

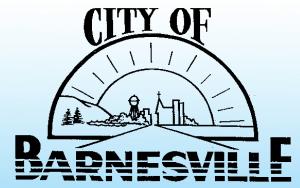
# KEEPING YOU CONNECTED



LOOK FOR INSERT!



GIVING  
HEARTS  
DAY



A Monthly Newsletter for our Utility Customers • 24/7 [www.barnesvillemn.com](http://www.barnesvillemn.com) • January 2026

Are you or someone you know looking for help with home repair assistance? Applications now being accepted for Group Workcamp in Barnesville July 20-24, 2026. Labor and materials are **FREE** to qualifying households.

Call Kat (218) 512-1558 or  
Apply online!

2026 Lakes and Prairies  
Community Action Group Work  
Camp Application



#### Types of Repairs:

- Painting (exterior & interior)
- Weather stripping
- Porch/step repair or construction
- Caulking around windows/doors
- Wheelchair ramp construction
- Handrails
- New mobile home skirting

**CAP**  **LP**  
Lakes & Prairies Community Action Partnership



 GROUP **WORKCAMPS**  
HOME REPAIR



**Thank you for your  
service as a  
City Council member**

**Dawn Stuvland  
1978-2026**

*Rest in Peace*

On January 3, Dawn lost her courageous battle with leukemia. Dawn served as a City Council member in Ward 1 from 2015 until her passing.

During that time she served with dedication and integrity. We join Dawn's family and friends in mourning her loss. Her voice and commitment to the community will be missed.

## Watch for New 2026 Phone Directory!

The new 2026 Phone Directory should arrive in your mail at the end of the month. The directory features a **NEW** Community Services section with **2026 events, recycling calendar** and much more! If you don't receive your directory, stop by City Hall to pick one up.

## New Time for City Council Meetings

Effective in February, the starting time for the monthly City Council Meetings will switch to **6:00 pm**, except in January when meetings will start at 7:00 pm.

## New Barnesville Polling Site

Beginning with the Primary Election on August 11, the location for Barnesville residents to vote has been changed to the **Barnesville Event Center** (former American Legion Clubhouse) located at **101 2nd St. SE**. This facility is handicap accessible. Please note this change.



## Chillin' in Brrrville - Sunday Feb.22

See Bill Message on enclosed utility bill for all the details. Free event will be held at Blue Eagle Park.

## City Offices closed on February 16

Barnesville City Hall will be closed on **Monday, February 16** in observance of President's Day.

## Now is the Time to License Pets....

Care For Your  
**PET**

A reminder to all pet owners that **all dogs and cats owned within the Barnesville city limits are required to be licensed each and every January 1**. If you have not done so already, please stop in at the Barnesville City Hall, the Police Department or Barnesville Animal Care Clinic to purchase a license.

Not only is licensing your pets the law, having a current pet license will help Animal Control locate the owner of a lost pet!

**BARNESVILLE CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting • December 8, 2025**

Regular City Council Meetings are held the second Monday of every month beginning at 6:30 pm in the City Council Chambers located at the rear of City Hall. The public are welcome. The agenda is posted on the City's website and Facebook page.

These are summaries of the minutes. The complete minutes are available online at [www.barnesvillemn.com](http://www.barnesvillemn.com) or at City Hall.

Mayor Rick called this regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Member's present were Council members Alyssa Bergman, Tonya Stokka, Brad Field, and Don Goedtke. Absent were Council members Dawn Stuvland and Scott Bauer.

12-08-25-01 Motion Bergman, second Goedtke to approve the agenda as presented, with the addition of hiring Clay Danielson, Ella Cossette, and Tessa Aberle as EMT's. Motion carried.

12-08-25-02 Motion Stokka, second Bergman to approve the consent agenda, with the addition of hiring EMT's Clay Danielson, Ella Cossette, and Tessa Aberle. Motion carried.

12-08-25-03 Motion Goedtke, second Stokka to open the public hearing for the truth-in-taxation hearing presentation at 6:40 p.m. Motion carried.

12-08-25-04 Motion Stokka, second Goedtke to close the public hearing for the truth-in-taxation hearing at 6:50 p.m. Motion carried.

12-08-25-05 Motion Field, second Stokka to approve the 2026 levy resolution, upon a roll call vote, motion carried.

12-08-25-06 Motion Bergmann, second Stokka to approve the 2026 budget resolution, upon a roll call vote, motion carried.

12-08-25-07 Motion Field, second by Stokka to approve the 2026 employee wages as presented. Motion carried.

12-08-25-08 Motion Field, second Goedtke to approve the Committing Fund Balance Resolution. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried.

12-08-25-09 Motion Bergman, second Stokka to authorize Finance Director Laurie Schell to approve the year end checks and payroll checks. Motion carried.

12-08-25-10 Motion Bergman, second Goedtke to approve the 1st reading of Ordinance 2026-01, an ordinance enacting code of ordinances for the city. Motion carried.

12-08-25-11 Motion Field, second Stokka to approve the variance for Keith Behrends, 805 4 1/2 Ave NE. Motion carried.

12-08-25-12 Motion Field, second Goedtke to approve the CUP for Bakken Millwright and Design, Commercial Park, 5th Addition, 1801 4th AveNE, Unit 5. Motion carried.

12-08-25-13 Motion Bergman, second Goedtke to approve the land donation agreement with the Wagner Family Trust. Motion carried.

12-08-25-14 Motion Bergman, second Stokka to approve the resolution designating the Barnesville Event Center as the election polling place in 2026. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried.

12-08-25-15 Motion Stokka, second Goedtke to close the regular meeting at 7:15 p.m. to go into a closed session for the City Administrator annual review. Motion carried.

