

BOROUGH OF GREENCASTLE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 3, 2025

7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ben Thomas, President Larry Faight, Councilmen Joel Amsley, Wade Burkholder, and Albert Miller. 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 participated via phone. Steve Miller and Mike Stenger were absent.

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

An invocation was provided by Pastor Mark Ruzicka.

President Faight led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Faight noted that the meeting was being recorded for accuracy of the minutes.

The Council and meeting attendees observed a moment of silence in honor of the West York Borough Police Officer Andrew William Duarte who was shot and killed in the line of duty while responding to an active shooter situation at the UPMC Memorial Hospital in York, PA on February 22, 2025.

On a Burkholder/Amsley motion, the Council unanimously voted to approve the proposed agenda for the March 3, 2025, regular Council Meeting.

Opportunity to be Heard

No public comments were provided at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

On an Amsley/Burkholder motion, the Council unanimously voted to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Borough Council Meeting of February 3, 2025

Community Events:

Borough Bulk Drop-off Days

Friday, April 25th from 7:00am to 3pm & Saturday, April 26th from 7:00am to 10:30am

REGULAR AGENDA

Payment of Bills

On an Amsley/A. Miller motion, the Council unanimously voted to affirm the disbursements listed on the February 2025 Disbursement Report in the amount of \$125,682.67.

Reports from Elected Officials

Mayor's Report

Mayor Thomas highlighted various activities in February, including tours, meetings, and community engagements, such as visiting Alliance Elevator and attending the Franklin County mayors' breakfast. Thomas congratulated the Old Home Week Association for receiving the 2025 Community Impact Award and advised citizens to avoid open burning due to extremely dry conditions. Additionally, Mayor Thomas noted no train activity had occurred near the Jerome R. King Playground and honored the memory of Officer Andrew William Duarte.

Chief's Report

Chief Batistig's report detailed the Greencastle Police Department's activities for February including calls for service, overtime, mileage, and training updates. Batistig identified that the officers completed mandatory in-service training covering legal updates, homelessness awareness, tactical response, and elder abuse and thanked the Rescue Hose Co. for the use of their facilities. Additionally, Batistig noted that Officer Morrow attended the funeral service for Officer Duarte and stated that Officer Brennan has positioned the speed radar units at key locations in the Borough.

A. Miller noted an oversize load using S. Washington Street and turning onto E. Baltimore Street and suggested staff reach out to PennDOT to review regulations and the notification process for permitted oversize truck routes. A. Miller requested additional signage be installed on S. Washington Street to further deter trucks from using that road, Mayor Thomas noted Council's review of this letter could be an agenda item at the next Council meeting and this matter reviewed by the Public Safety committee.

Manager's Report

Little reviewed her report covering various administrative, community development, public safety, and operations. Key highlights Little outlined include ongoing beautification efforts in Center Square, provided summaries of agenda items from committee meetings held in February, and reviewed several development projects. Little detailed the progress of infrastructure improvement projects such as the 2019 CDBG ADA ramps, 2022 CDBG Walter Avenue & Rt. 11 intersection upgrades, and recent Public Works and Sewer staff activities. Little advised that her complete written report would be available on the Borough website.

Burkholder requested Little draft a newsletter and create a social media post regarding the fire tax.

President's Report

President Faight reviewed the importance of committee meetings recommending that residents attend committee meetings to better understand the topics being reviewed.

Committee Action

Administration & Finance

On a Burkholder/A. Miller motion, the Council unanimously voted to approve Resolution 2025-03 endorsing support for America250PA's efforts to educate, preserve, innovate, and celebrate Pennsylvania's rich history, culture, and future through commemorating the 250th anniversary of the United States in 2026.

Community & Economic Development

On a Burkholder/Amsley motion, Council unanimously voted to approve a request as submitted by Consign & Collect Co and The Shop, to park a food truck between 136 and 144 E. Baltimore Street on the following dates:

- a. Spring Market: Saturday, May 17th from 8:30am to 4:00pm
- b. Fall Market: Saturday, September 20th from 8:30am to 4:00pm

On an Amsley/Burkholder motion, Council unanimously voted to conditionally approve, with police department review and approval of the related street closures, the following requests as submitted by the Greencastle-Antrim Chamber of Commerce for the 2025 Sidewalk Days to occur on Friday, July 11th from 9am to 8pm & Saturday, July 12th from 7am to 4pm.

- a. No parking in the first 5 parking spaces on S. Washington St
- b. Provide access to electrical outlets in Center Square
- c. Allow food truck parking on the identified streets while closed

Public Safety

On an Amsley/Reagan motion, Council unanimously voted to authorize the identified officials to execute an agreement to be established between the Borough of Greencastle and the Jerome R. King Playground Association, Inc. to formalize the playground's donation of (8) security cameras to the Borough for incorporation into the police department's surveillance system.

On an Amsley/Reagan motion, Council unanimously voted to approve the procurement of (3) tasers to be purchased from Axon Enterprise, Inc. based on the payment plan and related costs as outlined below:

Payment Date	Payment Amount
April 2025	\$3,840.00
May 2025	\$2,700.00
April 2026	\$2,160.00
April 2027	\$2,160.00
April 2028	\$2,160.00
April 2029	\$2,160.00
TOTAL COST	\$15,180.00

On an Amsley/Burkholder motion, Council unanimously voted to approve the procurement of a DJI Matrice 30T drone aircraft package and software license to be purchased from DroneSense for an initial cost of \$14,988.00 and reoccurring annual software license fee of \$2,900.00.

Amsley questioned if the drone purchase was budgeted, who would be piloting the drone, and what the anticipated uses would be. Mayor Thomas stated that the drone would be funded with donations. E. Faight identified the drone operators, outlined uses such as code enforcement and missing persons investigations, and explained that all use of the drone would be recorded and documented.

Reagan questioned if there were policies and procedures in place for the use of the drone. Batistig confirmed a policy was being drafted and there would be no use of the drone prior to the policy being enacted.

Correspondence

None.

Final Comments – Council

Chief Batistig – Thanked Council for the approval of the tasers and the drone noting his excitement to get the drone program underway.

Burkholder – Thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Reagan – Apologized for not being able to attend the meeting in person and thanked the donors who contributed to the drone purchase.

A. Miller – Noted the upcoming time change and encouraged everyone to support local softball and baseball teams.

L. Faight – Reviewed a letter received which identified and commended excellent performance by a GPD officer.

Adjourn

On an Amsley/Burkholder motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emilee Little
Borough Secretary