

**BOROUGH OF GREENCASTLE  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**January 7, 2019**

**7:00 P.M.**

**842 S. Washington Street**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ben Thomas, Council President Steven Miller, Councilmembers: H. Duane Kinzer, Frank Webster Jr., Larry Faight, Joel Amsley, and Matthew Smith. Also present were Borough Manager Eden Ratliff, Chief of Police John Phillippy, and Assistant Borough Manager Lorraine Hohl. ABSNET MEMBERS: 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.

President Miller announced that there was an Executive Session prior to the start of the meeting for the purpose of discussing ongoing litigation.

On a Kinzer/Webster motion the Council voted unanimously to amend the agenda to consider item 4.1 at the beginning of the agenda.

**Opportunity to be Heard:**

President Miller invited the audience to provide comment on agenda item 4.1 reminding them of the public comment policy.

Tim Fetterhoff of 180 Baumgardner Drive made comments regarding the sidewalk program and explained that he believed no one was on board with the program. He further asserted that he believes it is illegal to devalue a person's property.

Kevin Barnes of 317 of Carolle St explained that there are multiple sides to the story. He explained that those who were previously required to install sidewalks are now obligated to a maintenance program that others are not.

John Henson of 680 Osborne Avenue made comments indicating his lack of support for the sidewalk program.

Dick Myers of 60 Williamson Avenue asked the Council about their plans, if existent, to require the side without sidewalks to install them. Mr. Myers asked that Council treat everyone fairly.

Charles Myers of 38 Williamson Avenue questioned the validity of the 36" clearance rule on a 5' sidewalk.

David Nichols of 15 Carowinds Drive asked where everyone was in 2015 and explained that 2019 was the last year of the program. He referenced engineering studies and vetting processes during the programs creation. Mr. Nichols asked how suspending the program in the last year was fair to the town.

Tim Fetterhoff of 180 Baumgardner Drive stated that in his opinion the storm water infrastructure in his neighborhood is a nightmare.

Admir Hazoc of 54 Edward Drive stated that a bad policy should not be continued. He explained, "This is why people have wars."

Dick Myers of 60 Williamson Avenue explained that this was brought on by one Councilmember.

John Henson of 680 Osborne Avenue stated that he believed the sidewalk program went to fast.

Kendra Phiel of 30 Baumgardner Drive thanked the Council for willingness to reconsider. She explained that doing so demonstrated strength.

Bob Whitmire of 177 Baumgardner Drive invited Council to come evaluate the swale next to his home during a rain event.

**Public Facilities:**

Consider a change to the sidewalk and curb implementation map designating all areas currently marked as “blue” to “yellow” deferring sidewalk and curb implementation until further study is completed as recommended by the Public Facilities Committee.

Amsley explained that the Public Facilities Committee reviewed the program with staff and it became clear that there were many instances that needed to be more closely examined in order for the program to proceed in an organized and efficient manner. Amsley highlighted the need for the overarching vision of connectivity to be at the focal point of the program and future discussion. Amsley finished by explaining the Public Facilities Committee recommended the areas designated as blue on the official sidewalk implementation map be re-classified as yellow allowing for further study.

Ratliff stated that it was clear that there are many physical challenges to installing sidewalks in the designated areas that must be navigated, In order for a project who goal is pedestrian friendly transportation and Borough connectivity to be successfully implemented there must be a strategic plan with comprehensive reviews of financial impact, land impact, and public input. Creative and innovative problem solving must also be a part of the discussion. The Public Facilities Committee and Borough staff recommended that those required to install sidewalks in 2019 be postponed until further research and review be completed.

