



*MAYOR'S REPORT
TO THE COUNCIL AND CITIZENS OF GREENCASTLE
PRESENTED: December 6, 2021*

November and December, 2021 have been exciting times in Greencastle, especially compared to last year. The Christmas tree lighting ceremony and Christmas parade events were well attended by our citizens along with Shop Small Saturday and last Friday's Heritage Christmas events. A special thanks to the G-A Chamber of Commerce; the volunteers; vendors; Greencastle Police and Rescue Hose Co. Fire-Police for keeping us safe.

A special thanks to GPD Administrative Secretary Ericka Faight and members of the Department, and the community, for another successful Thanksgiving Food Drive to benefit the local food pantry. Thank-you to the new Ledo Pizza in Guilford Township for partnering with GPD to give a portion of food sale proceeds to the Greencastle Food Pantry as well.

As a follow-up to Council's request I contacted Rescue Hose Company regarding grant writing. The Fire Dept. uses an in-house grant writer and a specialty grant writer when grant opportunities are available. See the Company's power-point presentation specific to the last two pages regarding their grant writing successes.

Also, as a follow-up to a November 15, 2021 public comment by Shannon Blanchard the Borough may want to consider discussing additional crosswalk warning lights to fund and filing another grant application for the Pa. Safe Routes to School Program. This is the program that funded the crosswalk safety measures at two locations on E. Baltimore Street (Allison Street and Linden Avenue). If I recall correctly, this is a 50% matching grant.

Also, comments were made on November 15 concerning storm water exiting the former Antrim Building & Farm Supply lot. Charles Eckstine made comments that he would look at SWM on the lot as I remain concerned regarding the additional SWM and hydraulic overload on existing pipes under Mifflin Lane that ponds in the south-end of the Jerome R. King Playground.

This Winter I'll be working with Chief Phillippy and Ericka Faight as the team will seek grant funding for a future license plate reader safety and enforcement system. Research and contacts have already been made on the Federal level with the U.S. Dept. of Justice and assistance from Congressman John Joyce, MD, staff.

Regarding train idling complaints in residential areas of Greencastle I continue to make contact with Norfolk Southern although it appears that the Borough's efforts may remain unsuccessful to simply get the idling trains to stage further to the north.

Respectfully submitted, Ben Thomas, Jr.