our area, and

Whereas, the market is operated on a weekly basis from May until October by a great group of volunteers, most of which have been involved since the beginning that currently includes Vince Abbato, Carl Dupper, Dan Gall, Lou Heinz, Marty Hungerman, Kris Pusateri, Rocco Muffi, Kenny Thens, Ralph Vitt, Fred Zinger, Dot Heinz, Doug Heinz, and Tim O'Toole.

Whereas, the Green Tree Farmers Market in the Park has continued to improve through the years with an increased participation by local vendors due to the efforts of the committee who are constantly finding ways to improve this community event including the addition of cooking demonstrations, knife sharpening days, various entertainment, and involvement of local community groups and businesses, and

Whereas, the Green Tree Farmers Market Committee selfishly serves the community on a weekly basis without regard to the weather and works together as a team to provide one of the best farmers markets in the county."
Now, therefore, be it resolved that on behalf of the residents of Green Tree, visitors to the market, Members of Council and Mayor Schenck, I express our deepest appreciation and gratitude to the past and present members of the Green Tree Farmers Market Committee for their dedication and service to our community.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be tendered as a memorial and token of Council's esteem to the current volunteers of the Green Tree Farmers Market Committee.

Roll Call Vote
Mr. Lindsey       Yes
Mr. Lorenzini     Yes
Mr. Tintori       Yes
Mr. Rea           Yes
Mr. Panza         Yes
Mr. Sampogna      Yes

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Tintori returned the gavel to Mr. Sampogna to conduct the remainder of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES
October 6, 2014
Motion:
Mr. Lindsey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lorenzini, to approve the minutes from the October 6, 2014 Council meeting as presented.

Motion carried 5-0-1, with Mr. Tintori abstaining because he had not attended this meeting.

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS
Bill Simmons, Green Tree Athletic Association (GAA)
Mr. Simmons said that on behalf of the Green Tree Athletic Association he wanted to thank borough council for their continued support and financial donations to help run the organization smoothly. Mr. Simmons said the GAA was proud to provide softball, baseball, and soccer programs.

Mr. Sampogna asked about the numbers enrolled in the GAA programs. Mr. Simmons replied that baseball/softball programs have about 120-250 children. The soccer program has about 120 enrollees.

Mr. Lindsey asked how the GAA might obtain new addresses for City Vista residents. Mr. Simmons said the GAA uses Pittsburgh Mailing and they would handle adding the new addresses to the mailing list.

Mr. Lorenzini asked if the new City Vista residents were receiving welcome packets from the borough with information on voting, church locations, etc. Mr. Rea replied that the Green Tree Young Professionals group is working toward that initiative. Mr. Montz said the borough also sends information to new residents.
Dan Gall, Green Tree Farmers Market Committee
Mr. Gall said that on behalf of the Green Tree Farmers Market Committee, he thanked council and Mr. Montz for the recognition. He said the committee could not hold the Farmers Market without the help of the entire community. The borough employees help the committee with the running and organization of the market and the residents make the market successful by coming and purchasing goods.

Fred Zinger, 133 Sheldon Avenue
Mr. Zinger said that when the sidewalks adjacent to Wilson Park had been re-done, yellow lines had not been painted on the driveway to the storage facility or where the sidewalk cuts in near the Wilson Park outfield entrance. Mr. Zinger said that people are often parking where the sidewalk cuts making visibility difficult for vehicles coming up the hill on Rhodes Avenue. He asked that those areas be painted yellow or signs should be installed prohibiting parking in those areas.

Susan Durham, 1027 Dale Drive
Mr. Durham was concerned about the increase in the borough's deer population, particularly with dead deer along the Parkway and the increase in lime and tick infestations. Mr. Sampogna said council has been looking into the possibility of adopting a deer-feeding ban ordinance. Council is reviewing other communities' ordinances on this subject in an effort to create its own ordinance. Council has also been looking into an effort being led by Mt. Lebanon regarding a deer sterilization program. He said such a program would be expensive, but if it were a multi-municipal program a number of communities would share the cost.

Mr. Zinger, from the audience, suggested that the borough contact the Pennsylvania Game Commission for ideas or to possibly sponsor some of these activities. Mr. Montz said that the Pennsylvania Game Commission must approve any deer sterilization program.

MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Schenck
In the absence of the Mayor, there was no report.

REPORT OF BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEES
A. PUBLIC SAFETY - Mr. Lindsey
   1. General Report
      Mr. Lindsey said the Public Safety Committee would be meeting to discuss budgetary concerns regarding the police department and other public safety entities for the preparation of the proposed 2015 borough budget.

