

BOROUGH OF GREENCASTLE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 6, 2025

7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ben Thomas, President Larry Faight, Councilmen Albert Miller, Steve Miller, and Mike Stenger. Also present were Police Chief Jason Batistig, Police Department Administrator Ericka Faight, Borough Manager Emilee Little, and Salzmann Hughes attorney James T. Podgorney. Vice President Scott Reagan and Councilmen Joel Amsley and Wade Burkholder participated via phone.

President Faight called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

An invocation was provided by Councilman Steve Miller.

President Faight led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Faight noted that Council held an Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss legal related information and that the meeting was being recorded for accuracy of the minutes.

On a Burkholder/Amsley motion, the Council unanimously voted to approve the modified agenda for the January 6, 2025, regular Council Meeting with the agenda item under Public Safety regarding a Memorandum of Understanding to be established between the Borough of Greencastle and the Greencastle-Antrim School District to be tabled pending further review.

Dave Keller of Luminest Community Development reviewed the concept of the construction of a 37-unit, three-story, income-based senior living community proposed to be located at 407 S. Washington Street. Keller requested the Borough of Greencastle provide a letter of support for Luminest's submittal of an application for low-income housing tax credits through the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency for the funding of this proposed development.

Opportunity to be Heard

Larry Pittman of 35 W. Madison Street stated concerns regarding the condition of the Norfolk Southern railroad underpasses.

CONSENT AGENDA

On a S. Miller/A. Miller motion, the Council unanimously voted to approve the Borough Council Meeting minutes of December 2, 2024.

On an Amsley/A. Miller motion, the Council unanimously voted to accept a notice of resignation as submitted by Police Officer Christopher McGarity, effective January 4, 2025.

REGULAR AGENDA

Payment of Bills

On a S. Miller/Stenger motion, the Council unanimously voted to affirm the disbursements listed on the December 2024 Disbursement Report in the amount of \$481,190.56.

Reports from Elected Officials

Mayor's Report

Mayor Thomas reported on recent personnel changes in the Police Department; welcoming new part-time police officer Jadan Morrow and noting the retirement of Officer Chris McGarity. Thomas identified funding for new bullet-resistant vests and contributions towards a future drone fund, along with addressing a train idling issue and

worker's compensation insurance changes for fire and EMS personnel. Additionally, the Mayor provided recommendations for proposed ordinance 2025-01 and encouraged local shopping.

Chief's Report

Chief Batistig provided an overview of Police Department activities in the month of December 2024, detailing the 232 calls for service, complaints, overtime, and mileage. Batistig noted that the department participated in community engagement activities, including the "Shop with a Cop" event and a recent mandated notification regrading a Megan's Law violator. Additionally, Batistig advised that Officer Knopp concluded a significant investigation, identified that Officer Jadan Morrow was sworn in and added to the schedule, and noted that he is actively working to update the department's rules and regulations.

Manager's Report

Little reviewed various administrative, community development, and public safety related updates. Little outlined the completion of ARPA-funded projects, audits and reporting requirements for FY 2024, and the finalization of the E. Baltimore St Plaza Project Phase 1A. Little noted the hiring of Chris Miller as a full-time police officer, the sale of surplus police vehicles, and provided updates on several public works and sewer projects. Little advised that her complete written report would be available on the Borough website.

President's Report

No report provided at this time.

Committee Action

Administration & Finance

On a S. Miller/A. Miller motion, the Council unanimously voted to approve the following board/commission reappointments. Upon Council action, terms shall become effective immediately and shall expire as indicated below:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Board/Commission</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Rick Hess	Civil Service Commission	6 years	December 31, 2030
Cameron Schroy	Water & Sewer Authorities	5 years	December 31, 2029
J. Edgar Wine	Planning Commission	4 years	December 31, 2028
William O'Mara	Zoning Hearing Board	3 years	December 31, 2027

On a S. Miller/Stenger motion, the Council unanimously voted to table the appointment of a representative and alternate to the Franklin County Emergency Services Alliance for calendar year 2025.

On a Burkholder/A. Miller motion, the Council unanimously voted to retain Mike Stenger as the Borough representative to the Greencastle-Antrim Chamber of Commerce Board for calendar year 2025.

