



BOROUGH OF GREENCASTLE

"A GREAT HISTORIC COMMUNITY"

Spring/Summer
2014 Edition

Volume I, Issue I

BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

On the Web: www.greencastlepa.gov



First Borough Newsletter Unveiled

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As part of the Borough's ongoing efforts to reach out to its residents on Borough-related issues, Council approved the semi-annual mailing of a residential newsletter beginning this year. *Welcome to the first edition!*

It is our hope that the information contained within each newsletter will provide you a resource of current and accurate information on those services offered by the Borough and topics of mutual interest. This is the first of two mailings planned for this year. The second will take place late 2014.

Since this is the first of its kind for Borough residents, we will be looking to you for feedback on whether the content is beneficial and suggestions for future editions.

One item of business that we are looking for your input is the official naming of this newsletter. Creative minds are asked to find an appropriate name for our newsletter going forward. (*Look to the right for additional information*).

On behalf of the Borough of Greencastle, we hope that you will find this mailer helpful in understanding our operations, services and initiatives.

"Name that Newsletter"

What should be the appropriate name for the Borough's newsletter? That is exactly what we have been asking and need your help in answering!

Greencastle is looking to our creative and talented Borough residents to "name that newsletter". Those interested in participating are asked to provide no more than one suggestion per household and reason for the name suggestion.

Submissions should be mailed to Borough of Greencastle, Attn: Borough Manager, 60 North Washington Street, Greencastle. Submissions will be accepted through July 31, 2014. A team of staff and Council will review the proposals with the Top Three featured in the fall edition newsletter.

Fall edition readers will be asked to vote on the names presented with the winning name unveiled in Spring 2015.

Name that Newsletter Submission

Proposed Newsletter Name:

The Borough should select this name because

Borough Officials

Borough Council:

- Charlie Eckstine, President
- Frank Webster, Vice-President
- Wade Burkholder
- Larry Faight
- Jim Farley
- Craig Myers
- Matt Smith

Mayor: Bob Eberly

Borough Manager:

Susan Armstrong



Civics 101: The Basic Structure of Greencastle Borough Government

Quite often we receive questions on how our local government is set up and what responsibilities we have within the community.

There are several different forms of municipal government. Depending on which type of municipal charter was adopted, the local government's structure, functions and form of government will be followed.

Five forms of municipal government exist within the States with the top three being the most common. These include:

1. Council-Manager
2. Mayor-Council
3. Commission

The Borough of Greencastle operates under the Council-Manager form. This form of government is comprised of a council, elected at large and an appointed manager. The council is responsible for setting policy and appointing a professional manager to carry out the day to day operations of the organization.

According to the NLC (National League of Cities), the Council-Manager form is the most commonly used within the United States. In fact, this form grew by 7% in a span of 10 years with 55% of the Nation's municipal government being structured as such by 2006.

As noted above, the elected body (in our case, Borough Council) is considered the legislators. NLC reports that councils can range in size from 5 to 51, with the national average being 6; Greencastle's is set at 7.

Our seven member body is elected through a democratic process by the constituents of Greencastle Borough. These officials are responsible for determining which services will be provided and how the Borough will pay for them.

Responsibilities that fall under Council include:

- Review and approve annual budget
- Establish short and long term goals
- Establish tax rates
- Enter into legal contracts
- Borrow funds
- Pass ordinances and resolutions

The Borough Manager is appointed by the Council and is responsible for the admin-
(Continued on page 5)

2014 Budget Overview

Local government finance is different in many respects than state and federal government finance. The Commonwealth receives most of its income from sales tax and income tax. The Federal government's primary source of income is federal income tax. Most times, these tax bases can grow as people's incomes and the price of goods increase with inflation. Following is an outline of revenues, expenditures and tax millage information pertaining to our Borough.

Revenues: For a local government, like the Borough of Greencastle, the primary sources of revenues are real estate taxes, earned income tax and the local services tax, along with a few miscellaneous revenue generators.

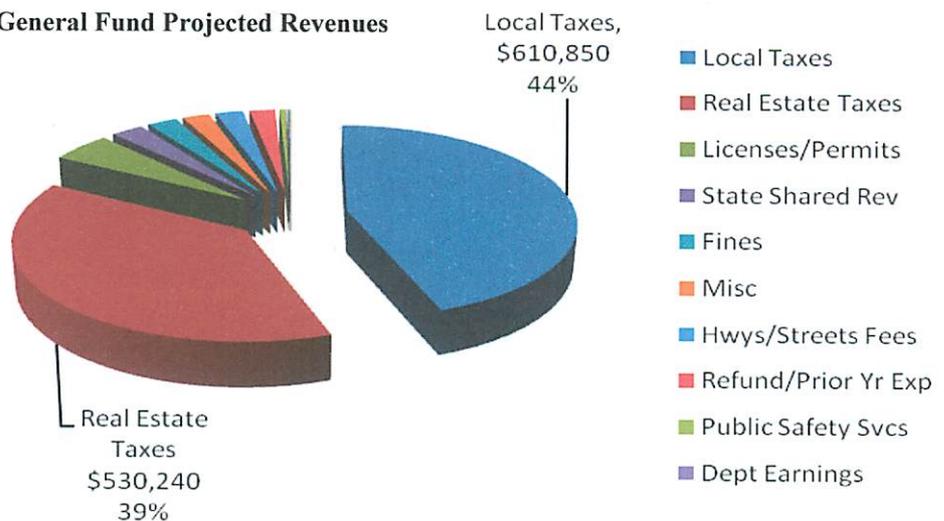
Unlike sales taxes and income taxes, the real estate tax base does not grow unless real estate is reassessed by the County and/or the municipality has the ability to grow through the construction of new homes and/or businesses. Therefore,

