



JULY  
2025

# Greencastle Borough NEWSLETTER



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2025 Budget Review
- 2025 Major Projects
- Town Hall Plaza
- Police Department Updates



### 2025 Remaining Meeting Schedule

<u>Borough Council - 7:00 PM</u>	
July 7 <sup>th</sup>	October 6 <sup>th</sup>
August 4 <sup>th</sup>	November 3 <sup>rd</sup>
September 2 <sup>nd</sup>	December 1 <sup>st</sup>

<u>Planning Commission - 6:00 PM</u>	
July 14 <sup>th</sup>	October 13 <sup>th</sup>
August 11 <sup>th</sup>	November 10 <sup>th</sup>
September 8 <sup>th</sup>	December 8 <sup>th</sup>

<u>Water Authority - 5:30 PM</u>	
July 21 <sup>st</sup>	October 20 <sup>th</sup>
August 18 <sup>th</sup>	November 17 <sup>th</sup>
September 15 <sup>th</sup>	December 15 <sup>th</sup>



### Elected & Appointed Borough Officials

Mayor	Councilmembers	Borough Manager
Ben Thomas, Jr.	Joel Amsley	Emilee Little
Council President	Wade Burkholder	Chief of Police
Larry Faight	Albert Miller	Jason Batistig
Vice President	Steve Miller	
Scott Reagan	Mike Stenger	

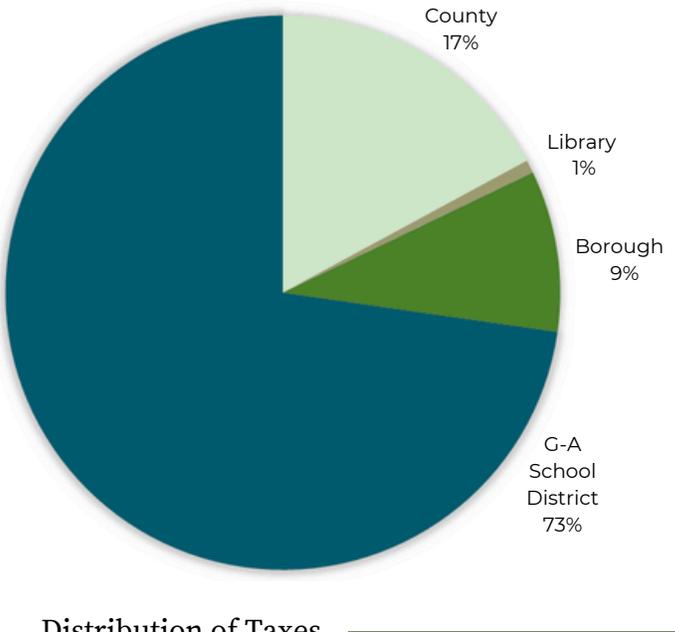
#### BOROUGH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday 8:30am to 7pm, Tuesday - Thursday 8:30am to 4:30pm, Friday 8:30am to 1pm

# Budget OVERVIEW

The 2025 budgets prioritize maintaining the Borough’s established level of essential services while facilitating the execution of priority projects in alignment with the Borough’s foundational objectives and priorities:

- Ensuring Public Safety
- Sound Fiscal Stewardship
- Promoting Economic Development
- Enhancing Multi-Modal Infrastructure
- Preserving Community Character

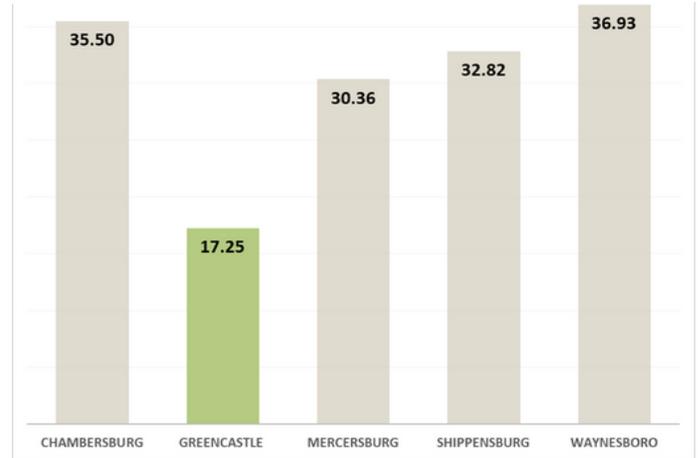


Distribution of Taxes

The above chart displays the distribution of tax monies paid in 2024 by property owners in the Borough of Greencastle. As shown, only a small portion of local tax dollars — just 9¢ of every dollar — went to the Borough. The largest share, 73%, supported the Greencastle-Antrim School District, with the remainder divided between the County and Library. This breakdown highlights the Borough’s modest share of the total taxes paid by residents each year.

