

BOROUGH OF GREENCASTLE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

February 1, 2021

7:00 P.M.

60 N. Washington Street

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ben Thomas Jr., Council President Steven Miller, Councilmen H. Duane Kinzer and Jeremy Layman. Also present was Assistant Borough Manager Emilee Little. Vice President Larry Faight and Councilman Wade Burkholder participated via conference call. Councilmen Joel Amsley and Chief of Police John Phillippy participated via virtual access. Councilman Matthew Smith was absent.

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

An invocation was given by Duane Kinzer.

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

President Miller noted the meeting was being recorded.

On a Kinzer/Layman motion the Council voted unanimously to approve the proposed agenda for the February 1, 2021 regular Council Meeting.

Vivian Avenue - Public Statement

Little read and provided copies of the following public statement to all Councilmen and public in attendance.

The Borough of Greencastle is aware of the ongoing situation regarding Vivian Avenue, the proposed road connecting Chadwick Estates and Heritage Estates West. As this is currently a private legal matter, the Borough of Greencastle is not taking any action on the installation of the proposed future extension (Vivian Avenue) depicted on the Chadwick Estates approved land development plans. Borough staff and solicitor will continue to gather all relevant information from the appropriate parties, including Antrim Township and the Developer. Staff and the solicitor will keep Council apprised if any changes occur, or if there is additional information obtained that needs to be brought to Council's attention.

Opportunity to be Heard

President Miller invited Borough citizens to address Council with specific issues of concern, reminding them of the public comment policy.

Mike Kuhaneck of 85 Homestead Drive questioned what, "not taking any action," as outlined in the Vivian Avenue public statement meant. Kuhaneck stated that the amount of development being proposed is more extensive than what was intended to be traveled on the Vivian Avenue future extension. Kuhaneck stated that there is a large senior population in the Chadwick Estates community and their safety needs to be a concern. Kuhaneck raised concerns about sidewalk issues causing pedestrians to walk on the streets.

Harold Duffey of 54 Homestead Drive thanked Council for the installation of LED lights in their neighborhood and the inclusion of prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance in Council meetings. Duffey stated that Homestead Drive is mostly elderly residents and raised concerns including mailbox location, pedestrian safety, and increased traffic flow with the proposed installation of Vivian Avenue.

On a Kinzer/Layman motion, the Council voted unanimously to approve a 2 minute extension for Mr. Duffey. Duffey added he was on Council when the Chadwick Estate plans were discussed and that the intention of the future extension was not to be a throughway.

Bob Luger of 78 Homestead Drive questioned if the current property owner could sell the parcel where Vivian Avenue is proposed to be installed. Luger stated the letters himself and the Kuhanecks dispersed to their community were for public awareness. Luger thanked Councilmen Kinzer for taking time to come out to the property and discuss the related issues. Luger discussed sight distance limitations, sidewalk issues, and other safety concerns that may arise with the potential 442 new homes proposed in the Heritage Estates community.

Little read a comment submitted by Eddie Baxter of 117 Carowinds Drive pertaining to the coordination required for the adoption of a single trash hauler in the Borough.

Little read and dispersed to Council a comment submitted by Ken and Barbara Baker of 67 Homestead Drive outlining concerns related to Vivian Avenue including devaluing of property, traffic flow, and safety of elderly residents. As opposed to a road, the Bakers recommended the creation of a mini, linear park to include a walking/biking path, benches, and picnic tables.

Response to Public Comment

President Miller stated the property where Vivian Avenue is proposed to be installed is private property and the parcel is not an asset of the Borough. Miller stated that this is a private legal matter and Council will hold to the public statement that was provided and not take any action on this issue at this time.

Mayor Thomas stated that the parcel is solely owned by a private citizen and no plans have been submitted to the Borough to construct a street on this parcel.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Borough Council Meeting of January 4, 2021.

Community Events:

Black Balloon Day March 6, 2021 - Allow 3 black balloons to be placed on each parking meter in the square.

Appointments:

Appoint Dorottya Spolarics to the Water & Sewer Authorities to fill a vacancy to expire on December 31, 2021.

