

## Minutes

The Town Commissioners of Barnesville

November 16, 2020, 7:30PM

Meeting was held virtually due to Covid-19 restrictions

### Call to Order

14 residents and all 3 commissioners present

Approval of Minutes—revisions required prior to final approval

### Reports:

Financial Report- Currently over budget on the Audit, but should be fine as we continue fiscal year budget. Chesapeake Bay Foundation grant of ~\$13,000 was received and will be used to pay contractors. It will be coded as Deposit for Reimbursable Expenses for now. In the future, if more grants are obtained, we will determine a better way to budget the Grant Revenue and Grant Expenses. State Income Tax Revenue has increased so far this year; it is unclear if this is due to collections from prior years or is indicative of increasing incomes of town residents.

Beautification-No report. Town Hall will be decorated with wreaths on the doors (Bonnie Brown) and minimal decorations since it is currently closed to the public.

Sustainable Barnesville--Joyce Bailey is working on addressing the county food shortages and coordinating with WUMCO. The committee will gear up at the end of the winter to encourage people to plan for larger vegetable gardens so more fresh produce can be donated to food pantries. Hilton Funeral home is accepting donations of non-perishable food in their entryway. WUMCO is also requesting non-food donations for the Holidays.

Board of Appeals--Brian Capaldo was approved as a new member and was informed of training available through the state of Maryland. Paul Lepine stated the Master Plan revised section on the Board of Appeals is appropriate.

Capital Improvements--Sidewalks: Craig Rice said he would work with the town to help with Vision Zero Initiative.

Stormwater: Outreach meetings (virtual and on-site) were held. Holly met with the contractor at West Harris Rd near the Lepine's driveway to discuss drainage issues in that area as well. The CBF Grant status report was submitted. CPJ engineering will provide an initial plan in December and the next stage for the grant should we decide to apply is March 2021.

Park Development--The hardscaping at the park is nearly done. Planting beds will be completed next, followed by signs, patio furniture, and fence-line flower beds. After Thanksgiving, plants will be purchased and volunteer days established. Weather should not stop plantings until later in December. The Sustainable Barnesville and Beautification Committees volunteered to help.

Traffic Calming--The work on the Bridge over the Monocacy is nearly complete; it may close for a weekend to do final completion. Meg Menke suggested the Town could send a thank you note to the MDOT-Frederick branch for the work completed on the Monocacy Bridge. Streethawk Patrol for October issued 59 citations. Beallsville Road is the bigger problem. Citations issued were to new individuals. November has no W. Harris Road patrols scheduled. Letter was drafted about j braking to MDOT, their reply stated that controls on this type of braking are prohibited on the state routes. Guard rails damaged in our area over the past few months are on the list to be repaired. Resident Mike Zuckerman requested road restriping and was told the order will be put in with the Gaithersburg MCDOT. Obtaining the MARC speed camera is still a work in progress and there may be a need to reach a threshold of traffic use in order to have a camera installed.

Planning and Zoning-Master Plan Revision is done and the public hearing was held. Next step will be to send to the commissioners as an electronic copy for review. There needs to be a 60 day notice for a Public Hearing for Acceptance by the Commissioners and to solicit additional public feedback. Should legal review be sought prior to the final acceptance? Legal review may start sooner since several ordinance changes are included. The state and county previously provided comments. Meg recommended having a Public Hearing date in mind prior to meeting with the town attorney, such as Feb or March.

Community Events--The events committee met on Nov. 13th and will meet in late November again. Upcoming events:

Holiday House decorating with photos on social media, the Monocle, and the Tidbit.

Wreath Demonstration with Linda Pepe and the Monocacy Garden Club.

Craft demonstration with Dalis.

Gingerbread house decorating with Darina.

Additional ideas for Spring were proposed: bird craft, oaks and other native trees, pizza demonstration, composting demonstration, breadmaking, or a Bingo or Game night.

Town Hall currently closed to the public

Communications--Great job on the latest issue of the Tidbit. The town website is getting revamped by Judy Stone and a committee is testing it out. More historic photos of Barnesville are requested.

#### New Business

- Stormwater--Should we form a committee to address stormwater issues? First review how other small communities are approaching stormwater projects and think ahead. The Village of Chevy Chase includes stormwater impact in their building permit process. It was suggested that a citizen committee be formed to address longstanding development plans regarding stormwater management. Additional input needed to engage the community and determine how to utilize resources wisely to address stormwater issues. Request for community feedback to identify potential problems, project, and volunteer resources.

- Archival record of past and present ordinances. Holly will initiate a project to inventory and record copies.
- M.Zuckerman called the county 311 hotline and learned that the speed limit sign on Barnesville Rd will be replaced in January 2021. The Lane Markings on Barnesville Road are scheduled by March 2021. And, reflective markers for lanes will be added.
- Paul Lepine shared that tree trimmers contracted by First Energy Corp. will be coming early December to Mid January to the area to trim along power lines.
- Several residents reported Verizon was notifying residents that they were switching phone service from analog to digital and customers would need to switch services/equipment.
- Streethawk reported they checked with the county on the man found loitering in Barnesville earlier. The man had no criminal history and the county provided medical and mental health services for him.
- Carol Perlmeter will be giving the Town a large map on the history of the county.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:56pm.