



***The Mayor's Report
Presented July 6, 2020***

I THANK-YOU, THE CITIZENS OF GREENCASTLE, for being a support system to family, friends, and strangers during this COVID-19 disaster declaration. It's good to see church parking lots with cars in them.

Council recently held two public work-sessions regarding the storm water topic with the Borough receiving the five-year waiver from MS-4 in Mid-May. This was received based on two necessary criteria in accordance with Pa. Dept. of Environmental Protection regulations; 1) Population based criteria under 10,000 people? Yes; 2) Are there any impaired discharge streams (BOD, sediment, pathogens, oil and grease and/or nutrients in the Borough?) No! Waiver granted. Staff, Council, and concerned citizens are aware we must be vigilant regarding this waiver over the next five years so it may continue, hopefully, permanently.

I presented my written recommendations to Council at the second work-shop last Tuesday, June 30. Most members of Council have acknowledged my research of which I'm appreciative. You can read The Mayor's Report and my recommendations on the Borough's web-site: www.greencastlepa.gov.

I appreciate citizens' attendance, comments, and concerns. To Mr. Albert Miller...your research affirms one positive item that began a year and a half ago; that being public education. Staff will have its hands full over the next several months. I suggest Greencastle ultimate initiate a GREENCASTLE GREEN BEST STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PRACTICES PROGRAM to educate our citizens regarding storm water to ground recharge systems that, as Mr. Miller indicated, are very inexpensive. I would be happy to be involved with such a community program.

I remain so impressed with the number of veterans' banners that are displayed on the streets of Greencastle. My special thanks to our Chamber of Commerce and public works staff for their involvement in honoring our veterans.

As the fourth of July is over our Pennsylvania legislators are re-examining the 2017 fireworks law that opened virtually all types of consumer fireworks for public use. The results, in my opinion, have been devastating with loss of life, injuries, and fires across Pennsylvania. We'll see if there will be a legislative change to the present fireworks laws.

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Thomas, Jr.