B. RECREATION & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS - Mr. Panza
   1. General Report
      Mr. Panza asked if the concerns about the deer population would fall under the Public Safety Committee or Community Affairs. Mr. Sampogna said that it would fall under Public Safety. Mr. Panza suggested that perhaps the library consider offering classes to residents about vegetation that tend to attract deer.
2. Octoberfest

Mr. Panza asked about the possibility of purchasing new signage, creating new electrical hook-ups in the park, and several other improvements for Octoberfest. Octoberfest was very successful this year with a balance of approximately $5,000 and some new items would be helpful. Discussion continued regarding the funding of Octoberfest.

Mr. Dupper, from the audience, asked that some German food be offered at Octoberfest. Mr. Panza said he would bring Mr. Dupper's suggestion to the Octoberfest Committee. Discussion continued regarding Octoberfest details and planning.

C. STREETS & PUBLIC HEALTH - Mr. Novak

Mr. Panza presented the Streets & Public Health report in the absence of Mr. Novak.

1. Authorize change order for Greentree Road sidewalk program between Banbury Lane and Orchard Drive

Motion:

Mr. Panza made a motion, seconded by Mr. Tintori, to authorize a change order for the Greentree Road sidewalk program between Banbury Lane and Orchard Drive.

Mr. Sampogna said that council had received a memo from the Borough Manager stating that Columbia Gas would be extending their project along Greentree Road to the area between Banbury Lane and Orchard Drive. The Streets Committee had recommended that the borough partner with Columbia Gas to replace the curbing and sidewalk to adjust to the raised curb as it had previously done on Greentree Road. The contractor that had done the sidewalks along Greentree Road had provided a unit price in the bid. This unit price would be applied to the additional sidewalk replacement without having to rebid the project. The additional work would cost $21,581.00.

Mr. Lorenzini asked if council was currently voting on the payment of this additional project. Mr. Montz said they were and explained how the cost of this project had been determined. Mr. Lorenzini said they were voting on something that had already been completed. Mr. Montz said he had moved on this project at the recommendation of the Streets Committee and it is not unusual to have council vote on a change order. Mr. Panza said that Columbia Gas had informed the borough that they would be tearing up more of the sidewalks than originally anticipated. Upon learning that information, the Streets Committee had recommended acting upon the unit price in the existing contract. Using the contractor currently working in the sidewalks under the accepted bid’s unit price would save the borough the trouble and expense of rebidding the project, advertising, and delaying sidewalk construction, Mr. Montz said that if the project had been re-bid it would not even be underway at this point and it was likely that a re-bid for the additional sidewalk area would be more expensive because it was a smaller area to be repaved. Discussion continued regarding the details of the sidewalk project.
Motion carried, 5-1, with Mr. Lorenzini voting "No."

2. **Greentree Road Repaving**
   Mr. Montz said he had written several letters to PennDOT regarding the repaving of Greentree Road, but he had not gotten a reply. He then wrote to the state senator and state representatives, asking them to intervene. Rep. Deasy had replied stating that PennDOT had informed him that they would not be paving Greentree Road this year. Discussion continued regarding the Greentree Road paving project.

3. Mr. Lorenzini asked when council members would be receiving a preliminary budget before having to vote on it. Mr. Montz replied that council members would receive a proposed budget by November 15th. He said he would explain the process to Mr. Lorenzini.

D. **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 October 2014 invoices from the General Fund totaling $593,957.79, Sanitary Sewer Maintenance Fund totaling $152,558.76, 2009 Sanitary Sewer Bond totaling $36,706.24, Capital Projects Fund totaling $285,626.27, Payroll Account totaling $185,514.92, and Educational Service Agency totaling $6,201.53.

      Motion carried unanimously.

   2. **Motion:**
      Mr. Tintori made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lindsey, to approve payment of the November 2014 invoices from the General Fund totaling $358,843.41, and the 2009 Sanitary Sewer Bond totaling $2,534.94.

      Motion carried unanimously.

   3. **Motion:**
      Mr. Tintori made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lindsey, to authorize the Borough Manager to accept bids for the 2015 Tax Anticipation Loan for the amount of $1,000,000.00.

      Mr. Lorenzini asked what banks would be bidding on this loan. Mr. Montz said the borough contacts a number of banks in the area requesting bids. Discussion took place regarding the various banks.

      Motion carried unanimously.

E. **PLANNING & ZONING - Mr. Lorenzini**
   1. **General Report**
Mr. Lorenzini reported that the October 22nd Planning Commission meeting to meet with Planning Committee members regarding the proposed zoning ordinance had been cancelled. The meeting will be rescheduled, but a date has not yet been determined. Mr. Lorenzini said he would like to have a meeting to outline the process to be followed toward the approval of the proposed zoning ordinance.