as expenses increase, there is no way for a municipality like Greencastle, which has very little growth potential, to increase its real estate tax revenues without increasing the millage rate.

(Continued on page 3)

***DID YOU KNOW...**
The Borough's Personnel Complement, including Non-Uniformed and Uniformed, is set at 15 full-time and 14 part-time employees the same as in 2008!

2014 General Fund Projected Revenues





2014 Budget Overview (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 2)

The real estate tax is one of the only sources of revenue that the Borough has the ability to increase. Most of our other revenues are limited statutorily. For example, the Borough was able to hold off a real estate tax increase in 2013 due largely to adopting the Local Services Tax; a flat tax of \$52 on each person who works within the Borough and earns over a certain amount. By state law, the Borough is not permitted to increase this particular tax. The only way this revenue source can increase is if the number of people working within the Borough increases, which is not likely to happen given we are an older, built-out community with limited growth potential.

Expenditures: Key operations supported by the General Fund include: police protection, code enforcement, engineering, street paving, snow removal, street construction/rehab, street sweeping, traffic signage/signalization/control, street lighting, recreation, fire and EMS support, administration, etc.

Prior to the 2014 budget being presented to Borough Council in November 2013, \$281,000 in proposed expenditures was cut from the 2014 draft. Items including a new main server for the Borough's IT needs, future purchase of a cruiser, police equipment, miscellaneous storm sewer upgrades (outside of the Franklin Street area) and street maintenance were reduced or eliminated altogether.

Even with the above cuts, the 2014 budget still had a shortfall of funds. Specifically, the Borough's expenditures exceeded

projected revenues. This was not new for the Borough as in the last several years the Borough has balanced its annual budgets with transfers from reserves instead of reliance on a tax mill increase or other tax implementations permissible under the law. These transfers assisted the Borough in doing several large scale community improvement projects; however, due to the depletion of reserves, the Borough was in a position that justified a tax mill increase.

Tax Millage: Until this year, the Borough held the real estate tax millage rate to 11.0 mills for 10 years straight. This was made possible by having sufficient reserves (savings) in place to pay for capital improvement projects.

In fact, until last year, the Borough had only raised taxes seven times since 1963. This was made possible primarily due to having sufficient reserves, higher interest income on those reserves/investments, etc.

Millage rates are the amount per \$1,000 that is used to calculate one's property taxes. For Fiscal Year 2014, the millage increased 2 mills to 13.0 total in order to

close some of the budget deficit. To demonstrate how this mill rate increase impacts an average homeowner, below is a true copy of a 2013 property tax bill within the Borough of Greencastle. Located in the Town & Country Development (Kegerreis Development), this particular property has a tax evaluation of 15,000. As the bill reflects, this property was assessed \$165.00 in 2013 Borough property taxes (15,000 x .011 = \$165 or 150,000 x 11 = \$165) For 2014, this same property will see an increase of \$30.00 annually in Borough taxes (15,000 x .013 = \$195 or 150,000 x 13 = \$195).

Homeowners are often unaware that the Borough receives only a small portion of the entire real estate bill compared to other taxing entities. The majority of a property owner's "March real estate tax bill" goes to the County and the "August real estate tax bill" goes to the School District. (See Page 8 for breakdown)

For example, the \$165.00 of the tax bill below went to pay for Borough services such as police, snow removal, street cleaning, street lights, code enforcement, local street upgrades, bulk drop off, etc. The remaining portion of this par-

ticular bill, along with the August bill would go primarily to support County operations and our local School District respectively.

Additionally, with the exception of Orrstown and Mont Alto Boroughs, *Greencastle continues to have one of the lowest millage rates among borough governments within the Franklin County area.*

Many homeowners do not realize that the Borough receives taxes only from those properties deemed "taxable". Tax exempt properties, such as churches, schools, non-profits are exempt from real estate taxes. Because of this fact, the Borough of Greencastle's "Total Assessment" is valued at \$51,599,050 with \$40,359,680 being "Taxable" and \$11,239,370 being "Tax Exempt".

Even with the incorporation of the 2 mill tax increase, a deficit will remain primarily because of another community project, the upcoming Franklin Street Utility Upgrade Project (See related article on page 9).

