



***MAYOR'S REPORT TO MEMBERS OF COUNCIL, STAFF, AND OUR CITIZENS  
Presented November 4, 2019***

RESPONSE LETTER FROM PENNDOT: District Traffic Engineer Jason Bewley wrote to Greencastle Borough indicating "PennDOT will install truck restriction signing at each end of S. Washington Street (SR2001). PennDot's traffic study indicated truck trailers over 45 feet in length should be restricted on S. Washington St. from Molly Pitcher Highway to Baltimore Street. Franklin Co. Maintenance Office will install these signs. Greencastle PD has been notified. I appreciate the cooperation of Antrim Township and will also deliver a copy of the letter to the Township and request they notify Pa. State Police when the signs are installed and notify the logistics centers along Molly Pitcher Highway and Antrim Commons Drive.

Council should pay attention to the significant growth that is occurring around Greencastle and all of the for-sale signs on lands around the Borough. Greencastle's calls for service will continue to increase because of this growth. I strongly suggest Greencastle and Antrim Township pro-actively engage in service and impact planning.

MAYOR'S COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: I attended the G-A Chamber of Commerce annual banquet on October 3. Congratulations to the award recipients from area businesses. October commemorated Fire Prevention Week with the Rescue Hose Co. hosting a community open house on October 5. I also attended the annual meeting of the Jerome R. King Playground Assn. on October 9 and thanked the volunteers who serve and devote many hours in keeping this community gem in superb condition. I attended three Administration and Finance Committee meetings and actively participated in 2020 budget and project discussions. It was a humbling honor to be the guest speaker at Shady Grove Ruritan's birthday party for former Greencastle resident John Kinney who celebrated his 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday on October 25. Tina and I enjoyed the celebration with Mr. Kinney and members of the Ruritan Club on October 8<sup>th</sup> at Providence Place. I attended the Franklin Co. Township Officials annual conference on October 24 at Marion Fire Co. I judged the Greencastle Halloween Parade on October 25 during the beautiful evening. The Mayor was also recently re-certified as a CTA (Certified Tourism Ambassador) by the Franklin Co. Visitor's Bureau. **Next Monday, November 11, is Veteran's Day. We honor the men and women serving or who have served our Country in the United States military branches. The community**

**will commemorate this day with a special program at Borough Hall (N. Washington St.) at 11:00 A.M. that day.**

SR6 COMMISSION UPDATE: See attached to support our volunteer first-responders.

MEETING WITH PA. DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (DEP) OFFICIALS:

On October 29<sup>th</sup> I was pleased to travel to Harrisburg along with Antrim Township Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer Sylvia House. For nearly 90 minutes we had very open discussions with Pa. DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell, Deputy Secretary Aneca Atkinson, Environmental Group Manager Lee Murphy, Regional Director Rodney Nesmith, Chesapeake Bay Program Director Jill Whitcomb, and others. I also recently met with Pa. Senator Mastriano and presented him with Federal EPA regulations that brought is into MS4 along with a copy of the Chesapeake Bay Agreement. He is actively involved with research and discussions on our behalf along with Senator Judy Ward and Representative Paul Schemel. Last week, I also attended a special MS4 / storm water seminar with the guest speaker being Attorney Steven Hann (Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell & Lupin, PC), who represents the Pa. Municipal Authorities Association. I was able to have a healthy conversation with him. Here are the take-aways from these meetings:

PA DEP; PROGRAM VS. LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES:

1. MS4 municipalities should not go it alone. There should be municipal partnerships (strength in numbers with cost savings).
2. MS4 municipalities should ask Pennsylvania's elected officials to make MS4 a **County program** and not by individual municipalities. Such an act would affirm significant cost sharing savings and open expand MS4 project areas!
3. The current "urban map system" is based on the 2010 census where Federal EPA has passed enforcement onto Pa. DEP along with the 2014 signing of the Chesapeake Bay Agreement by then Governor Tom Corbett.
4. Following the 2020 census, EPA will expand additional "urban map areas." For that reason, it makes sense for us and Antrim Township to ask for County-wide MS4 programming utilizing the County's Soil Conservation Service, Penn State University, Army Corp of Engineers, and other supportive agencies and disciplines.
5. Pa. DEP "Frequently Asked Questions" Oct. 21 publication...municipalities can now expand their projects outside of the "urban area map" that will greatly assist a potential G-A MS4 partnership with projects that are practical.
6. Within municipalities, all "best management practices" currently in existence can be produced to reduce sediment loads.
7. Sylvia's professional presentation included future mitigation projects that are effective; water quality is not necessarily impacted by population. Allow municipalities to select projects based on water quality; Use "real testing numbers" instead of models; DEP should provide direct best management practices training directly to municipalities or municipal authorities

8. Is it too late for Greencastle to apply for a “waiver” from the 2015 permit application? Answer: Waiver discussion could be placed on the table?

ATTORNEY HANN’S DISCUSSION:

1. He suggests municipalities apply for an “individual permit” instead of a “general permit” as there is opportunity to negotiate sediment pounds and time to complete. This, however, takes more engineering to complete. Greencastle has a general permit.

I welcome further discussion with Council, Antrim Township, and the community. The time is now to holistically conduct strategic discussions and planning initiatives to improve our MS4 efficiencies, understanding, and cost effectiveness. How can this Borough believe we will need to spend 1.7 million dollars in staffing costs by 2025.

Last week I spoke with an engineering firm that is heavily involved with MS4 working with many municipalities including Chambersburg Borough and Derry Township Authority (Hershey, PA) doing stream testing that may serve as a break thru for efficiency if approved by Pa. DEP.

OCTOBER 31; 2” OF RAINFALL IN GREENCASTLE: As I wrote in my October 7 Report for the Eastern SWM Project Proposal, the watershed in the Borough is massive. I toured the area and photographed the SWM run off during the storm that evening. I am anxious to impart my experiences with Council. Here are just a few photos that shows the SWM runoff volume all generated within the Borough of Greencastle.

*STONE RIDGE APARTMENTS; SWM RUN OFF THAT FLOWS BEHIND M&T BANK ON WEST ON E. BALTIMORE STREET*



*REAR OF M&T BANK; SWM RUN-OFF THEN MEETS OTHER RUN OFF FROM EASTERN AVENUE; GREEN MOTEL; EXXON; MEDICAL CENTER; DAY CARE CENTER, ETC:*



*JUST ONE STREET SECTION IN THE ORCHARD DEVELOPMENT WITH LARGE VOLUME OF SURFACE SWM RUN-OFF:*





*SWM OUTFALL LEAVING THE ORCHARD DEVELOPMENT FLOWING WEST TO S. RIDGE AVENUE SWM CONCRETE HEAD WALL, SWALE, AND PIPE:*



*RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,*

*Ben Thomas, Jr. Mayor*