

Barnesville Town Meeting

May 19, 2025, 7:30 pm

Meeting held in person at town hall with the option to connect via zoom.

Call to Order at 7:32 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Last meeting's minutes approved.

Reports:

Financial Report presented and summarized. No significant expenditures to report for last month. There will be the annual budget meeting next week.

The Beautification and Sustainable Barnesville Committees. Individuals on the committee have been working to conduct roadside clean-up along Beallsville and Barnesville Roads. Thank you to Jan, Holly, and Audrey. They will also ask the Lions Club if there is interest to do an organized clean-up day. The Park plants have filled in nicely this year, Lauren removed those that did not survive and has replaced with new plants.

Board of Appeals did not have anything to report.

Capital Improvements:

Traffic Calming reported 117 violations in April with 55 traffic stops among the 10 patrols. This included 4 weekend patrols and additional weekday morning and weekday afternoon patrols. Beallsville Rd has more violations than Barnesville. One vehicle fled and the officer is not permitted to give chase. The vehicle was travelling 60mph in the 30mph zone. Several residents complained of a loud-exhaust SUV that has routinely not been stopping at the signs and has been seen peeling away or driving recklessly on area roads.

The commissioners proposed placing a camera on town hall property to view vehicles at the stop signs to identify key times for potential patrols.

The guardrail damage will be repaired by the state, it will take several months before it is completed.

Planning and Zoning. Judy Stone has retired from the Planning Commission. Two members remain, Cynthia and Carlita. There are 3 openings on the Planning Commission. The Master Plan mid-decade check-in should take place within this year. Past commissioners and the town attorney had discussed the Master Plan and will meet again to determine if any action should be taken.

Community Connections Mindful Meditation will take place on June 6th. Twilight in the Park will take place on June 7th. The Historic Medley of Poolesville will host a Barnesville exhibit during the Heritage Montgomery Days. Holly and others will bring items to the historic John Poole House in Poolesville.

Town Hall is available for rentals and events.

Communications. The Tidbit is dearly missed as a means of communication. Holly would receive committee reports and welcome anyone to share events. She used Canva for the more recent layouts and published an issue four times per year. Other options were identified as communication outreach included an eblast, social media, or app (e.g. Nextdoor) for alerts.

New Business:

Graduation Season: Commissioner Alex invites area families to share their graduate's information with town hall. Commissioners will send out congratulation cards.

Ag Reserve Notifications: Jaime asked how the town can become more aware of and respond to events that are occurring in the Ag Reserve area. Carol and others mentioned the Montgomery Countryside Alliance and Sugarloaf Citizens Assoc. as resources. Issue of concern are the changes to permitting Solar power installation, overnight farm stays as air bnb, and distilleries.

There will be a public forum on July 10th regarding the solar panel installations. More information is available on the SCA/MCA websites.

Other comments: The Town Charter may require updates and will be reviewed. Holly mentioned the importance of going to MML meetings in staying informed of county and state government actions.

The Spring Bulk Pick-up will be on June 4th
Budget meeting will be on May 27th at 5:30pm

Motion to adjourn at 8:24pm