In order to balance the 2014 Budget, the Borough in addition to raising the millage plans to transfer

(Continued on page 9)

2013 FRANKLIN CO REAL ESTATE TAX NOTICE
 MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
 BARBARA B. BOCK
 39 CHAMBERS LANE
 SUITE 100
 GREENCASTLE PA 17225

BILL DATE
MAR 01, 2013

ASSESSMENT
15,000

BILL NO.
08313-2

PHONE: 717-597-5310
 TUES & THURS 9 AM TILL NOON 1:30 TO
 OPEN APRIL 30 & JUNE 28 - SAME HOURS
 CLOSED MON-WED-FRI-SAT-SUN AND HOLID

COUNTY		CTY LIB		TWP/BORO		%P		M		DISCOUNT AND PENALTY HAVE BEEN COMPUTED FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE	
10%P	25.65 M	10%P	1.05 M	10%P	11 M	%P	M	%P	M	DURING THIS PERIOD	PAY THIS AMOUNT
	377.05		15.43		161.70					MARCH-APRIL	554.18
	384.75		15.75		165.00					MAY-JUNE	565.50
	423.23		17.33		181.50					AFTER JUNE	622.06

LAND: 1,450
BLDG: 13,550
TOTAL: 15,000

2013 Tax Bill Example

CLOSING DATE FOR THIS REAL ESTATE BILL IS: 12/31/2013

IF YOU DESIRE A RECEIPT, ENCLOSE A STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE WITH YOUR PAYMENT

Check Before Beginning Work

The Borough often hears from property owners that they were not aware of the need to get a permit prior to doing work around their property.

Amended in 1995, the Borough's Ordinance explains that no building within the Borough can be erected, reconstructed, restored, structurally altered, without first applying and being issued a permit.

Known as "Land Use Permits", these documents are user friendly and often easy to complete. The value of work is used to determine the total cost of the permit. Up to \$1,000 of work has an assigned fee of \$25.00. Every 1,000 dollars over the first \$1,000 will cost an additional \$1.00 (Fee examples are outlined below for easy reference)

• Up to \$1,000	=	\$25.00
• \$1,001 to \$2,000	=	\$26.00
• \$2,001 to \$3,000	=	\$27.00
• \$3,001 to \$4,000	=	\$28.00
• \$4,001 to \$5,000	=	\$29.00
• \$5,001 to \$6,000	=	\$30.00

Following the issuance of a "Land Use Permit", most work will also involve obtaining a "Building Permit" through one of the Borough's third party inspection agencies. These agencies will not issue a building permit without the land use permit. So, ***make sure to visit the Borough Office FIRST, before attempting to get your building permit.***

Feel free to contact the Borough Secretary and/or Zoning Officer with questions regarding the Land Use permitting process. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Phone: 717.597.7143 Extension 103.

YARD SALES REMINDER:

BOROUGH YARD SALES REQUIRE A PERMIT AT NO COST

- No more than three yard sales in one calendar year
- Yard sales cannot exceed three consecutive days nor exceed a period of more than seven days in any one calendar year
- Permits are good for 15 days from the issuance.

Note: Sales are limited in order to keep individuals from having ongoing sales throughout the year, which can be considered a nuisance.

LAND USE PERMIT

WORK EXAMPLES

- **New building construction**
- **Existing building alterations**
- **Accessory Buildings (new or altered) such as sheds, playhouses, garages, garden sheds, animal shelters, etc.**
- **Demolition**
- **Fences**
- **Walls**
- **Patios**
- **Swimming pools over 3 1/2 feet deep (in ground or above ground)**
- **Fascia, roof sheathing, flashing replacement**
- **Business Signs**

ATTENTION:
PRIOR TO DOING WORK-
Call: 717-597-7143 Ext. 103
to see if a permit is required
and to find out your responsibilities
as a homeowner.

NOTE:

The above list is only an example of work that requires permitting. Make sure to call for direction on other work that might require issuance of a permit.



BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR...MAINTAIN YOUR PROPERTY

The Borough has a property maintenance ordinance in place to address illegal nuisances found on Borough properties. According to Chapter 132, a nuisance includes, but is not limited to:

- Nonroadworthy vehicles
- Unsafe structures
- Weeds, brush or grass in excess of 10 inches in height that are not edible or for ornamental purpose
- Keeping, depositing or scattering of junk, trash, debris, rubbish, appliances, furniture, etc.
- Keeping/maintaining furniture or appliances that are designed for interior use on a porch (enclosed or not enclosed) or any other attachment that faces a regular roadway
- Storage of trash or garbage on porch, balconies, etc.
- Pest and rodent infestation

These types of nuisances bring down the value of property and the quality of life for all residents within the area. Let's address public safety, health and welfare issues by discarding old items and maintaining one's property.

Set the example for youth and visitors by keeping our community clean and green!

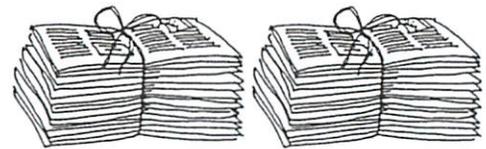
STOP UNWANTED PUBLICATIONS COMING TO YOUR DOOR

ARE YOU A RESIDENT WHO WISHES TO STOP UNSOLICITED PUBLICATIONS SUCH AS THE FRANKLIN SHOPPER OR THE PUBLIC OPINION'S ADVERTISER?

