

# **BOROUGH OF GREENCASTLE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**February 3, 2025**

**7:00 P.M.**

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

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

An invocation was provided by Pastor David Rawley.

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 an Amsley/Burkholder motion, the Council unanimously voted to approve the proposed agenda for the February 3, 2025, regular Council Meeting.

## **Opportunity to be Heard**

Mark Story, identified as an Antrim Township resident living on Grindstone Hill Road, stated his support for the proposed Luminest development noting the need for affordable house in the Greencastle area.

Charles Stockslager of 241 E. Madison Street stated traffic concerns at the intersection of N. Linden Avenue and Madison Street suggesting one-way regulations for N. Linden Avenue and noting speeding in this area.

John Inch, representative of Inch & Co from York, PA, discussed the proposed Buchanan Flats development and noted outstanding fees. Little reiterated the need for Inch & Co to submit a formal letter to each governing entity outlining Inch & Co's requests for delinquency fees to be waived. John Inch stated a letter would be submitted for the March Council agenda.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

On a Burkholder/Amsley motion, the Council unanimously voted to approve the Borough Council Meeting minutes of January 6, 2025.

On an Amsley/Stenger motion, the Council unanimously voted to approve Black Balloon Day, for Overdose Awareness, on March 6, 2025, and to allow black balloons to be placed on parking meters in Center Square.

On a Reagan/Amsley motion, the Council unanimously voted to allow a food truck, staffed by Boy Scouts, to be stationed in the Center Square NW corner during Old Home Week, from August 2-9, 2025.

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **Payment of Bills**

On a Stenger/Burkholder motion, the Council unanimously voted to affirm the disbursements listed on the January 2025 Disbursement Report in the amount of \$226,838.30.

### **Reports from Elected Officials**

#### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Thomas reported of working closely with Chief Batistig and Administrator Faight, attended various community events, and participated in part-time police officer interviews. He also met with Congressman Joyce,

new Pa. Representative Chad Reichard, and Franklin County Commissioner's Chair Dean Horst to discuss local issues. Additionally, the Mayor working with staff and the Franklin County Visitor's Bureau to address the unreadable Corporal Rihl historic marker in Center Square.

### **Chief's Report**

Chief Batistig provided an overview of Police Department activities in the month of January, detailing the 350 calls for service, complaints, overtime, and mileage. Batistig noted that new traffic cameras were installed at the intersection of Rt. 11 and Rt. 16 to enhance public safety and traffic monitoring and that additional security cameras were implemented within the department. A new evidence collection system has been implemented to improve the efficiency and accuracy of evidence management.

### **Manager's Report**

Little reviewed various administrative, community development, public safety related updates. Little outlined the completion of the Town Hall Plaza Project Phase 1A, the approval and effective date of Ordinance 2025-01 regarding traffic and parking regulations, and noted DEP's approval of the Borough's MS4 waiver renewal application extending the Borough's waiver status until January 31, 2030. Additionally, Little reviewed current and future Public Facilities projects, including ADA ramp installations and intersection improvements such as the proposed 2025 CDBG funding application planned to address the traffic island at the intersection of Williamson and Walter Avenues. 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 an Amsley/Stenger motion, the Council unanimously voted to appoint EMC Kevin Creager as representative and Fire Chief Kevin Barnes as alternate to the Franklin County Emergency Services Alliance for calendar year 2025.

On a Burkholder/Stenger motion, the Council unanimously voted to appoint Manager Emilee Little as representative and President Larry Faight as alternate to the Franklin County Council of Governments for calendar year 2025.

On an Amsley/Stenger motion, the Council unanimously voted to approve the annual \$3,000 contribution to the Jerome R. King Playground Association as budgeted.

On a Reagan/Burkholder motion, the Council unanimously voted to approve the annual \$5,000 contribution to the Lilian S. Besore Memorial Library as budgeted.

On a Stenger/Amsley motion, the Council unanimously voted to approve the submitted request for payment in the amount of \$16,207.70 from the Rescue Hose Company No. 1 for the Borough's portion of the RHC personnel cost incurred from 10/01/2024 to 12/31/2024.

#### **Community & Economic Development**

On an Amsley/A. Miller motion, Council voted 6-1, with Stenger opposed, to approve the submittal of a Letter of Support and Plan Consistency Letter to be issued by the Borough of Greencastle, regarding the application of Lumines 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 Amsley/Burkholder motion, Council unanimously voted to approve the removal of the deteriorated PA Civil War Trails Corporal Rihl sign on the northwest corner of the Center Square.

On an Amsley/Stenger motion, the Council unanimously voted to approve the sponsorship of a new Civil War Trails sign to be installed on the northwest corner of the Center Square for an annual membership fee of \$200.00.

On an Amsley/Burkholder motion, the Council voted 6-1, with S. Miller opposed, to authorize application for payment #3 (final) 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 \$16,051.70.

Council discussed two concept plan designs as presented for the Town Hall Plaza project. Council indicated preference for the concept plan with the extended entrance on Baltimore Street pending confirmation of Brightspeed's approval for the use of their property as to be established in an agreement to be drafted by Salzman Hughes and approved by Council.

### **Personnel**

On an Amsley/Stenger motion, Council unanimously voted to confirm the activation of the Civil Service Commission and to authorize advertising required to execute written and oral examinations in accordance with the Civil Service Commission Rules and Regulations to establish an eligibility list of full-time police officer candidates.

### **Correspondence**

Appreciation email from Cornerstone Bible Church – increased parking regulations on W. Madison Street

### **Final Comments**

Stenger, Burkholder, A. Miller and Faight thanked residents for attending the meeting.

S. Miller noted he would be in attendance in person for the April meeting.

Mayor Thomas noted that this was a monumental evening in regards to the approval of the MS4 waiver and the related costs the 5-year waiver saves the Greencastle community.

### **Adjourn**

On an Amsley/Burkholder motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emilee Little  
Borough Secretary