On a Kinzer/Amsley motion the Council voted 5-1 to approve changing the sidewalk and curb implementation map designating all areas currently marked as “blue” to “yellow” deferring sidewalk and curb implementation until further study is completed as recommended by the Public Facilities Committee.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

*The following is a list of routine items which do not appear to be controversial in nature and which likely do not require additional discussion. They can be acted on by one motion in their current form. If discussion is desired on any particular item, any member of Council, or the public, may request the item be removed from the Consent Agenda and that item will be considered separately.*

**Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

Borough Council Meeting December 3, 2018

**Training Permissions**

Eden Ratliff and Lorraine Hohl to attend the Public Employer Labor Relations Advisory Service (PELRAS) Conference in March 2019.

On a Webster/Faight motion the Council voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

## **Payment of bills**

On a Webster/Smith motion the Council voted unanimously to approve the disbursements listed on the December 2018 Disbursement Report in the amount of \$191,924.25.

## **Reports from Elected Officials**

### **President's Report**

President Miller wished a wonderful and safe holiday to all those in attendance.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Thomas thanked the Public Facilities Committee for their work and referenced a six page report he previously issued on the matter. Mayor Thomas also noted his ongoing concern about the northbound truck traffic on South Washington Street. The Mayor's full report is attached.

### **Chief's Report**

Chief Phillippy gave an interesting report that is attached.

### **Manager's Report**

Ratliff gave an informative report that is attached to the minutes.

## **1. Administration & Finance:**

On a Webster/Faight motion the Council voted unanimously to accept the resignation of Councilmember Craig Myers effective December 31, 2018.

On a Webster/Smith motion the Council voted unanimously to ratify payment to Fireside pub in the amount of \$433.02 for the employee Christmas lunch.

Kinzer noted that he wished the lunch had been at a restaurant in the Borough of Greencastle.

## **2. Personnel:**

On a Webster/Faight motion the Council voted unanimously to accept the resignation of Gabrielle Ratliff from the Shade Tree Commission effective December 31, 2018.

Ratliff explained that Mrs. Ratliff no longer resided in the Borough and was therefore ineligible to serve on the Shade Tree Commission.

## **3. Public Safety:**

## **4. Public Facilities:**

On a Webster/Kinzer motion the Council voted unanimously to approve the acceptance of ownership of the Greencastle-Antrim Veteran's Memorial located at 60 N. Washington Street as outlined in the January 2019 correspondence (attached).

## **5. Community Development:**

## **6. Correspondence:**

## **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.

Dick Myers of 60 Williamson Avenue inquired about the project to install rapid flashing beacons on E, Baltimore Street.

Ratliff provided a brief update stating that the permits for the traffic signals from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation had been issued that week.

Wade Burkholder of 235 E. Baltimore Street explained that a street light on the squared had burned out and he desired for it to be repaired,

Kendra Phiel of 30 Baumgardner Drive stated that the meeting advertisement in the local paper was too small.

John Henson of 680 Osborne Avenue criticized an employee of West Penn Power.

Tim Myers of 18 E. Baltimore Street inquired about the request for rezoning 407 S. Washington Street.

Ratliff indicated that it was under review by the Community Development Committee.

Kinzer indicated that his Committee would review it.

President Miller offered the elected officials a chance to offer additional comments.

Kinzer: Kinzer asked if the Public Safety Committee was still researching a safe haven concept at the Police Department. He also noted his desired for modernized LED lighting in the Borough.

Webster: Webster thanked Former Councilmember Craig Myers for his many years of service on the Borough Council. He also thanked the many Borough volunteers.

Smith: Smith stated that he appreciated the many comments on sidewalks but asked where everyone was when the program was being developed and many town hall meetings were held. He said it was disappointing that no one showed up.

Thomas: Mayor Thomas thanked the Rescue Hose Company for providing the meeting space and offered to give a tour to anyone interested after the meeting.

Amsley: No comments.

Faight: Faight thanked the community for their involvement and stated it was a big positive. He said community involvement is important at every meeting.

Miller: President Miller asked for volunteers to serve on the Shade Tree Commission and highlighted its value to the Borough.

**On a Webster/Faight motion the Council voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:17p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Eden R. Ratliff,  
Borough Manager