To stop delivery contact:

Franklin Shopper, Mr. Heckman 717-263-0359 x129
manager@franklinshopper.com

The Advertiser, Ms. Ramer 717-262-4734



SHADE TREES:

Did you know that trees may increase the property value of your home, lower your household cooling costs and at the same time improve air and water quality? For these reasons and others, the Borough has a Shade Tree Commission in place to assist property owners in the proper planting, pruning and removal of trees that fall within the Shade Tree jurisdiction. To learn more about the Borough's Shade Tree Commission and homeowner/Commission responsibilities, visit us at: www.greencastlepa.gov, click on "Code of the Borough of Greencastle" link (located at the left hand side of the Home page) and view Chapter 187 "Trees" or you may request a copy of this Chapter by calling the Borough Secretary at 717-597-7143 Extension 103.



Civics 101:

The Basic Structure of Borough Government

(Continued from page 2)

istration of Borough business. Responsibilities include items such as:

- Supervision of all municipal departments, (except the Police Department, which is overseen by the Mayor)
- Hire, suspend/discharge employees under his/her supervision
- Recommend wages/salaries for personnel under his/her supervision
- Prepare and submit a budget for the next fiscal year and an explanatory budget message.
- Oversee the adopted budget.
- Hold other Borough offices and head such Borough departments as Council may, from time to time, direct in accordance with the law.

- Attend all meetings of Council, committees as required, and participate in the discussions.
- Prepare the agenda for each meeting and supply facts pertinent to those agenda items
- Keep Council informed on a monthly basis to the conduct of Borough affairs; submit periodic reports on the condition of the finances and make recommendations to the Council as deemed necessary and advisable.

Those interested in learning more about our operations and business matters are encouraged to attend a monthly Council Meeting. Meetings take place the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in Town Hall, 60 North Washington Street or access the Borough's website at www.greencastlepa.gov.

Sump Pumps Cause Expensive & Unnecessary Upgrades to Sewer Pumping Stations and Treatment Plants

The restoration of the Chesapeake Bay has been a topic of discussion for more than a decade. In 2000, former Governor Ridge agreed along with the Governors of Maryland and Virginia, representatives of the District of Columbia, EPA and the Chesapeake Bay Commission to restore and protect the Bay by the end of 2010. The Bay was (and to some extent continues to) experience “dead zones” as a result of large algae growth caused by excess nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorus found in the water. This algae is detrimental to fish, crabs, oysters and plant life as it causes zones where plant and sea life cannot live.

A large portion of Central Pennsylvania is in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Basically, this means that most of our wastewater and storm water eventually drains to the Bay.

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) required many PA plants to greatly reduce the amount of nitrogen as well as phosphorous that is discharged from sewer plants.

Due to these new requirements, the Borough of Greencastle underwent a major upgrade to its plant between 2009 and 2012. Total cost for these upgrades came in at \$1.6 million. While we are in compliance, there are other areas that the Borough must also address such as infiltration and inflow issues.

Infiltration and Inflow (I & I) cause hardships on the Borough’s sewer operations, including pump stations, the sewer plant and chemicals required to treat I&I discharges.

Infiltration is normally caused from groundwater seeping into old, deteriorated sewer pipes. Cracks can occur just through age or sometimes through tree roots that cause havoc on underground piping. Infiltration can only be addressed through the municipality investing in replacement and

repair of infrastructure (*See Franklin Street Utility Upgrade Project Article on Page 7*).

Inflow is caused by improperly connected foundation (footing) drains, sump pumps, and downspouts. Instead of directing the clear rainwater outside and away from the house, it directs the water into the sanitary sewer system. Inflow is a problem because it creates an extra water burden for the sanitary sewer system and when the system is overloaded, sewage can back up into our streets, buildings and even your home.

Sump pumps and downspouts connected to the sanitary sewer system can lead to expensive and unnecessary upgrades to our pumping stations and treatment plant, which is ultimately passed on to the ratepayer. Therefore, please help us control sanitary sewer costs by redirecting improperly connected sump pumps and/or downspouts.

How do I know if my sump pump is improperly connected? Your sump pump is improperly connected to the sanitary sewer if it is connected to the drain or sink in your basement. Unless you are sure your basement drain is not connected to the sanitary sewer, your sump pump is likely improperly connected. Proper sump pump discharge connections are to the outside of the house only!

How do I disconnect my sump pump from the sanitary sewer system? If your sump pump discharges to the sanitary system in anyway, the discharge must be re-directed out of the sanitary system. The change could be as simple as directing the discharge outside the home/business through a hose. If you are not familiar with the work, please contact a plumbing professional or guidance from the Borough’s Sewer Plant at 717-597-7143 Ext 501.

How do I know if my downspout is improperly connected? If your downspouts disappear into the ground rather than discharging into your yard, they may be connected to the sanitary sewer. While connections to the

storm sewer are permitted, connections to the sanitary sewer must be disconnected and redirected.