F. PUBLIC PROPERTY & EQUIPEMENT - Mr. Rea
   1. Leaf Hazards
      Mr. Rea said that he is concerned about the hazards of leaves that have been raked into the streets instead of curbside. He said that children sometimes play in the tall leaf piles that people have raked into the street for collection. Cars drive close to these leaves and could possibly hit a child that cannot be seen. He asked for enforcement of the law that prohibits leaves to be raked into the street. Mr. Lindsey said his newsletter article would be mentioning the hazards of raking leaves into the street. Mr. Sampogna said that no one is permitted to deposit anything in the streets, whether it is snow, mud, or leaves. Mr. Lorenzini asked how the leaf collection process worked and what was done with the leaves after they are collected. Mr. Sampogna replied that they are turned into mulch. Discussion continued about the leaf collection process.

LIAISON REPORTS
A. MRTSA - Mr. Montz
   Mr. Montz had nothing to report at this time.

B. Char West COG - Mr. Novak
   In the absence of Mr. Novak there was no Char West COG report.

C. Library - Mr. Sampogna
   Mr. Sampogna reported that the Library Board had discussed a preliminary budget for 2015 and would be voting on a budget in November or December. The library's new exam proctoring policy has been delayed until February or March of 2015 to allow more staff to be brought up to speed about the policy. The staff has been busy finalizing the new website that is expected to go live in a few weeks. The Library Board discussed staffing levels and the need for changing the mix of part-time and full-time staff.

   Mr. Sampogna said that the Friends of the Library's Annual Book Sale netted over $6,000. Numerous volunteers helped make the sale a success. He noted that the volunteers work all year long, most notably Ms. Kim Bissert, Chair of the Used Book Sale. Ms. Bissert will be stepping down from her post as Library Board Secretary next year to devote more time to the Friends of the Library and the book sale. He encouraged those interested in serving on the Library Board to complete a volunteer application.

   Mr. Sampogna said that the leftover books from the book sale had been donated to a store in Aliquippa that employs at-risk teen called eQuip Books, the Green Tree Rotary, Marion Manor, SCI Muncy, and a few teachers.
Mr. Sampogna said he had attended the ACLA General Membership meeting in Robinson Township. Two at-large candidates were appointed to serve on the ACLA Board. ACLA’s 2015 budget was adopted despite some opposition by a few libraries and library service standards were discussed.

Mr. Sampogna stated that the Library Journal has named the Green Tree Public Library an American Star Library. This is the fifth time since 2008 that the Green Tree Public Library has received a Star Library award. Over 7,500 libraries were reviewed as part of the this process and the Library Journal narrowed its selection to the top 258 libraries that are delivering exceptional service based upon computer usage, circulation, program attendance, and library visits. Green Tree Public Library was the only library in Pennsylvania to receive this award and its standing improved from the three-star to a four-star ranking. Discussion regarding the library continued.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT - Mr. Sampogna

1. **House Bill 1671**

   Mr. Sampogna said he had written a letter to State Representatives Deasy and Miller regarding the proposed House Bill 1671, requiring the recording of executive sessions for certain government bodies including municipal council meetings. Rep. Miller said he would work with the bill's author to revise it.

2. **CONNECT**

   Mr. Sampogna said the most recent CONNECT meeting had included a discussion on the continued transfer of multi-municipal sewer trunk lines to Alcosan. Mr. Molinaro said he had attended a joint committee meeting where he had learned that Alcosan would be contacting communities regarding what would be deemed multi-municipal sewer trunk lines. Further negotiations would be needed to determine the terms and conditions of these conveyances and Mr. Molinaro outlined some of these issues.

   Mr. Sampogna said a presentation was made by Ms. Renee Piechocki of the Office of Public Art regarding the projects they have been involved in and how they can assist in providing visual and performing art in public places.

3. **Banner Community Program**

   Mr. Sampogna said that the Recreation & Community Affairs Committee should be working on applying for the Banner Community Program and the Sustainable Communities Essential Certification Program. Mr. Panza said the forms should be completed by December 31st.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT - Mr. Molinaro

Mr. Molinaro had nothing to report at this time.

MANAGER’S REPORT - Mr. Montz

1. Mr. Montz said that council members would be receiving a copy of the proposed 2015 budget by November 15th. He requested a meeting on November 24th to present the
details of the proposed budget with the Public Meeting and adoption of the budget at the December 1st meeting.

2. Mr. Montz said that Light Up Green Tree would be held on Saturday, December 6th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Center. The Recreation Director has a lot of additional events planned.

3. Mr. Sampogna reminded council that there would be a brief council meeting next Monday, November 10th at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of adjudicating a local agency hearing.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:
Mr. Panza made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lindsey, to adjourn the meeting until November 10, 2014.

Motion carried unanimously.

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Mark Sampogna, President

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W. David Montz, Manager

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