

**BOROUGH OF GREENCASTLE
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
February 25, 2021
6:00 P.M.
60 N. Washington Street**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ben Thomas Jr., Council President Steven Miller, Councilmen Matthew Smith, Wade Burkholder, H. Duane Kinzer and Jeremy Layman. Also present was Assistant Borough Manager Emilee Little, Public Works Manager Bob Mahanan, and ARRO representative Nate Merkel. Vice President Larry Faight participated via conference call. Councilmen Joel Amsley participated via virtual access.

President Miller called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

An invocation was given by Matt Smith.

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

President Miller noted the meeting was being recorded.

On a Burkholder/Smith motion the Council voted unanimously to approve the proposed agenda for the February 25, 2021 Special Council Meeting.

REGULAR AGENDA

North Carlisle Street Design Plans

Little gave an overview of the comprehensive N. Carlisle Street rehabilitation project.

Little advised Council and residents that the Greencastle Area, Franklin County, Water Authority will begin construction on the water main replacement project in early March and that residents have been notified via certified mail of their responsibility related to individual service line connections. Little stated that all Borough sewer laterals on N. Carlisle Street have been updated as needed.

Little stated that Columbia Gas has installed new gas lines throughout N. Carlisle Street and that Columbia Gas will complete the 2" milling and overlay from the southern point of N. Carlisle Street at Rt. 16 to Mifflin Lane and be responsible for the related cost.

Little summarized the Borough's portion of this collaborative project will include 2" mill and overlay from Mifflin Lane to East Walter Avenue, ADA ramps, traffic calming measures, curbing, sidewalks, and stormwater improvements.

Little stated that because of the upfront cost to the Borough and the substantial cost to the residents the Public Facilities recommendation was to postpone the sidewalk upgrades until 2022.

Full preliminary plans for the N. Carlisle Street project were presented to Council and residents in attendance.

Little walked Council and residents through the plans as recommended by Public Facilities and prepared by ARRO Consulting. Little provided detail on the all improvements including traffic calming measures such as bump outs at Pine Lane and Warren Lane and 2 speed tables near the Jerome King Playground.

North Carlisle Street Probable Cost Estimates

Little provided Council with full cost estimates for the N. Carlisle Street stormwater and streetscape improvements. Little specifically outlined a total cost of \$150,000 to install curbing the full length of N. Carlisle Street, stormwater cost of approximately \$72,000, and a full streetscape project cost including sidewalks of \$1.2 million.

Little stated that \$110,000 was budgeted for curbing and sidewalks repairs on N. Carlisle Street, all other expenses would be unbudgeted costs. Little stated the Borough's Liquid Fuels account balance and outlined the process required for determining the amount of Liquid Fuels funding that could be used for this project.

Questions and Comments from Council and Mayor

Kinzer questioned what the course of action would be for residents that have complied with the Borough's requests for sidewalk improvements. Kinzer stated that if curbing and sidewalks meet our current specifications then any upgrades required should be at the Borough's cost.

Mayor Thomas stated that curbing and sidewalks are generally upgraded with street restoration projects. Thomas gave an overview of rebilling options the Borough has implemented in the past for this type of improvement. Mayor Thomas stated with regards to the speed tables, that a \$5,000 investment for public safety is a good option. Thomas stated that the railroad is exempt from the Borough of Greencastle's ordinances. Thomas suggested geotextile paving be used for paving around the industrial areas on N. Carlisle Street.

Amsley stated that speeding concerns have been raised from residents on N. Carlisle Street and that Public Facilities made it a priority to address these concerns.

President Miller stated that speed tables are effective at slowing down traffic. Miller questioned if the Borough could pay for curbing and asked staff to present funding options to the Admin and Finance committee.

Smith stated that the Borough does not want to set the precedence that it will pay for curbing costs.

Burkholder asked if there were plowing concerns related to the speed tables. Burkholder stated that many other communities require residents to pay the cost of curbing and sidewalks.

Layman stated that as a resident of N. Carlisle Street, he was required to complete sidewalk and curbing upgrades and that the Borough should not penalize people that did the required repairs. Layman stated that the additional inlets will help with water drainage issues and stated that the height of the road and 6" curb requirement will cause issues with steps into residents' homes.

Faight stated that the Admin and Finance committee needs to look at their approach to costs related to residents with curb and sidewalks that meet our current standards.

Questions and Comments from the Public

Albert Miller of 171 Apple Drive stated that curb updates would cause water drainage issues if the sidewalks were not upgraded. Miller questioned speed issues on N. Carlisle Street and stated that bump outs could reduce access to alleys. Miller questioned grading options and if extra surveying and core borings would be completed.

Jan Shafer of 142 Carowinds Drive stated that delaying the sidewalk work until 2022 would interfere with Old Home Week.

Charles Eckstine of 64 Williamson Avenue questioned how many citations were written related to speeding on N. Carlisle Street. Eckstine questioned if the railroad still owns property along N. Carlisle Street. Eckstine stated that if the Borough pays for the curbing on N. Carlisle Street it will have to reimburse all other residents that paid for curbing as requested. Eckstine questioned if the Water Authority was replacing all their water service lines.

David Dickson of 289 N. Carlisle Street stated that he recently installed all new curbing and sidewalks that meet the Borough's current ordinance and passed all inspections.

Direction from Council and Mayor

President Miller suggested staff and the Admin and Finance committee outline a payment plan that allows homeowners a specific period of time to repay the cost of their curbing and sidewalks. Miller requested staff provide a full estimate breaking down total Liquid Fuels costs and the total amount to be paid by the General Fund and Stormwater Fund.

Kinzer suggested the Borough borrow the money to complete this full project and set up a payment plan for residents to reimburse the Borough for their cost.

Mayor Thomas suggested this full project including sidewalks be completed in 2021 and be put out to bid shortly to ensure quality of bids received. Thomas stated that funding options could be identified and that interest rates are currently very low.

On a Burkholder/Kinzer motion, the Council unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Emilee Little
Assistant Borough Manager