How do I disconnect my downspout from the sanitary sewer system? This is probably one of the easiest tasks that most DIYers can do. First, cut the downspout, leaving enough space to insert the elbow. Second, tightly cap the end of the pipe sticking out of the ground that leads to the sanitary sewer. Lastly, attach an elbow to the end of the downspout and use an appropriate extension to direct the water away from your home.

Where should I direct the flow of my disconnected sump pump and downspout? Water should be discharged away from your house or it may seep back into your basement area. It should flow to an area where it can seep into the ground or be stored for later use. Flows can be directed to rain gardens, lawns, trees, rain barrels.



Homeowners and businesses have an impact on preventing or causing the problem of inflow.

Your community and neighbors are *relying on you to take responsibility to ensure that your connections are not contributing to the unnecessary treatment of rainwater* - a costly problem that affects all Borough residents and businesses through higher treatment rates.

For additional information on I&I, please feel free to contact the Borough’s Sewer Plant Chief Operator at 717-597-7143 Ext. 501



Community Improvement Continues... Franklin Street Utility Upgrade Project Underway

Activity continues on Franklin Street as the project calls for utility upgrades including gas mains, storm water inlets and pipes, and water mains on East Franklin Street (from South Antrim Way to South Washington Street) and water main upgrades in one block of South Carlisle Street (from the Square to East Franklin Street).

Gas: The gas main upgrade project is being solely handled by Columbia Gas, while the remaining utilities noted will be the responsibility of the Borough.

Storm Sewer Drainage: To date, the storm water inlet and piping project has been bid and awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, JA Myers Company. Bids ranged from \$219,512.70 to \$264,449.00. In order to fund a portion of this project, the Borough postponed \$100,000 of miscellaneous roadwork that was to take place this year with the balance taken out of capital reserves. JA Myers' work will begin in mid June.

Water Mains: Following storm sewer, the water main upgrades will take place. The Greencastle Area, Franklin County, Water Authority anticipates awarding the water main bid to the lowest responsible bidder by the end of June 2014. It is estimated that the water portion of the project will cost in the vicinity of \$600,000.

Paving: Utility upgrades should be completed by September of this year. However, final paving of those roads impacted will not take place until spring 2015.

Sidewalks and Curbs: Similar to Madison Street, property owners within this project area will be required to bring their sidewalks and curbing up to Borough specifications.

Sidewalk Grants: For those property owners requiring assistance, the Borough was afforded a grant program through the Franklin County Commissioners. The grants are to assist in the construction, replacement and repair of sidewalks for those deemed low-to-moderate income within the project area. Grant amounts of up to \$2,000 or 100% of

the project costs, whichever is less, is available to qualified low income homeowners. Grants up to \$1,500 or 75% of the project costs, whichever is less will be made available to qualified moderate income homeowners.

To qualify for the grant program, total income verified by tax returns, certification of ownership and residence, proof of insurance and non delinquency of payment for municipal services is required. Anyone interested in applying for a grant is encouraged to contact the Borough Manager at 717-597-7143.

While we make every effort to minimize disruptions and expense, we also realize that many times unforeseen circumstances can cause project delays, service and traffic disruptions, and expense. Please be assured that the Borough attempts to minimize such impacts on its property owners, businesses and citizens.

Sidewalk and Curb Inspection Program

Safe pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods are an important component to a community's well-being. As such, the Borough developed an inspection and maintenance program for properties within Borough limits.

This program entails the periodic inspection of existing sidewalks and curbing and the future installation of such where none currently exist as outlined in the 2012 discussions and program map.

Inspection Frequency: For the purposes of this program, the Borough has been divided into five geographic areas. Each year, the sidewalks and curbs in one of these five areas are thoroughly inspected by the Borough Engineer who is responsible for recommending repairs. Inspections are done in spring/early summer of the year.

Repairs/Replacement: Property owners are notified of the issues by letter and substantiated with photos. The correspondence provides options for the property owner who is given to August 31st of the following year to make the necessary repairs/replacement.

Sidewalk Construction: During inspections, areas with no sidewalks will comply with the timeline outlined on the program map. Note: The Borough may require installation/repair of curbs at any time when necessary for street resurfacing.

Board of Appeals: A Board of Appeals has been set up comprised of three members to serve three year terms. The Board will hear appeals from those property owners desiring to use alternate materials or methods of construction, exemptions, time extensions or interpretations of the curb/sidewalk provisions.

Tax Information

Real Estate Taxes: County and borough property taxes are combined on one bill and mailed annually in March. These bills are due no later than December 31st.

Greencastle Antrim School District property taxes are billed annually in July and are also due no later than December 31st.

For those homeowners who have real estate taxes escrowed, please be advised that it is your responsibility to coordinate proper submission of your tax bill to your mortgage company/bank.

