

# **BOROUGH OF GREENCASTLE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**July 3, 2023**

**7:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ben Thomas, President Albert W. Miller, Vice President Jan Shafer, Councilmen Joel Amsley, Wade Burkholder, and Scott Reagan. Also present was Borough Manager Emilee Little. Councilmen H. Duane Kinzer and Jeremy Layman were absent.

President Albert W. Miller called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

An invocation was provided by Mayor Ben Thomas.

President Albert W. Miller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Albert W. Miller noted the meeting was being recorded for accuracy of the minutes and that the Council had an Executive Session immediately prior to this meeting to discuss a personnel matter.

On a Burkholder/Amsley motion, Council unanimously approved the proposed agenda for the July 3, 2023, regular council meeting.

## **Opportunity to be Heard**

Beth Stager of 201 N. Allison Street noted visibility concerns at the intersection of Allison and Grant Street and cited that sight distance when looking south at this intersection is less than the PennDOT standard. Stager noted correspondence with Little regarding the Public Safety workgroup's determination to not take any action regarding this location at this time.

Karin Johnson of 38 N. Linden Avenue stated that she hoped the Borough's temporary burn ban did not become a permanent burn ban as she burns yard waste. Additionally Johnson identified speeding occurring on N. Linden Avenue and requested the Borough's speed sign be placed in this area.

Larry Pitman of 35 W. Madison Street discussed the parking ordinance and stated it was obviously done because of one person not approving of where the members of the police department park.

Joe Crouse of 41 Edward Drive advised of a possible code violation at a property on Edward Drive with high grass and weeds.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

On an Amsley/Burkholder motion, Council unanimously approved the Consent Agenda as presented.

### **Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

Borough Council Meeting of June 5, 2023

Borough Council Workshop Meeting of June 26, 2023

### **Community Events:**

Authorize the Mental Health Association of Franklin and Fulton Counties to deploy blue and teal ribbons on parking meters during the month of September for suicide prevention month.

Approve the annual Homecoming Parade to take place on Friday, September 29, 2023 beginning at 6:00pm to follow the submitted route as requested by the Greencastle-Antrim School District High School.

### **Resignation:**

Accept the resignation of Richard Wertman as the Borough of Greencastle's Emergency Management Coordinator.

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **Payment of Bills**

On a Reagan/Amsley motion, Council voted 5-0 to approve the disbursements listed on the June 2023 Disbursement Report in the amount of \$236,080.26.

### **Reports from Elected Officials**

#### **President's Report**

President Miller advised of the Borough's recent settlement for the open lot on the southwest corner of E. Baltimore Street and S. Washington Street noting the Borough concept plans for an open space community venue.

#### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Thomas noted updates from the PSAB conference and advised of the Pennsylvania fireworks law. For the complete report, go to [www.greencastlepa.gov/Document Collections/Mayor Reports](http://www.greencastlepa.gov/Document%20Collections/Mayor%20Reports).

#### **Chief's Report**

Mayor Thomas provided the Chief's Report as Chief Phillippy was not in attendance but his submitted report is available at [www.greencastlepa.gov/Document Collections/Chief of Police Reports](http://www.greencastlepa.gov/Document%20Collections/Chief%20of%20Police%20Reports).

#### **Manager's Report**

Little provided an update and overview of activities and projects in progress including the Shentel installation work, upcoming budget preparations, and information from recent workgroup meetings. Little outlined Council's established conditions of the Buchanan Flats final plan approval. For the complete report, go to [www.greencastlepa.gov/Document Collections/Manager Report](http://www.greencastlepa.gov/Document%20Collections/Manager%20Report).

### **Committee Action**

#### **Budget and Finance**

On an Amsley/Reagan motion, Council unanimously voted to approve the annual \$1,929.20 contribution to the Franklin County Drug Task Force.

On a Burkholder/Reagan motion, Council unanimously voted to approve the reallocation of \$25,000.00 originally budgeted for bridge repairs in account 01.430.450 to account 01.452.570 to fund community improvement related costs associated with the development of the Borough lot located on the south west corner of E. Baltimore Street and S. Washington Street.

Little noted that the updated bridge inspection report is anticipated to be received by the end of the month, that the previous inspection noted minor repairs, and that Council could chose to budget for all the identified repairs in 2024 based on the new inspection report.

#### **Personnel**

On an Amsley/Reagan motion, Council unanimously voted to accept a notice of retirement from Chief of Police John Phillippy effective January 6, 2024.

Mayor Thomas commented that throughout Chief Phillippy's 41 year career in police work his heart has always been in the safety of the community.

#### **Public Facilities & Stormwater**

On a Burkholder/Amsley motion, Council unanimously voted to approve and award a bid from Ganoë Paving for the total cost of \$31,238.74 for alley paving consisting of a 3" mill and 3" overlay of 19mm asphalt of S. Cedar Lane from Baltimore Street to Spruce Lane and Spruce Lane from S. Washington Street to S. Allison Street for an approximate length of 877 SY.

On a Reagan/Amsley motion, Council unanimously voted to authorize staff to publically advertise an invitation to bid notice for sidewalk repair work related to the replacement of damaged sidewalk panels on N. Carlisle Street.

## **Public Safety**

On a Burkholder/Reagan motion, Council voted 4-1, with Amsley opposed, to enact Ordinance 2023-02 as advertised amending Chapter 190 of the Code of the Borough of Greencastle, to prohibit parking along the north side of E. Madison Street from N. Washington Street extending west a distance of 140 feet and to eliminate the loading zone designation on W. Baltimore Street 170 feet west of the intersection W. Baltimore Street and N. Carlisle Street.

Amsley stated that this parking restriction could open Pandora's Box. Reagan noted that Council has a lot of areas to analyze and that all requests will be reviewed fairly.

On a Burkholder/Reagan motion, Council unanimously voted to ratify Resolution 2023-05 enacting a temporary burn ban prohibiting recreational fires, campfires, consumer fireworks, and the ignition and subsequent burning of any combustible material outdoors, whether in a burn barrel or on the ground.

Mayor Thomas advised that he was in favor of extending the current burn ban but noted that conditions should be reviewed on a weekly basis with recommendations from the Rescue Hose Company.

On a Reagan/Burkholder motion, Council unanimously voted to approve Alpha Space to complete striping of parking spaces on N. Jefferson Street as recommended by the Public Safety workgroup for a cost not to exceed \$300.00.

Little noted that this striping would be installed along both sides of N. Jefferson Street and would create 30 total parking spaces at 20 feet each to be completed in July.

Amsley questioned if drivers could be cited for parking outside an established parking space. Mayor Thomas advised that unless spaces are metered, then citations cannot be issued for drivers not abiding by parking lines.

## **Correspondence**

Council reviewed a letter from Frank Webster Jr. requesting a virtual option be offered for public meetings.

Burkholder noted that since the Borough has the capability to offer virtual meetings, it should.

Mayor Thomas stated that virtual attendees were using names that were clearly not their real names during the meetings.

Amsley identified that attendees consistently complained about issues with the virtual platform.

Miller noted the virtual attendees' comments to Council members during meetings was consistent and inappropriate.

Tim Fetterhoff of 180 Baumgardner Drive commented that virtual attendees' communication with Council members during the meeting was unfair to residents that physically attend meetings as they are restricted to commenting during the public comment period.

## **Final Comments**

Council provided no additional comments.

## **Adjourn**

On a Shafer/Reagan motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emilee Little  
Borough Secretary