

Commissioners of Barnesville

Minutes

Sept. 15, 2025

Called to order at 7:33pm

Approval for the August minutes

Attendees: 6 community members, 3 commissioners, and clerk.

Reports:

Financial: Continuing the process to transfer all banking to PNC from the previous three banks. Income to the town this fiscal year has included real estate taxes and state income taxes, plus the fees for cable/internet service providers. Traffic enforcement and grounds maintenance are the greatest expenses to date.

Beautify Barnesville Curb Appeal Grants: The commissioners passed a motion to initiate the program and accept applications as defined (attached document). The grants are intended to benefit the town streetscape views, and must be visible on the mailbox side of the property. Funds are limited to \$1500 per property. Work can be done by residents or by contractors. Reimbursement is awarded at completion of the project with receipts, etc. as outlined in the grant application information. Budget period for the grant is based on the town fiscal year. Applications may be emailed or sent to the town PO Box 95, accepting beginning on Oct. 13, 2025.

Beautification: the flower beds at the park are being maintained. The project to repair the historic well structure was completed. The town paid for the materials and Gary M. paid for the contractor (Ryba Roofing) services.

Board of Appeals: no report.

Capital Improvements: The project to replace the shaker shingles on the well structure was completed. Additional projects discussed were historical photo displays, shade at the park, and other ideas that arise throughout the year.

Planning and Zoning: The formation of the planning board was discussed. The members are: Cynthia F., Carlita C. (2024), Jan B. (2025), and Woody B. (2025), with Mike Z. as the ex officio. Motion was passed to add Woody and Jan to the board. The board is permitted to hold meetings via zoom. Training for members is available through the state, for remote training. The term for board members is 5 years, members may vote others off for inactivity or members may leave if they become available. The Planning and Zoning board members are not restricted to

town residents, as they serve in an advisory capacity. The Board of Appeals members are required to be residents according to state regulations.

Zoning—a resident would like to hang a small sign on their fence for their home-based business. The work is conducted off-site, but the residence is the location for the business administration office. The commissioners will ask the town attorney for clarification.

Traffic Calming: 108 violations with maximum speeds of 59mph on Barnesville Rd and 53mph on Beallsville Rd. Patrols focused on Beallsville Rd. The question was raised if we should increase the number of stop sign patrols since this has become an increasing problem. There was a single car accident on Friday, Oct. .3. The driver had a medical emergency and did not survive. The town will send a sympathy card to the driver's family.

A question was raised if the town could take more preventative measures, in addition to the patrol work. Is there a way to make the cross-walks or stop signs more visible. We could reach out to the county and state to repaint these. The guardrail is still needing repair. Our contact at MDOT has a new position. We need to reach out to the DOT headquarters periodically to remind them of the repairs needed.

A goal of the town commissioners is to contract an engineering firm to conduct a traffic assessment and pedestrian safety. From this, we can assess the options to take in the future.

Community Connections: Meets on Wednesday to work on new resident bags. Upcoming events: final Twilight in the Park on Oct. 3rd. There could be live music or entertainment for an extra pizzazz. Apple Bake Off on Oct 26th. Movie night will be Nov. 7, more info coming soon. Steve Vogel's next book will be on Dec. 5th with a reception.

Communications: Commissioner Alex T. suggests bringing in a free-lancer for editing the Tidbit and hosting a social media presence. Clerk Tracey has a template ready for input from committee reports.

New Business: DAFIG representative Rita B.--trash incinerator area--citizens oversee what's going on by the power plants. The committee meets monthly with county officials. SCA has representatives as well. Rita serves as our Barnesville area representative. In the future, maybe DAFIG could have a future presentation at town hall for residents.