For more information, please refer to the schedule below or contact the local elected tax collector :

Barbara B. Bock
39 Chambers Lane
Suite 100
Greencastle, PA 17225
717-597-5310

Local Services Tax: Greencastle Borough levies a \$52.00 LST on those individuals working within Borough limits and meeting mandated criteria. This particular tax is paid through employer payroll deductions or direct payment to:

Franklin County Area Tax Bureau
443 Stanley Avenue
Chambersburg, PA 17201
717-263-5141

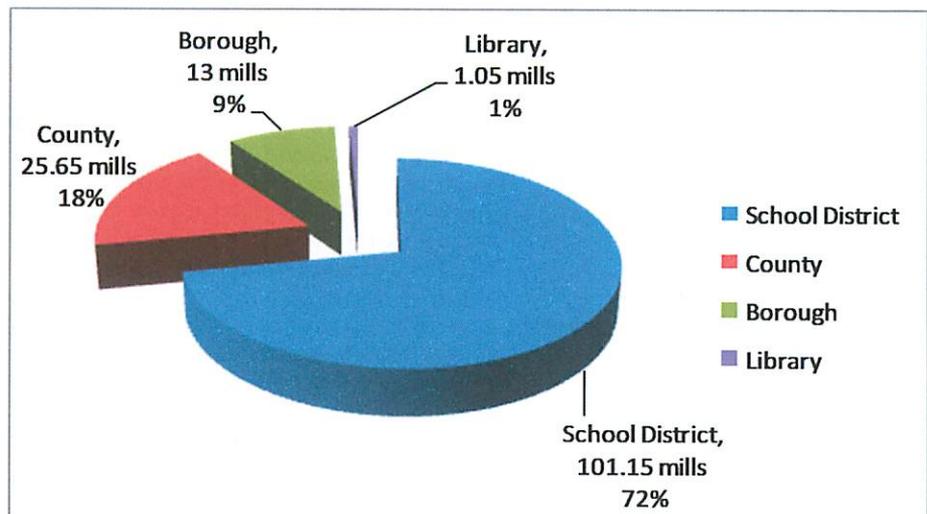
2014 Real Estate Tax Schedule

Taxing Body	Tax	2% Discount	Face	10% Penalty
County & Borough	Real Estate	3/1/14 to 4/30/14	5/1/14 to 6/30/14	7/1/14 to 12/31/14
School District	Real Estate	7/1/14 to 8/31/14	9/1/14 to 10/31/14	11/1/14 to 12/31/14

Where do my property tax dollars go?

This is a common question asked among taxpayers. Your taxes support many different efforts and services throughout the county and local community. For example, real estate taxes help fund the County court system, emergency services, human services, etc.; the Greencastle-Antrim School District; and, those Borough services noted on Page 9 of this newsletter.

Real Estate Tax Breakdown:



The chart to the right shows the breakdown of real estate taxes for Borough property owners.



WHAT'S UP WITH THE WATER AUTHORITY LATELY?

For several years, there have been discussions (both formally and informally) among members of both municipal authorities and elected officials about combining services in the Borough and the Township to improve efficiency of operations and to reduce operating costs. One area that has been focused on heavily has been the concept of one water distribution system to serve both Antrim Township and Borough residents. Since 2009, this particular issue has been discussed, researched and debated among the parties and informally throughout the Greencastle community in particular, the GAF CWA. The one water system concept has been a top priority for GAF CWA as it has been their mission to provide quality potable water by effectively managing, improving efficiency, and controlling costs with regard to Greencastle's water distribution system.

On February 18, 2013, the GAF CWA generated a letter of request to Borough Council and Mayor Eberly; Antrim Township Municipal Authority; and, Antrim Township Supervisors requesting each body's respective consideration and support to allow both Authorities to move forward through a "joint merger venture". More specifically, the letter indicated "...allowing the ATMA water system to join the GAF CWA".

Recognizing the importance and impact that this issue has on the future of the entire Greencastle community, Borough Council took the following action:

Grant approval for the Greencastle Area, Franklin County Authority to proceed to work directly with the Antrim Township Municipal Authority toward the objective of a future one water system subject to the following conditions: a.) Conduct a Feasibility Study to Evaluate the merging of ATMA Assets into GAF CWA which shall include, but not be limited to updating the 2009 financial report prepared by Edward S. Goodhart b.) ATMA and GAF CWA provide quarterly status reports to Borough Council and c.) ATMA and GAF CWA would forward its final recommendation/decision to Borough Council no later than one year from March 4, 2013.

The GAF CWA worked over the next several months to examine the financial positions of both GAF CWA and ATMA. A briefing was then given publicly to the members of both GAF CWA and ATMA, followed by a second briefing with the members of Council and Antrim Township Supervisors. Highlights of the research indicated the following:

- No business plan currently exists - Costs will increase to all parties - GAF CWA is generating cash flow to cover its operations
- ATMA financial condition appears to be marginal - Neither Authority appears to have rates that recover full costs
- Inefficiencies and duplications of effort are hard to locate within either Authority
- Dual Rates.-ATMA rates are much higher than GAF CWA-how to transition to single rate/impacts are unknown

(Continued on page 10)

2014 Budget Overview-Cont'd

(Continued from page 3)

from the Capital Reserve Fund only those funds necessary to fund the outstanding balance of the Franklin Street Utility Upgrade Project.

an improvements (curbing, ADA ramps) associated with the Franklin Street Utility Upgrade/Paving Project; street maintenance and road improvements within the Borough.

