

BOROUGH OF GREENCASTLE
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
November 1, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ben Thomas, Council President Steven Miller, Councilmembers: Frank Webster Jr., Larry Faight, and Matthew Smith. Also present were Borough Manager Eden Ratliff and Finance/HR Manager Lorraine Hohl.
MEMBERS ABSENT: H. Duane Kinzer, James Farley, and Craig Myers.

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

Councilmember Webster gave the invocation.

President Miller led the Council, staff and audience in reciting the pledge of allegiance.

President Miller noted that the meeting was being recorded by staff for the purposes of recording the meeting.

Ratliff gave an informative presentation to the Council and public on the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Program (MS4), the need for a storm water utility fee, and a breakdown on what the fee would support.

Ratliff explained a previous proposal to assess an excessive storm water utility fee to every unit in the Borough. The fee structure previously presented was to support an upcoming stream restoration project estimated at \$900,000.00 for engineering and construction. Ratliff reported that the project has been pushed back one year so that there will be more time to raise the needed revenues for the project. This should allow additional time to raise the revenues and allow the storm water pollutant impact fee to be less.

Some citizens asked what the MS4 program was and why it was leading to a new fee on Greencastle residents.

Ratliff explained that the MS4 program is a federal mandate from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) administered through the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The goal of program to reduce sediment from the storm water runoff produced in the Borough of Greencastle by 10%. For the Borough that is in excess of 100,000lbs of sediment. Ratliff explained that this would be achieved through public education, targeted approved projects also known as Best Management Practices, such as stream restoration and implementation of bio retention swales, and street sweeping.

Mayor Thomas noted that the MS4 program has been around since the 1990's beginning in larger urban centers and moving its way toward more rural communities. He noted that our legislatures should advocate for its repeal but signaled a lack of likelihood due to it having been around for over two decades.

Opportunity to be Heard:

Council President Miller invited citizens to address Council on issues of concern and reminded the audience of the public comment policy.

Roger Johnston of XXX E. Baltimore Street encouraged the Council to consider levying a fee based on impervious area as he felt as though that would be most equitable.

REGULAR AGENDA

On a Webster/Smith motion the Council voted unanimously to authorize the advertisement of the 2019 Municipal Storm Water Budget.

On a Faight/Webster motion the Council voted unanimously to authorize the creation and advertisement of an ordinance creating a storm water utility where a fee structure could be adopted.

On a Webster/Faight motion the Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:04p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Eden R. Ratliff,
Borough Manager