

BOROUGH OF GREENCASTLE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

December 5, 2022

7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ben Thomas, President Albert W. Miller, Vice President Jan Shafer, Councilmen Wade Burkholder, H. Duane Kinzer, Jeremy Layman, and Scott Reagan. Also present were Borough Manager Emilee Little and Chief of Police John Phillippy. Councilman Joel Amsley participated via phone.

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

An invocation was provided by the Pastor Josh Fowler.

President Albert W. Miller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Albert W. Miller noted the meeting was being recorded for accuracy of the minutes.

On a Reagan/Kinzer motion, Council unanimously approved the proposed agenda for the December 5, 2022, regular council meeting.

Opportunity to be Heard

Larry Pittman of 35 W. Madison Street noted continued issues with the Norfolk Southern train idling, requesting an onsite meeting with Representative John Joyce and a Norfolk Southern representative.

CONSENT AGENDA

On a Burkholder/Reagan motion, Council unanimously approved the Consent Agenda as presented.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Borough Council Meeting of November 7, 2022

Borough Council Meeting of November 15, 2022

Borough Council Workshop Meeting of November 28, 2022

REGULAR AGENDA

Payment of Bills

On a Reagan/Shafer motion, Council unanimously approved the disbursements listed on the November 2022 Disbursement Report in the amount of \$304,989.26.

Reports from Elected Officials

President's Report

No report given.

Mayor's Report

No oral report provided, the Mayor's submitted report is available at www.greencastlepa.gov/Document Collections/Mayor Reports.

Chief's Report

Chief Phillippy presented the October Report for the police department. Phillippy noted struggles with manpower, efforts to secure a replacement candidate for the co-responder program and reviewed the outcome of the GPD food drive resulting in three trucks of food collected for and delivered to the local food pantry. For the complete report, go to www.greencastlepa.gov/Document Collections/Chief of Police Reports.

Manager's Report

Little gave an overview of activities and projects in progress including Center Square lighting, current development reviews, personnel related updates, finalization of the CBDG ADA ramps project and projects upcoming in 2023. Little noted the efforts of the Public Works department in collecting over 165,000 lbs. of leaves with the 2022 leaf collection program and the positive feedback received from the public related to this program. For the complete report, go to [www.greencastlepa.gov/Document Collections/Manager Report](http://www.greencastlepa.gov/Document%20Collections/Manager%20Report).

Kinzer noted that the Chamber previously deployed Christmas banners but that the Chamber no longer has funds to replace the worn Christmas banner since merging with the Chambersburg Chamber. Shafer noted this was Chamber business not Borough Council business.

Reagan questioned if all the Center Square lights would have arms. Little noted that 16 removable arms were ordered with the lights and poles but that only some of the poles will have the arms installed at a time with a planter or banner decoration and that the remaining arms would be kept as replacements.

Committee Action

Administration

On a Burkholder/Reagan motion, Council unanimously adopted the proposed 2023 holiday schedule.

Little noted the addition of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday to the Borough's observed holiday schedule as suggested by Council.

On a Reagan/Kinzer motion, Council unanimously adopted the proposed 2023 meeting schedule.

On a Kinzer/Reagan motion, Council unanimously enacted Ordinance 2022-06 as advertised amending Chapter 185 of the Code of the Borough of Greencastle, to establish a procedure for waiving additional charges assessed against a taxpayer who fails to pay their real estate taxes in a timely manner due to failure to receive notice.

On a Kinzer/Reagan motion, Council unanimously appointed Mayor Ben Thomas as the representative and Manager Emilee Little as the alternate to the Franklin County Area Tax Board for Calendar Year 2023.

Budget and Finance

On a Reagan/Shافر motion, Council voted 5-2, with Kinzer and Layman opposed, to adopt the 2023 Municipal Budgets as advertised.

Kinzer questioned if money was budgeted for grants in 2023. Little noted that \$8,000 was included in the 01.439.313 account for engineering to support grant submittals in 2023.

Layman reviewed the report as provided by Mayor Thomas citing recommended revisions to the 2023 proposed budgets to eliminate the need for a tax increase. Mayor Thomas's suggestions included reallocating the \$25,000 cost for the repairs to the Edwin Bittner Bridge to the Highway Aid Fund and using ARPA funds to support \$17,000 of the Rescue Hose Company's requested personnel costs.

President Miller reviewed eligible uses of ARPA funds noting a preference towards using this funding for infrastructure improvements and larger scale projects.

On a Reagan/Shافر motion, Council voted 5-2, with Kinzer and Layman opposed, to enact Ordinance 2022-07 as advertised fixing the tax rate for the year 2023 at 16.0 mills.

On a Shafer/Kinzer motion, Council unanimously approved the disbursement of the annual staff Christmas bonuses in the amount of \$100.00 to full time employees and \$50.00 to part time employees.

Public Safety

On a Reagan/Kinzer motion, Council unanimously approved enactment of Ordinance 2022-03 as advertised amending Chapter 86 of the Code of the Borough of Greencastle to include regulations for the removal of grass, weeds, and other obstructions from sidewalks and Chapter 132 of the Code of the Borough of Greencastle to prohibit nuisances created by the accumulation of yard waste.

On a Kinzer/Reagan motion, Council voted 6-1, with Layman opposed, to enact Ordinance 2022-04 as advertised amending Chapter 190, Section 9 of the Code of the Borough of Greencastle to include additional roadways with their respective speed limits and Chapter 190, Section 27 of the Code of the Borough of Greencastle to prohibit parking on the east side of S. Washington Street 30 feet north and 40 feet south from the intersection with Crowell Lane.

On a Reagan/Shafer motion, Council voted 6-1, with Kinzer opposed, to enact Ordinance 2022-05 as advertised amending Chapter 205, Section 22 of the Code of the Borough of Greencastle to define and further regulate private outdoor swimming pools.

Correspondence

No official correspondence to review.

Final Comments

Reagan: Thanked the public in attendance for coming and supporting the community.

Layman: Wished everyone happy holidays.

Burkholder: Wished everyone a prosperous New Year, thanked Little for her efforts and thanked the residents for attending the meeting.

Kinzer: Thanked Borough staff for hard work, the Budget & Finance committee for efforts on the 2023 budget, and the residents for attending the meeting. Kinzer encouraged more residents to attend and be involved with Council meetings.

Amsley: Expressed gratitude for Little, noting she is doing a great job and is an excellent Borough Manager. Thanked Miller for his leadership and stated he was impressed with how Miller is doing as Council President.

Shafer: Thanked Council for all their hard work, wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Miller: Noted the strength of the Greencastle community, expressed to Little that he is glad they got to work together this year and wished everyone happy holidays.

Mayor: Thanked Little for her continuous efforts, noted the importance of Council having a quorum at upcoming meetings, expressed his disappointment with the approved tax increase and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Adjourn

On a Kinzer/Reagan motion, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emilee Little
Borough Secretary