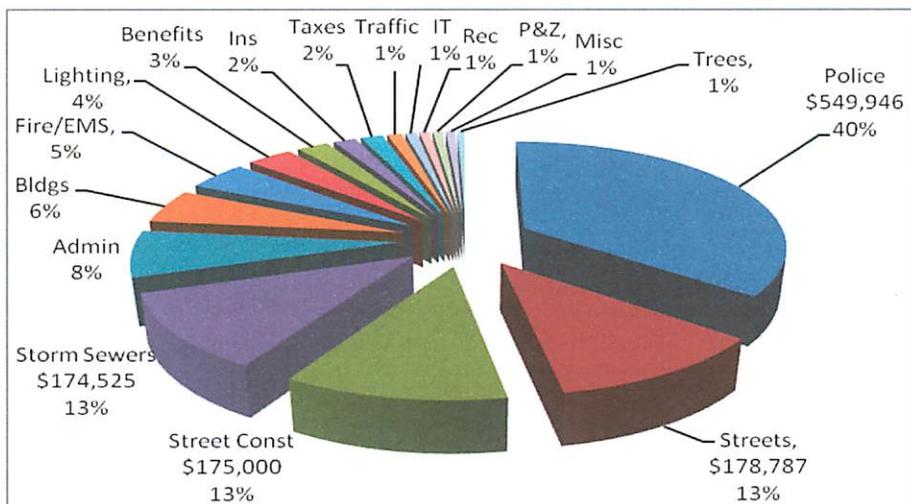
Look for additional budget information in future editions of this publication.

Generated tax revenues will go to funding areas that maintain and/or improve the overall quality of life for Greencastle's citizens along with paying the wages/salaries and portion of benefits for non-uniformed and uniformed alike.

For example, the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget shows 40% of the budget going toward police operations. However, this budget holds the Police Department to the same budget as in Fiscal Year 2013.

Approximately 39% of expenditures for 2014 are directed toward those storm water upgrades (inlets, piping, etc.) and pedestri-

2014 General Fund Projected Expenditures:



GREENCASTLE POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Salute to Airman Erin Kershner

Erin served as an intern with the Greencastle Police Department while a senior at the Greencastle Antrim High School. She was involved in “ride-alongs” with on-duty Police Officers, assisted with various details as well as clerical work within the office.

Since graduation, Erin has entered the United States Air Force and has gone from serving our community to serving our Country. Thank you Erin for your service!

The intern program is one of the ways that the Greencastle Police Department partners with the community. We have worked with the Greencastle-Antrim School District in this fashion for several years and consider it an honor to work with some of the best and brightest our community has to offer.



Airman Erin Kershner

Fond Farewell to Officer Greg A. Pritchard

Borough Council and Mayor Eberly regrettably accepted the resignation of Officer Greg A. Pritchard during the month of April.

Officer Pritchard had been with the Police Department since November 9, 2007. He has left our Department and community to join the ranks of York City Police.

While we are sorry to bid him farewell, we wish him the best in his career pursuits.

Water Authority News - Cont'd

(Continued from page 9)

- GAFOWA must maintain cash flow to execute its capital plan; and,
- ATMA expenses appear to be efficient/low and provide no opportunities

The Conclusion? In the short term, the merging of the two systems is too financially risky.

While short term the merging of systems does not make sense, all entities were informed that this was an opportune time to partner by communicating openly, sharing best practices, etc. By doing so, each entity has the ability to work toward the future goal of a full feasibility study. Such a study will assist all parties in making an informed decision based on the data collected through an objective analysis of both systems' operations.

The merger topic will undoubtedly continue to be a subject of discussion among the communities impacted, but be assured that those serving on the GAFOWA stand committed to providing potable water, sound infrastructure, and reasonable rates to its customers.

Copies of the public briefing may be acquired calling 717-597-7143 Ext. 104



The Greencastle Police Department wishes to remind everyone that the speed limit on S. Washington St. has been reduced to 25 MPH.

This was legislated by Borough Council after a traffic study by PennDOT in an effort to reduce the number of accidents and near misses that happen in the area.

Please don't be a statistic!

KEEP MINDFUL OF BOROUGH ORDINANCES

The Greencastle Police Department wishes to remind everyone of some ordinances that cover exterior activity around the home:

☞ **GRASS** needs to be kept less than 10 inches in height. Grass and leaves are not permitted to be blown into the street..

☞ **OPEN BURNING** in the Borough is precluded except for yard waste. No burning of building materials, trash, etc is permitted and burning may only take place between the hours 7:00 AM and 6:00 PM.

☞ **WEEDS, BRUSH & OTHER VEGETATION** that is not edible, or planted for some useful or ornamental purposes must be cut to less than 10 inches and/or removed.



