

BOROUGH OF GREENCASTLE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 4, 2024

7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ben Thomas, President Larry Faight, Vice President Scott Reagan, Councilmen Joel Amsley, Wade Burkholder, Albert Miller, Steve Miller and Mike Stenger. Also present were Officer in Charge Keith Russell, Borough Manager Emilee Little, and Salzmann Hughes attorney Zachary Rice.

President Larry Faight called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

The meeting began with a moment of silence held for the brother of resident Tim Fetterhoff.

An invocation was provided by Pastor Fred Keener.

President Larry Faight led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Larry Faight noted the meeting was being recorded for accuracy of the minutes and advised the public that Council held an Executive Session immediately prior to the meeting to review a personnel matter.

On an Amsley/S. Miller motion, Council unanimously voted to approve the proposed agenda for March 4, 2024 regular Council Meeting.

Opportunity to be Heard

Eddie Baxter of 117 Carowinds Drive thanked Officer In Charge Keith Russell and the police department. Baxter suggested ways of increasing attendance at Council meetings including opening the doors earlier and providing a quarterly Meet & Greet opportunity with members of Council. Baxter requested time be granted at the end of the meeting for a secondary Public Comment period.

CONSENT AGENDA

On a Reagan/Stenger motion, Council unanimously voted to approve the Borough Council Meeting minutes of February 5, 2024.

On a Reagan/Burkholder motion, Council unanimously voted to approve the following community event:

National Child Abuse Prevention Month as requested by Over The Rainbow Children's Advocacy Center

- April 1st to April 30th – allow blue ribbons to be placed on parking meters

REGULAR AGENDA

Payment of Bills

On an Amsley/Reagan motion, Council unanimously voted to affirm the disbursements listed on the February 2024 Disbursement Report in the amount of \$106,052.66.

Reports from Elected Officials

Mayor's Report

Mayor Thomas noted his communication with Norfolk Southern and advised Council of his attendance at the February Water Authority meeting to discuss the food processing residual issue being addressed by a group of concerned citizens in Antrim Township. Thomas congratulated ELM for their 80 years in business. For the complete report, go to [www.greencastlepa.gov/Document Collections/Mayor Reports](http://www.greencastlepa.gov/Document%20Collections/Mayor%20Reports).

Police Department Report

OIC Keith Russell reviewed his written report providing updates on recent activities of the Police Department. Russell noted the installation of the replacement license plate reader system and the purchase of a second speed

limit radar sign. Russell presented photos associated to recent cases including drug-related and domestic violence offenses. For the complete report, go to [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. Little noted updates from committee meetings and reviewed development plans under review. Information from operational departments was provided. For the complete report, go to [www.greencastlepa.gov/Document Collections/Manager Report](http://www.greencastlepa.gov/Document%20Collections/Manager%20Report).

President's Report

President Faight advised of the committee meetings, noting that they would be posted on the Borough website and Facebook page and requested input from the public on specific topics during these committee meetings.

Committee Action

Administration

On a Burkholder/Reagan motion, Council unanimously voted to appoint Mayor Ben Thomas as the Borough of Greencastle's voting delegate for the purpose of electing the officers of the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs and voting on proposed resolutions and policies.

On a Burkholder/Reagan motion, Council unanimously voted to not modify Ordinance 2023-01 which established the salaries and compensation of the Mayor of the Borough and members of Borough Council.

Faight noted that there was no reference in Ordinance 2023-01 attributing the approved increase of Council's pay to the introduction of workshop meetings versus the previous committee structure.

Attorney Rice advised that the duty of being on Council is greater than attendance at one monthly meeting.

S. Miller added that he does not support Council's pay increase and would like the pay changed back to the prior amounts.

Community & Economic Development

On an Amsley/Burkholder motion, Council voted 5-2, with Faight and S. Miller opposed, to authorize staff to request the following cost proposals related the Borough's lot development project:

- a. Structural design and specifications for repairs to the existing fire wall and the construction of a new brick veneer wall
- b. Architectural design and elevation drawing of a new brick veneer wall

Personnel

On an Amsley/Reagan motion, Council unanimously voted to adopt Ordinance 2024-03 as advertised amending the Borough of Greencastle Police pension plan with the acceptance of Amendment No. 1 to add an early retirement date provision for officers with at least 20 years of accrued service as agreed to in the current collective bargaining agreement approved by Borough Council and the Greencastle Patrolmen's Association.

Public Safety

On a Burkholder/Stenger motion, Council unanimously voted to authorize the expenditure of \$5,001.48 for the purchase of a radar speed sign utilizing the \$5,000 grant awarded by Norfolk Southern for the purchase of police equipment as recommended by the Public Safety Committee.

On a Reagan/S. Miller motion, Council unanimously voted to authorize staff to draft an ordinance regulating parking in the areas immediately surrounding Center Square.

Little advised this request was brought up by resident Larry Pittman and further discussed by the Public Safety Committee. Little reviewed the spaces to be restricted to compact cars only and noted that staff would need to clearly define a compact car and provide enforceable metrics.

A. Miller recommended adding an exhibit to the ordinance with a mapping to more clearly identify the regulated parking spaces.

Correspondence

On a Reagan/Stenger motion, Council unanimously voted to table any action on the proposed Deed of Dedication for a portion of Nova Drive as prepared by Wertime Guyer LLC pending staff and legal review.

Final Comments

Burkholder – Advised of a sign installed at the intersection of Route 11 and S. Carlisle Street, requested staff investigate.

Reagan, Faight, and Thomas – Thanked the public for attending.

Adjourn

On an Amsley/Reagan motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emilee Little

Borough Secretary