



## **MAYOR'S REPORT TO THE COUNCIL AND CITIZENS OF GREENCASTLE** *August 1, 2022*

**THE REVISED PENNSYLVANIA FIREWORKS LAW:** On July 11, 2022, Governor Wolf signed into law Act 74, which provides reforms to the sale and use of fireworks and clarifies the scope of a municipality's authority to regulate fireworks (the "Act"). Like the previous firework law, the Act makes a distinction between "display fireworks" (think municipal fireworks display) and "consumer fireworks" (which aren't that much smaller than the display fireworks); consumer fireworks do not include items like hand-held or ground sparklers. While the prior fireworks law largely only permitted municipalities to regulate display fireworks, the Act now expressly provides that municipalities can impose conditions and limitations on consumer fireworks. Consumer fireworks will be prohibited within 150' of a building or vehicle, regardless of whether the building or vehicle is owned by the individual using the fireworks. A permit MAY be required by the municipality and prohibit the use of consumer fireworks if use within the municipality cannot comply with the 150' requirement. Hour restrictions may be imposed from 10:00 P.M. to 10:00 A.M. subject to certain holiday exceptions. The new law takes effect September 9, 2022.

**ATTENDANCE AT THE PA. MAYOR'S ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE:** Mayors from across Pennsylvania converged on Lancaster July 21 thru 24. Experts and topics reviewed included: Effective relations with volunteer fire / EMS companies; Legislative updates including radar and annexation; Economic outlook; Municipal grants; Use of drones in law enforcement and public works; and Mayoral networking.

**41<sup>ST</sup> TRIENNIAL G-A OLD HOME WEEK:** WELCOME HOME and best wishes to the officers, committee members, volunteers, citizens, and visitors for a very successful 41<sup>st</sup> Triennial celebration. Let the magic begin.

**EMERGENCY SERVICES DURING OLD HOME WEEK:** Cooperation from law enforcement agencies, Greencastle and Antrim Emergency Management Coordinators, Rescue Hose Company fire-police, fire, EMS; Antrim Township

**ATTENDANCE AT SENATOR MASTRIANO'S GRANT SEMINAR JULY 28:** Much information was received while attending this event with Emilee Little and Donna Zimmerman. There are many opportunities, however, our small staff has limited time to follow-up on the many opportunities. A five-year plan for projects is certainly warranted to Council may pre-plan and seek grant funds in the future.

**FUTURE DEVELOPMENT ADJACENT TO GREENCASTLE IN ANTRIM TOWNSHIP:**  
**MAYOR'S COMMENTS:** Northern Access Road from East Baltimore Street: The 1965

Comprehensive Development Plan was prepared for the Greencastle Planning and Zoning Commission and proposed a “thoroughfare plan” (p. 25) in all four quadrants of Greencastle into Antrim Township. This plan is now 57 years old. PennDot’s current traffic volume map indicates I-81’s average daily traffic (ADT) between mileposts 3 and 10 at between 46,000 and 60,000 vehicles. SR0016 traffic is 12,000 ADT. I believe 35% is truck traffic. So, in my opinion, the 57-year-old study is no longer in the best interest for the Borough citizens health, safety, and welfare to filter this traffic onto primarily residential streets owned and maintained by the Borough of Greencastle that would greatly accelerate the deterioration of these streets. Pa. liquid fuels funds received do not come close to paying for Greencastle’s Street maintenance and improvements and must be supplemented by the taxpayers of the Borough. When the current Comprehensive Plan was authored, now ten plus years ago, Council was not in favor of the “thoroughfare plan.” **§ 3.6 “The Greencastle Borough Council objects to the Moss Spring Avenue extension because of the perceived impact it may have on the Moss Spring development, however, the Council recognizes that the connection will occur in Antrim Township and that it will be the responsibility of the Antrim Township Board of Supervisors to decide the appropriateness of the connection through a traffic engineering study, and discussion with PennDot, Greencastle Borough, and local residents and businesses.”**

**PA DEPT. OF HUMAN SERVICES LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLD WATER / WASTEWATER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:** Thank-you to staff for applying to this program to assist our low-income utility customers during their financial time of need.

Submitted by: Ben Thomas, Jr. Mayor