A Message from the Rescue Hose Fire Department

OUTDOOR GRILLS

- Propane Grills: Should be inspected for worn hoses, grease build up and general condition. Most grill fires are caused by leaking hoses or excessive grease. Spare propane tanks full or empty should be stored in well-ventilated areas away from children. A closed tank valve is no guarantee that propane will not leak. Always close the tank valve when the grill is not in use; never rely on the grill's burner controls to shut off the propane.
- Charcoal Grills: Never use gasoline to start the fire; only use proper starting fluid for ignition. Make sure all coals are cool before discarding and never discard coals in a combustible container. Hot coals may retain their heat up to 12 hours. Store charcoal in a dry ventilated area away from children. Since empty charcoal bags still contain charcoal dust and granules that are easily ignited, discard bags promptly.
- All Grills: Should be moved away from walls, overhangs, railings and vegetation. Grills produce sufficient heat to damage or ignite nearby combustibles. After use, make sure the grill is cool to the touch before returning it to an area near any combustible material. Never allow children to play with or around grills.

GASOLINE POWER EQUIPMENT

- Examine gasoline powered equipment for cleanliness to help them run cooler and reduce the chance of fire; worn parts to prevent injuries to the operator and bystanders; and missing parts such as gas caps or guards.
- Refuel equipment only when the equipment is not powered or the engine is still hot. Sparks or heat from hot or operating tools can ignite gasoline vapors.
- Gasoline should always be stored in proper containers manufactured and labeled for gasoline storage. Inspect your gas can at the beginning of each spring and each time you refuel at the pump. Always store the gas in a well-ventilated area away from pilot lights, electrical equipment and children. Containers should be stored in a shaded area. Never use as cleaning fluid or solvent.

PAINTING SUPPLIES

- Always store in original containers and in a cool area
- Used brushes, rollers and rags need to be cleaned and dried before storing or discarding. Allow the items to air dry to prevent spontaneous combustion.

Calling for Volunteers:

Rescue Hose & Special Fire Police

The Borough of Greencastle is proud of our local volunteer emergency services organization. Rescue Hose Company No. 1 volunteers save residents hundreds of thousands of dollars each year- and they are not funded by taxes. It's neighbors helping neighbors while responding to fire, rescue and emergency medical service requests.

But there's always room for more. They are currently recruiting Firefighters, Emergency Medical Technicians, Fire Police and administrative assistance. Maybe it's something you always wondered about or perhaps you want to enlist family and friends. Anyway at all- all are welcome.

Join... Volunteer... Give Back to Your Community!

Call Chief Kevin Barnes at 717-597-8489 or e-mail at: rescuehose@hotmail.com

HOUSE NUMBERS

REMINDER: MAKE SURE YOUR HOUSE NUMBER IS CLEARLY POSTED ON THE FRONT OF YOUR RESIDENCE

IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES TO HAVE VISIBLE HOUSE NUMBERS POSTED - NUMBERING/POSTING SAVES VALUABLE TIME IN EMERGENCIES AND IMPROVES THE SAFETY OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD.

THE RESCUE HOSE COMPANY PROVIDES HOUSE NUMBERS FOR A NOMINAL FEE.

SMART SHOPPERS SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS

When was the last time that you took time to see what Greencastle merchants have to offer? You might be surprised to find that our local business community has quality products at competitive pricing and excellent customer service.

According to the Think, Shop, Buy Local website, the benefits of buying local are significant:

Job Creation. Shops in our town create jobs for our neighbors and self-employment opportunities. These people in turn spend in the local economy.

Community investment. Local businesses are proportionally more generous in their support of local charities, schools, and community events. So supporting local shops means a financial contribution to your community.

Cost savings. Less Travel Time = Money saved on fuel and your time!

Vibrant Downtowns Rely on You. People don't like losing shops and services in small towns, but don't equate this with how they spend their money. Your dollars contribute to the overall success of our business community and downtown.

Customers are #1. Local businesses respond more quickly to the needs of local customers, stocking the products requested. Customers also get a higher level of customer service as local business relies heavily on repeat customers and word of mouth.

Local is environmentally friendly. Local shops often stock a high percentage of locally sourced goods that do not require long-distance transportation, helping to reduce our global footprint.

Local draws public and private sector services. The business community relies on the success of others. As downtown shops disappear, so do hairdressers, banks, restaurants and other businesses. So, in order to keep public and private services going, it's necessary to also support the downtown.

By supporting local business, our community becomes stronger and everyone benefits. Hopefully by taking the time to become acquainted with our local business community, you will also find that shopping local is the way to go!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS & SPREAD THE WORD:

First Fridays in Downtown Greencastle

June, August, September & October

5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Come to Downtown Greencastle and experience First Friday. Stroll the streets, get to know your local merchants, take advantage of merchandise sales/discounts, listen to live music, enjoy food offerings, etc.—An event for the entire family!

47th Annual Sidewalk Sales Days

July 11 from 8:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

July 12 from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Attention bargain hunters enjoy the sales of merchandise offered by Downtown Greencastle merchants!

Mother Earth Festival

September 13 & 14

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Visit Jerome King Playground for the second annual Mother Earth Festival featuring a diverse group of regional artisans' wares, food and music!



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