



MAYOR'S REPORT TO THE COUNCIL AND CITIZENS OF GREENCASTLE JULY 5, 2022

CONSUMER FIREWORKS DISPLAYS: It was disappointing to see and hear the number of fireworks set off in Greencastle over the past several evenings. The consumer fireworks law took effect in 2017 and has caused additional property damage, injuries, and even deaths in Pennsylvania. The current proposed Pa. HB 2157 will do nothing to mitigate the continued aggravation, injuries, and destruction in the Commonwealth. This HB will place additional onus on the 2,750 municipalities of the Commonwealth for a law that is very difficult to enforce. The Fireworks law that was enacted October 30, 2017 simply needs repealed.

PARKING AT THE FIRST BLOCK OF W. BALTIMORE STREET: Additional retail stores are or will soon be opening along West Baltimore Street along with the former Highline Café. I again attached my report as requested by Council. We should assure as much public parking as possible to economically support current and new retail shops downtown.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY ALMA HOFFMAN: A special birthday greeting from our long time resident centenarian, Alma Hoffman, who will celebrate her birthday July 13.

SUMMER SAFETY: As Summer is in full swing a friendly reminder for our citizens and visitors to exercise traffic safety; lock your vehicles and remove valuables; and lock outbuildings. Immediately report any suspicious activity by calling 911. Remember the Pa. law regarding motor vehicles clearing at least four feet from bicycles on our streets.

Ribbon Cutting / Sidewalk Days: I attended the June 14 ribbon cutting for Drayer Physical Therapy Center on S. Antrim Way. Let's support our local retail shops this Friday and Saturday for the 55th Sidewalk Days in Greencastle. Circa 1967, Sidewalk Sales Days seeds were planted by Lester Martin of ELM and the late J.J. (Jake) Alleman. Planning meetings were held at Greenpoint Tastee Freeze.

Dunkin Donut Traffic Que: I personally have not received any response from the most recent correspondence Emilee sent to the DD owner requesting a written plan of action by June 30, 2022.

Greencastle Official Flag: On Independence Day I received a phone call from a life-long Borough resident who suggested Greencastle adopt an official flag.

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As requested by Council at the April 25, 2022 workshop here is an overview and recommendations by the Mayor regarding two yellow curbed areas of that are not ordained; Revised May 22, 2022 for the following:

YELLOW CURB LINES (NOT ENFORCEABLE): As discussed at the April 25, 2022 workshop of Council there are two locations where the curb lines are painted yellow which typically indicates “no parking,” however, the areas are not ordained in the Code of Ordinances. (See prior submitted photos)

LOCATION ONE: Unit (first) block; area of 23 West Baltimore Street. Borough Ordinance § 190-36 designates this block as a parking meter zone. It is my understanding that one or two parking meters were removed and the curb was painted yellow to create a loading zone. There is no such ordinance for this location, however, Ordinance § 190-24 states what is permissible for loading and unloading goods, wares, and merchandise.

RECOMMENDATION: I suggest a portion of the yellow curbing be removed and re-establish one parking meter space at this location which will leave adequate access into a private driveway and into north-bound Elm Lane (alley). By current ordinance, “Loading and unloading shall not be considered as parking.” No ordinance revision is needed as this area is already designated meter parking only. The Borough should provide as much on street parking as possible as zoning does not require off street parking for downtown businesses in the Community Commercial district. The current yellow curbed area has been used for private, free parking since it was never ordained no parking. The subject business could utilize its driveway for loading / unloading purposes. West Baltimore Street to Jefferson Street is already ordained a parking meter zone and vehicles must park wholly within marked spaces (§ 190-39).

LOCATION TWO: S. Washington Street at Crowell Lane. This is another painted yellow curb that is not ordained no parking. Police receive parking complaints here, however, the area is not enforceable. I presume the Borough painted the curbing yellow due to the limited site distance pulling from Crowell Lane onto S. Washington Street. There are several options; (1) Ordain the current yellow curbed area “no parking.” (2) Remove the yellow paint and allow parking as there are several rental units in the area where parking is a premium. (3) Crowell Lane is one short block. Ordain “one way” west-bound from S. Washington Street and allow more parking on S. Washington Street

RECOMMENDATION: The Mayor met with the property owners adjacent to Crowell Lane. None of the owners’ desire “one way” west-bound regulations as they would be hindered from entering their own driveways. Therefore, I recommend the current yellow curbed area be officially ordained “no parking” by Council and posted accordingly for the safety of motorists utilizing Crowell Lane as I believe this was the intention in the first place.

By: Ben Thomas, Jr. Mayor