Commissioners of Barnesville TOWN MEETING held on July 16, 2025

Called to Order at 7:33pm, all commissioners present, and five residents attending in person and two residents online.

Approval of Past Minutes. The June minutes were approved.

Reports:

Financial Report summarized income received by the end of the fiscal year (June 30). Overall the town received more income during the 2025 Fiscal Year than expenditures.

Beautification and Sustainable Barnesville committees did not have reports, the committees have not met during the summer months. Future projects that may take place at Town Hall will be acoustic panels in the main space, and hanging the historical display boards or historic photographs. The collection of photos and displays will be explored to find materials for framing.

The Board of Appeals had no report.

Capital Improvements

The roof on the well by the park will be repaired soon. Additional repairs to the structure may be determined during the roof repair.

Traffic Calming with contracted patrols resulted in 127 violations, of those 106 were on the weekends. One driver received multiple violations for failing to stop as posted signs, and for speeding over 60mph. The patrol officer and town residents note that the feedback signs do make a difference. Thank you to the volunteers for rotating the recharged batteries. In the future, the town will invest in solar panels for the signs. The signs would need to be reloaded to better sunlight and possibly on sturdier poles. A traffic monitoring survey could help identify where they would have the greatest impact, where traffic is speeding.

The Planning and Zoning board is seeking additional members. Neither the current member nor the commissioners have been contacted with additional nominations. The committee worked on the Master Plan regarding the park renovations, and zoning, subdivision, and building permit recommendations. If anyone is interested in learning more about serving on the planning and zoning board, they can contact Cynthia or the commissioners.

The Community Connection committee will meet to gather materials to complete Welcome Bags for new residents. Previous welcome bags had information on septic tank usage, regional walking trails and historic areas, and garden news.

Twilight in the Park on August 1st will also be an Ice Cream Social. A mini-fridge/cooler will be used to keep the ice cream cold. Bring chairs and snacks or drinks to share.

Town Hall had no rentals in June.

Communications—if anyone has information to share in the Tidbit Newsletter, it can be sent to the town clerk.

New Business

A complaint was received about unmowed lawns and possibly rats running across the road. The town does not have robust code regarding yard maintenance or home maintenance. The county ordinance for lawns is 12 inches. A resident relayed some history, complaints were raised with the town or county and nothing came of it.

A proposal from the commissioners is a small grants project to offer limited funds to residents for streetview repairs or upkeep. The project is in a preliminary stage and will be discussed more at future meetings.

The Mountain Vale Solar Panel plan was discussed. The hearing will be on Tuesday July 29 at 9:30am. An email with details will be sent. The MCA/SCA worked with the county to put restrictions on the types of soil where the solar farms could be placed, thus limiting solar farms to approximately 1200 acres of Montgomery County. The Mountain Vale project is just one of several proposed in the county.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37pm.