## FRANKLIN COUNTY BOROUGHES

2025 TAX RATES - INCLUDING FIRE TAX



# General Fund BUDGET

## Rates & TAXES

The approved 2025 budgets are reflective of the following rates and tax levels:

- No increase to real estate tax rate = 16.0 mills
- New fire tax enacted = 1.25 mills
- 3% increase to sewer rate = \$9.40 per 1,000 gal.
- No increase to stormwater rate = \$0.75 per 100 square feet of impervious area

Greencastle has the 2nd lowest real estate tax rate among Franklin County boroughes, while still providing the same, and in some cases enhanced, municipal services as other towns.

Fund	Revenues	Expenses	Balance
General	\$2,916,981	\$2,907,375	\$9,606
Sewer	\$1,204,500	\$1,321,151	-\$116,651
Storm	\$88,000	\$100,670	\$12,670

2025 Budgeted Fund Balances

# Fire Tax **ENACTED**

As approved with the 2025 General Fund budget, the Borough of Greencastle implemented a 1.25 mill fire tax to help fund local fire protection services. This new tax, authorized under Pennsylvania Borough Code, will generate approximately \$52,000 annually, which will be totally allocated to Rescue Hose Company No. 1.

For 2025, Rescue Hose requested \$127,805.68 from the Borough to cover 25% of the cost of their paid firefighter and EMT staff. Historically, the Borough has provided an annual donation of \$17,500, in addition to support for paid staff. With a total request of \$145,305.68 and no longer being able to rely on federal COVID Relief/ARPA funds, the Borough Council determined that enacting a fire tax is the most responsible and transparent funding solution.

For Borough property owners, the average impact of the 1.25 mill fire tax will be approximately \$27.17 per year, comparable to the current 1.3 mill Franklin County Library Tax, which costs an average of \$28.26 per year for all Franklin County property owners.

2025 Fire Tax Rates for Franklin County Municipalities	
Municipality	Fire Tax Rate
Chambersburg Borough	3 mills
<b>Greencastle Borough</b>	<b>1.25 mills</b>
Mercersburg Borough	2.4 mills
Shippensburg Borough	2.33 mills
Washington Township	2.5 mills
Waynesboro Borough	3 mills

As illustrated in the table above, with the 2025 implementation of the 1.25 mill fire tax, Greencastle Borough has the lowest municipal fire tax rate in Franklin County.

## GRANT FUNDING

As a testament to the Borough's strong determination to mitigate unnecessary tax increases, 26% of the Borough's anticipated revenues for 2025 are to be received from awarded grants and outside contributions for a projected revenue amount of **\$764,183.00**.

Awarded grants include funding for the following 2025 projects:

- ADA improvements at the intersection of Walter Ave & Route 11
- ADA ramp installation
- Updated signal controllers to be integrated at all three of the Borough's signalized intersections.

Funding sources for these projects include Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT), Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), and Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED).

Staff has and will continue to place a significant emphasis on the submittal of grants to ensure necessary projects can be executed without the need for tax increases.

# 2025 MAJOR PROJECTS

## ADA Compliant *Curb Ramp Improvements*

**Scope of Project:** install 42 ADA compliant curb ramps at various locations in the SE portion of the Borough including Allison St, Leitersburg St, S. Ridge Ave, Franklin St, and S. Carlisle St

**Funding:** \$289,500.00 in CDBG grant funds

**Project Completed:** May 2025



ADA Ramp at S. Washington & Leitersburg St

## *Walter Avenue & Rt. 11* Intersection Improvements

**Scope of Project:** install pedestrian crosswalk signals, ADA ramps, reconfigure crosswalks, incorporate a left turn signal option on Rt. 11

**Funding:** \$286,103.00 in CDBG grant funds

**Project Schedule:**

Jul - award project to lowest qualified bidder  
Aug to End of Year - construction



Walter Avenue & Rt. 11 Intersection

## *Traffic Signal Improvements*

**Scope of Project:** update the signal controllers, intersection traffic cameras, and pedestrian signals at all three signalized intersections

