

Commissioners of Barnesville

Minutes

February 27, 2023

The meeting was held in a hybrid manner. 12 participants plus commissioners.

Called to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes from January 2023 meetings approved

Financial report

ARPA funds will be allocated to cover the costs of improved traffic safety (monitoring equipment and patrols) and storm water solutions. Recycling bins have been requested for purchase. The Maryland Local Government Investment Pool provides an alternative to inventing local government money, in place of the current certificates of deposit the town currently uses. The LGIT option provides a higher interest rate. The commissioners agreed this option should be investigated to transfer funds from the current certificates of deposit at current banks.

Beautification committee

The annual roadside cleanup will be in April with the Lion's Club will be on April 1st. The volunteers will meet at the Hilton Funeral Home as long as there is not a scheduled event there for the business. The town will provide donuts and coffee.

Sustainable Barnesville

Not active over the winter months. Several committee members are meeting for a walk at Holly's for walks on Wednesdays and Fridays at 5pm.

Board of Appeals

No activity at this time.

Capital Improvements

Sidewalks—a temporary fence was installed for the construction phase of the project. A permanent fence will be installed after the project is completed. The sidewalk will go as far as the post office.

Speed camera signs by the MARC station were put in place several months ago, but no cameras have been installed. Jim Brown inquired, but has not had a response. The signs indicate "Speed Camera Corridor" and the traffic safety division said this does not necessarily there is a camera at that location. MARC fully supports cameras in that area. Jim will ask Streethawk to inquire on camera status.

Streetlights-Contractor NGG who did the pole installation has completed their contract. Potomac Edison is no longer subcontracting on larger projects. The installation of lights has been delayed as a result. In addition, the lamps chosen by the town residents are

a non-standard product and are on backorder. The lamp installation should be completed by the end of 2023, according to Potomac Edison.

Traffic Calming

10 Patrols were conducted and speeding violations are the most common stop. 69 Stops in February with 2 midday/midweek patrols and 2 weekend patrols in addition to the rush hour traffic patrols.

The traffic monitoring box has collected data on traffic speed on Barnesville Rd. The device lasts two weeks on a charge and is placed 8-12ft above the ground to gather data. Another option to deter speeding would be dynamic speed signs. If the town purchases the signs as recommended by the county traffic enforcement division, the town would sign usage over to the county. The town would have first right of refusal for deployment of the signs. The signs would be county placed and moved among right of way locations. There are currently two approved sites on Barnesville Rd near St. Mary's church and West Harris Rd. The dynamic speed signs cost \$5500.

Large dump trucks have been traveling at a high rate of speed in Barnesville. If the trucks are county vehicles, the county can be called to file a complaint. If the trucks are private commercial, then the commercial company can be contacted. Streethawk can increase traffic patrols during the hours the trucks are being spotted.

Planning and Zoning

1 permit application pending

Community Events

Committee is open to suggestions for additional events.

Town Hall

Available for Reservations.

Communication

New Tidbit will be published in March. Send articles or info to Holly.

New Business

The Sugarloaf Citizens Association has hired a water testing company to study for PFAS. The company has offered a reduced rate for the town well when the company is testing at SCA. Reverse Osmosis systems at drinking water locations can remove PFAS. Tina Brown shared that Tim Whitehouse with SCA said the company testing water has offered a price of \$375 if 10 locations are tested. Should Town Hall be added to the testing? Probably not since we know the water is non-potable based on prior tests for other reasons. Town Hall provides bottled drinking water for this reason.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:14pm