Appoint Richard Wertman as the Borough of Greencastle's representative and Chief of Police John Phillippy as the alternate representative to the Franklin County Emergency Services Alliance for the 2021 calendar year.

Appoint Steven Miller as the Borough of Greencastle's representative to the FCATB/TCC for the 2021 calendar year.

Appoint Emilee Little as the Interim Treasurer for the Borough of Greencastle.

On an Amsley/Layman motion the Council voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda.

REGULAR AGENDA

Payment of Bills

On a Faight/Amsley motion the Council voted unanimously to approve disbursements listed on the January 2021 Disbursement Report in the amount of \$258,318.59.

Miller stated that the Admin & Finance committee approved the disbursement of the Rescue Hose Company annual contribution in the additional budgeted amount of \$40,000 to cover requested personnel costs.

Kinzer stated that the Fire Company has substantial investments and questioned why the Rescue Hose Company is not using its own money to pay for the personnel cost.

Reports from Elected Officials

President's Report

President Miller reminded Councilmembers to submit their statement of financial interest as was disbursed at the meeting. Miller stated the current Rules of Order as approved by Council in 2013, have been more clearly posted on the Borough website.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Thomas presented his Proclamation regarding the Declaration of Disaster Winter Event Emergency for Council's consideration. In the event that the winter storm could cause a state-wide Emergency Disaster Declaration, there may be funding available to the Borough. Thomas encouraged residents to support local restaurants and businesses. Thomas stated the software proposed for the police department will not be purchased in 2021, citing a need for a more collaborative effort with other police agencies to reduce cost.

Council President Miller signed the Declaration of Disaster Winter Event Emergency.

Chief's Report

Chief Phillippy outlined calls for service, miles traveled, and overtime hours. Phillippy provided speed data information from the newly installed speed sign placed on E. Baltimore Street. Phillippy highlighted notable activities and recent cases.

Kinzer thanked Chief Phillippy for including the name of the vehicle on his reports.

Layman asked what is going to be done with the collected traffic speed information and if the dates of observation can be noted on the report provided.

Manager's Report

Assistant Borough Manager Little provided a COVID-19 update relative to staffing and safety protocols. Little discussed the completion of the LED light conversion project and outlined proposed shielding options. Little reviewed the sidewalk maintenance program citing Chapter 169-24 in the Borough Code. Little presented an overview of the collaborative N. Carlisle Street rehabilitation project and reminded Council and Borough citizens of the February 25th Stormwater Workgroup meeting.

Committee Action

Administration & Finance:

On an Amsley/Faight motion, the Council voted unanimously to authorize the execution of a co-stars quote from Bobcat in the amount of \$49,325.49 for the purchase of a Bobcat skid-steer loader and sweeper attachment to be used by the Public Works Department.

On a Burkholder/Faight motion, the Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2021-01 authorizing the disposition of records.

Personnel:

No new business.

Public Safety:

No new business.

Public Facilities:

On an Amsley/Faight motion, the Council voted unanimously to authorize the advertisement of Ordinance 2021-01 naming unnamed alleyways positioned with the Borough of Greencastle.

Amsley thanked Councilmen Layman and Kinzer for their personal efforts in the alley naming process.

Community Development:

No new business.

Correspondence

1. Jerome R. King Playground Association - Thank you note
2. Council did not approve the following as the identified alleys have had names previously submitted:
 - a. Robert Wertime – Leigh Trail/Crossing
 - b. Sandy Beard – Beards Lane
3. On a Kinzer/Layman motion, the Council voted unanimously to approve the reduction of the sewer bill for 37 (35a) West Baltimore Street by \$490.20 from the third quarter 2020 billing due to a water leak.

Final Comments

Layman: No further comment.

Burkholder: Told everyone to travel safely home due to the snow storm.

Amsley: Thanked the Public Works department for their efforts.

Kinzer: Questioned why the police vehicle in the parking lot cannot be parked around town.

Faight: Wished everyone a good evening and to be safe.

Mayor: "Be healthy, safe, and well."

Miller: Thanks citizens for their interest and involvement.

On a Kinzer/Burkholder motion, the Council unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Emilee Little
Assistant Borough Manager