**Funding:** \$229,080.00 in PennDOT grant funds

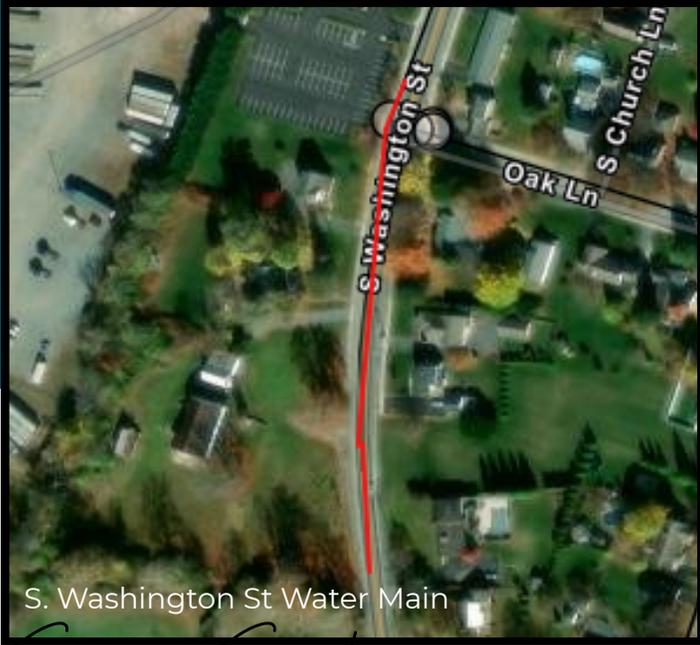
**Project Schedule:** completed by the end of 2025



Washington St & Rt. 16 Intersection

# MAJOR PROJECTS 2025

## S. Washington Street Water Main Replacement



**Scope of Project:** The Water Authority has approved the replacement of 660 LF of water main on S. Washington Street with a new 8" main starting at Oak Ln, ending north of Paddy Run

**Budget:** \$280,000.00

**Project Schedule:** Completed October 2025

S. Washington St Water Main

## Sewer System

## Force Main Cleaning

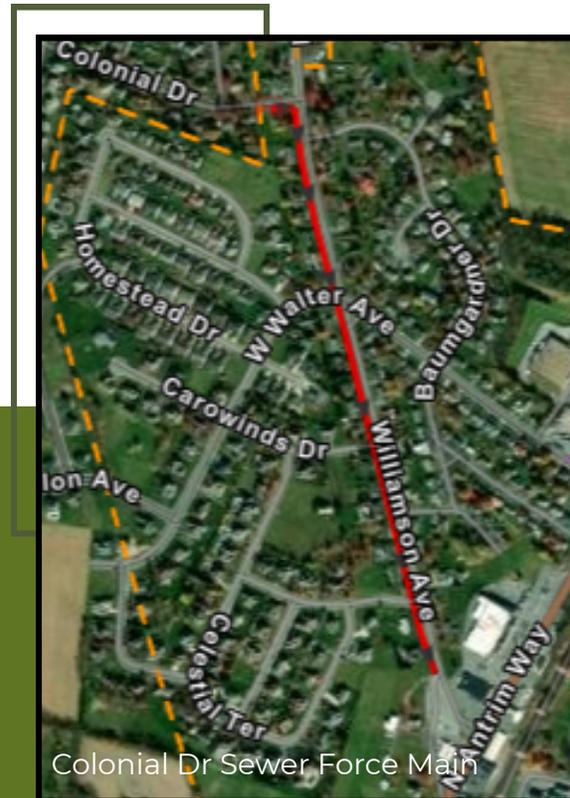
**Scope of Project:** clean, televise, and inspect 5,100 LF of sewer force mains on S. Carlisle St and Colonial Drive, originally installed in 1950s & 60s

**Budget:** \$230,000.00

**Project Schedule:**

Jun - project awarded

Jul & Aug - construction work



Colonial Dr Sewer Force Main

## Paving & Patching

**Scope of Project:** remove and repave deteriorated areas at the entrance to Moss Spring Ave and sections of Baumgardner Dr

**Budget:** \$50,000.00

**Project Schedule:** Jul & Aug construction



Eastbound Moss Spring Ave Entrance



# TOWN HALL PLAZA PROJECT

*Help Us Bring this  
Historic Corner of  
Greencastle Back to Life!*



## **A Historic Location**

Since the original building was constructed in 1871 and until it unfortunately burnt in 2006, the original Town Hall property has served as a gathering space for events, celebrations, and shared history. Located on the south west corner of the intersection of Baltimore and Washington Streets, this lot has stood empty and unused for almost 20 years. Now, we have the opportunity to revitalize this cherished landmark location into a modern, multi-purpose venue for generations to come!

