

**Barnesville City Council
Special Meeting
November 18, 2014**

Mayor Gene Prim called this special meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Council members Larry Davis, Jr, Jason Rick, Don Goedtke, Richard Sylvester, Betty Strom and Cathy Enstad. . Others in attendance were, City Administrator Mike Rietz, City Attorney John Shockley, City Clerk Jeri Rep, Finance Director Laurie Schell, Joel Paulson and Jon Pauna with KLJ Engineering, Public Works Supt. Trevor Moen, Todd Hagen with Ehlers & Associates, and Jacob Underlee with the Record Review.

Mayor Prim stated the only item on the special meeting was the discussion on the Financial Management Plan from Ehlers & Associates.

Mr. Todd Hagen with Ehlers & Associates stated that he worked with the KLJ Engineering on this report. Mr. Hagen stated that he prepared this report with information on the Capital Improvement Plan, the wish list of projects for the city, and to make the budgeting easier for these projects.

Mr. Hagen discussed the different scenarios of a 10 year capital improvement plan, with 50% assessment and with a 30% assessment. Mr. Hagen stated that an assessment is a benefit the customer is receiving.

Council member Rick questioned what should our tax capacity be at. Mr. Hagen stated that a person doesn't want it to high, and suggested a comparison of surrounding communities.

City Administrator Mike Rietz stated that the current assessment policy is at 50% assessment.

Council member Sylvester questioned what bond payments we have, and stated that he was disappointed in the report.

Mr. Hagen with Ehlers stated that the current bonds are in the report.

Council member Rick questioned City Engineer Joel Paulson with KLJ Engineering what projects should be completed first. Mr. Paulson stated that the Northwest area accepts a large amount of the sewage and the mains are very old pipes and are having issues with them. Mr. Paulson stated that the interest rates are extremely low right now.

Mr. Jon Pauna with KLJ Engineering stated that it makes sense to group projects together; it would bring down some of the costs.

Mayor Prim stated we need to prioritize the projects. Mr. Prim asked what our chances for a grant are.

Mr. Paulson stated that it depends on the median household income.

Mayor Prim stated what is not included in this report is other projects, such as the Blue Eagle Lake project, and infrastructure for a new sub-division.

City Administrator Mike Rietz stated that we are scheduled for two meetings with Mr. Hagen with Ehlers & Associates, and the next meeting should narrow down which projects we would like to do in the future.

Mayor Prim directed staff, Ehlers & Associates and KLJ Engineering to prioritize projects before the next meeting and include the information for the regular meeting in December.

Mayor Prim stated that there would be a special meeting on December 15th at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the Financial Management Plan in more detail.

Mayor Prim adjourned the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

Submitted by:

Attest:

Jeri Reep
City Clerk

Eugene Prim
Mayor