Community & Economic Development

On a S. Miller/A. Miller motion, Council unanimously voted to table the submittal of a letter, to be issued by the Borough of Greencastle, supporting the application of Luminesst Community Development to the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency, for the development of the Blue Heron senior housing project on the property located at 407 S. Washington Street.

On an A. Miller/Stenger motion, Council voted 6-1, with S. Miller opposed, to authorize the application for payment #2, as submitted by GRC General Contractor, Inc. and certified by Frederick, Seibert & Associates for the Greencastle Borough Plaza Project Phase 1A in the amount of \$61,515.90.

On an A. Miller/Burkholder motion, Council voted 6-1, with S. Miller opposed, to authorize the execution of Change Order No. 1 granting a no cost time extension to GRC General Contractor, Inc. modifying the final completion date from December 15, 2024 to January 10, 2025 for the Greencastle Borough Plaza Project Phase 1A.

On an A. Miller/Burkholder motion, Council voted 6-1, with S. Miller opposed, to approve the plaza development project for the Borough owned lot on the southwest corner of the intersection of Baltimore Street and Washington Street, to be officially named Town Hall Plaza.

Personnel

On a S. Miller/Reagan motion, Council unanimously voted to adopt Resolution 2025-01 eliminating member contributions to the police pension plan for 2025.

On a S. Miller/Reagan motion, Council unanimously voted to approve the employment of Christopher Miller to fulfill a budgeted full-time Police Officer position with the Greencastle Police Department based on the certified list of eligible candidates as confirmed by the Borough's Civil Service Commission, dated December 17, 2024 conditional on the finalization of all pre-employment evaluations.

Public Facilities

On a S. Miller/Stenger motion, Council unanimously voted to authorize the application for payment #2 as submitted by Gano Paving Inc. and certified by ARRO Consulting, Inc. for the 2019 CDBG ADA Ramps Project in the amount of \$12,003.60.

Public Safety

On a S. Miller/Reagan motion, Council unanimously voted to adopt Resolution 2025-02, authorizing the sale of a 2016 Ford Police Interceptor, which has been designated by the Borough Council as surplus equipment no longer required for public use, in as-is condition for a value of \$4,952.00.

On an Amsley/A. Miller motion, Council unanimously voted to retain the 2013 Chevy Tahoe police vehicle, previously designated by the Borough Council as surplus equipment, to be kept and used by the Greencastle Police Department for code enforcement and local police-related mileage purposes.

On an Amsley/A. Miller motion, Council unanimously voted to appoint Kevin Creager as the Borough of Greencastle's Emergency Management Coordinator and to appoint Michael Lehman as the Borough of Greencastle's Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator.

On a Reagan/S. Miller motion, Council unanimously voted to authorize the adoption of Ordinance 2025-01 as advertised amending Chapter 190 of the Code of the Borough of Greencastle entitled Vehicles and Traffic to establish the following regulations:

- a. Speed limit of 25 mph from S. Jefferson Street to 150 feet east of Spring Grove Avenue
- b. Turn restrictions at the Washington Street and Baltimore Street intersection
- c. Permitting car parking only in Center Square as identified
- d. No parking along north and south sides of W. Madison Street from Route 11 to Findlay Avenue
- e. Remove a handicap parking space designated adjacent to the Lilian Besore Memorial library on S. Ridge Avenue as requested by the library board
- f. Create a new handicap parking space designated on E. Madison Street as requested by a qualified resident
- g. Adding food trucks to the list of vehicles not permitted to remain parked on a roadway within the Borough, in excess of thirty minutes

Correspondence

None.

Final Comments

Chief Batistig – congratulated new full-time police officer Christopher Miller

Little – thanked everyone for attending, stated she was looking forward to a productive 2025

A. Miller – thanked Larry and Ericka Faight for assisting with the holiday decorations for Heritage Christmas

Reagan and Burkholder – welcomed Officer Miller

Mayor Thomas – thanked residents for attending

President Faight – noted that 2024 was a great year for this Council and this Borough and that he is looking forward to 2025

Amsley – advised he would be back in town by the next Council meeting

Adjourn

On a S. Miller/Reagan motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emilee Little
Borough Secretary