For more info on how to be involved with this community project, please call the Borough office at 717-597-7143

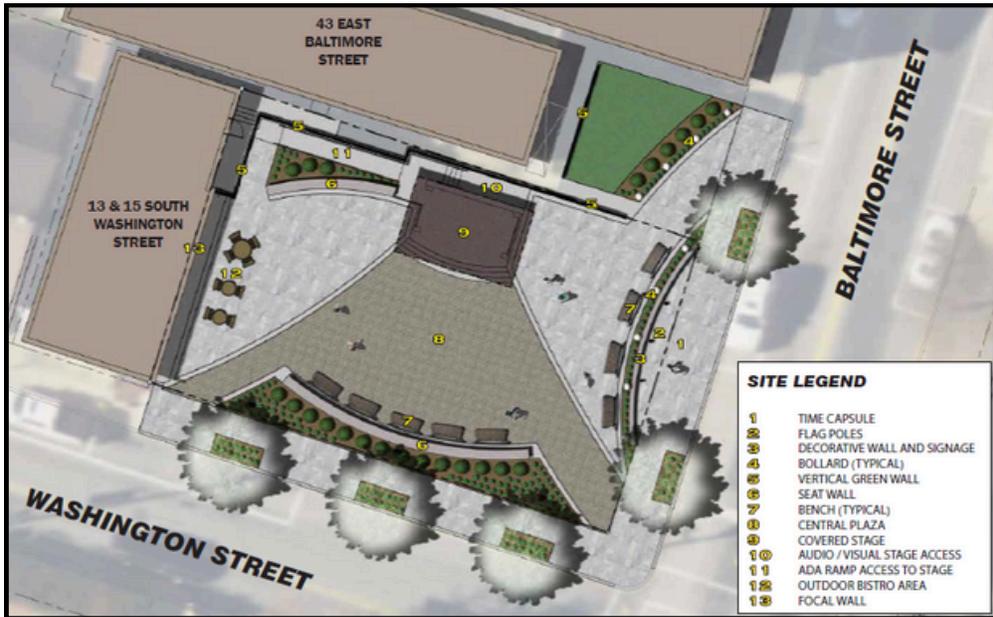
## Our Vision for the Town Hall Plaza

To create a vibrant and engaging public space by establishing an open-concept, multipurpose venue serving the various needs of the residents of Greencastle and the surrounding areas.

*Together, we can restore this property to a vibrant space for all to enjoy!*

### Anticipated Uses for the Plaza Area:

- Involvement with community events such as Old Home Week, Sidewalk Days, & Heritage Christmas
- Supporting local talents through music concerts & art shows
- Outdoor seating for local restaurants
- Space for historical & educational displays



### Project Progress & Funding Needs

Funds Expensed to Date = \$300,000.00

Remaining Project Costs = \$700,000.00

*Your Support Can Make a Difference!*



# POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATES

## Welcome Chief Batistig

As appointed by Borough Council in November 2024, Chief of Police Jason Batistig brings more than 25 years of distinguished law enforcement experience to this critical position. Prior to retiring as a Patrol Sergeant from the Hagerstown Police Department, Batistig served as a supervisor and canine handler, earning high praise and several commendations for his leadership and bravery including two Governor's Citations, a Bronze Medal of Valor, and a Silver Medal of Valor.

In addition to his professional accomplishments,, Jason is a member of the Greencastle-Antrim community, having called Greencastle home since 2004. His established roots in the area, coupled with his extensive experience and commitment to public service, positioned Batistig as an ideal leader for the Greencastle Police Department.

The Borough is proud to welcome Jason and looks forward to his leadership in continuing to uphold the public safety and community values that define Greencastle.



Chief Jason Batistig

## Security CAMERAS

The Borough of Greencastle is pleased to announce the installation of new security cameras at the Jerome R. King Playground, generously donated by the Jerome King Playground Association.

The cameras, now integrated into the Borough's surveillance system, are part of a proactive initiative to deter vandalism and improve public safety.

The Borough extends its sincere thanks to the Jerome King Playground Association for their continued support of community improvement and public safety efforts.

The Greencastle Police Department has officially launched a drone program aimed at improving public safety. Funded by outside contributions, the department's new drone will assist in code enforcement, emergency situations, and increase officer awareness during events or critical incidents.



Police Department Drone Equipment