Commissioners of Barnesville

Minutes from Town Meeting held on September 16, 2024

Call to Order at 7:32pm. Commissioners Callear and Zuckerman and 8 residents in person, Commission Constant-Egly and one resident via Zoom.

Approval of Past Minutes –

Reports:

Financial Report –

The first allotment of the state income taxes for FY2025 received. As the year progresses, contributions from the fund may need adjusted based on this income. The Full audit will take place this year, and occurs every three years. The costs will be greater compared to prior audits since the fees increased.

Beautification and Sustainable Barnesville

No report at this time. They will look at what type or location for the replacement tree for the park later this Fall. The county will plant additional items and coordinate with Lauren Greenberg for this.

Board of Appeals

No report at this time

Capital Improvements

The county is supposed to be moving the stop sign to be before the crosswalk and not after the crosswalk by the park. The pole on West Harris and Barnesville Road may be removed since it no longer has utility services connecting to it. The sidewalk unevenness due to roots and settling along Barnesville Rd needs to be examined to determine if it can be ground down.

Streetlights are still on hold for replacement. Town is waiting on a statement about changes with the state’s tariff. We may need to draft an email to the state’s public utility commissioner about it.

Traffic Calming

There were 116 violations in August. The Officer believes Waze traffic app reports his position during scheduled patrols. He does rotate between Barnesville and Beallsville roads and cars are slowing down. There were less dump trucks from the High School project in August.

Mildred inquired with the Montgomery County Police Dept. about the traffic camera revenue. The town should be getting a report in October. The town does not get revenue if the vendor costs are greater than the paid ticket revenue. The estimated vendor expense is $7500 per month per camera. The payment rate for camera tickets is reported to be approximately 80%. Of the 17 cameras in the county, Chevy Chase and Barnesville consistently generate revenue. The purpose of the cameras in Barnesville are for public safety since the town has high through-traffic volume for its size. A resident brought up a concern about tire screeching late on weekend evenings when car club traffic is passing through town. The patrol officer will be asked to hold a shift during that time. The audit of town finances will be provided to MCPD to demonstrate that revenue generated is used for town safety. The town provides the UFR to the Budget office.

There will be 10 patrols plus Halloween night in October. The Barnesville camera generates about 960 violations per week.

Planning and Zoning

No report at this time. No pending permit applications.

Community Connection and Upcoming Events

Twilight in the Park: (Community Connections) concludes on Oct 4th–might move the time to a little earlier since it is getting darker sooner.

 Movie Night on Sept. 28th with 6:30pm and 8:30pm movies–beverages, popcorn, and candy provided. Rear Window at 830 and All about Eve at 630.

 Town Trick or Treat on October 31st with patrol that night 5:30 to 8:30pm.

 Mindful Meditation: (Sustainable Barnesville)Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 8, Dec. 6

Town Hall

No rentals at this time

Communications – Send in Articles for a Fall Titbit to the town clerk

New Business

The SCA/MCA position on th eData Energy Center was discussed. Concerns over the water from area rivers and the aquifer being used to cool the centers and overall increased energy use from the power grid and noise level. An article was posted on the SCA/MCA website and NY Times picked up the story.

 Adjournment

8:15pm