12-08-25-16 Motion Bergman, second Stokka to open the closed meeting at 7:40 p.m. Motion carried.

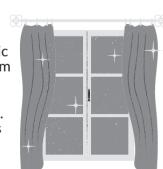
Mayor Rick adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

## Changes at Recycling Center

Barnesville residents are reminded that we have transitioned from a recycling center in a building that was available very limited hours to a new recycling area that is available 24/7/365. The rolloffs have been moved to the area under the lean-to structure just to the west of the former recycling center.

We hope you will enjoy the increased access.

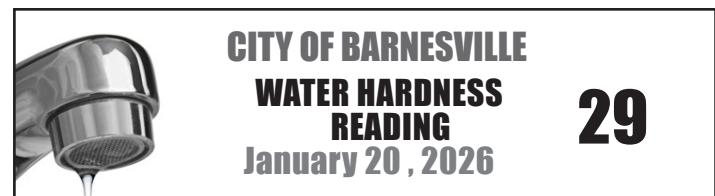
## Energy Saving Ideas to Save you \$\$\$

<p><b>TAKE ADVANTAGE OF HEAT FROM THE SUN</b></p>  <p>Open curtains on your south-facing windows during the day to allow sunlight to naturally heat your home, and close them at night to reduce the chill you may feel from cold windows.</p>	<p><b>LOWER YOUR HOLIDAY LIGHTING COSTS</b></p>  <p>Use LED holiday light strings to reduce the cost of decorating your home for the winter holidays.</p>
<p><b>COVER DRAFTY WINDOWS</b></p>  <p>Use a heavy-duty plastic sheet or clear plastic film on the inside of your window frames during the cold winter months. Make sure the plastic is sealed tightly to the frame to help reduce infiltration.</p>	<p><b>ADJUST THE TEMPERATURE</b></p>  <p>When you're home &amp; awake set your thermostat as low as is comfortable. When you are asleep or out of the house, turn your thermostat back 10° to 15° for eight hours and save around 10% a year on your heating and cooling bills.</p>
<p><b>REDUCE HEAT LOSS FROM THE FIREPLACE</b></p>  <p>Keep your fireplace damper closed unless a fire is burning. Keeping the damper open is like keeping a window wide open during the winter; it allows warm air to go right up the chimney. If you never use your fireplace, plug and seal the chimney flue.</p>	<p><b>FIND AND SEAL LEAKS</b></p>  <p>Seal the air leaks around utility cut-throughs for pipes, gaps around chimneys and recessed lights in insulated ceilings, and unfinished spaces behind cupboards and closets. Add caulk or weatherstripping to seal air leaks around leaky doors and windows.</p>

## Stop Annoying Telemarketers... Register on the DO NOT CALL List!

You have a choice regarding telemarketing calls. **If your number is listed on the Do Not Call registry, all commercial telemarketers, except for businesses with whom you have an existing relationship or certain non-profit and political organizations, can not call you.**

Register your residential telephone number, including wireless numbers, on the national Do-Not-Call Registry at no cost, either by phone at **(888)382-1222** or for TTY, call **(866) 290-4236**. You must call from the telephone number that you wish to register. You may also register, or obtain additional information, via the Internet at [www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov). Registration will be effective 31 days after registration.





## MUNICIPAL TELEPHONE

# Are you having trouble using the telephone due to a hearing or speech disability?

Minnesota Relay is a free telephone service that uses specially trained communications assistants to facilitate telephone calls between people with hearing and speech disabilities and other individuals. Calls can be made to anywhere in the world, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. All calls are completely confidential. To make a relay call dial 711. Once connected to the relay service, tell the communications assistant the type of relay call you wish to make. Or you may dial the specific toll-free number for the type of relay service.

### **Captioned Telephone Service (CTS)**

CTS uses a special telephone with a text display screen so that a person who is hard of hearing *can listen to and read captions* of everything the other person on the call says. You speak directly to the other person on the call, and a relay communications assistant transcribes everything the other person says into captions, which appear on the display screen of your CTS phone.

### **Internet Protocol Captioned Telephone Service (IP CTS)**

Internet-based forms of CTS are available for those who would like to use CTS on a computer, tablet, or smartphone. For more information on IP CTS go to [fcc.gov/ipts](http://fcc.gov/ipts).

### **Hearing Carry Over (HCO): 1-800-627-3529**

HCO allows a person who can hear clearly but who has very limited or no speech capability to make phone calls. Using a special text telephone, you type your conversation for the relay communications assistant to read to the other person and you listen directly to the other person's response.

### **Hearing User: 1-800-627-3529**

A hearing person may use a standard telephone or mobile phone to place a relay call and speak with a person who is deaf, hard of hearing, or speech disabled.

### **Internet Protocol (IP) Relay**

IP Relay is a text-based form of relay service that uses the internet, rather than a traditional telephone line and TTY, for calls. You can make your relay call using a computer, laptop, tablet, or smartphone. For more information on IP Relay go to [fcc.gov/ip-relay](http://fcc.gov/ip-relay).

### **Spanish Relay: 1-877-627-5448**

A Spanish speaking person with a hearing or speech disability can make relay calls. This is not a translation service – both people must speak Spanish, and at least one person must have a hearing or speech disability.

### **Speech-to-Speech (STS): 1-877-627-3848**

STS allows a person who has difficulty speaking or being understood on the phone to communicate using his or her own voice or voice synthesizer. The communications assistant revoices your words so that the other person on the call can understand them, and the other person speaks directly to you.

### **Text Telephone (TTY): 1-800-627-3529**

This service allows a person who is deaf, deafblind, or speech disabled to use a TTY to communicate with the other person on the call.

### **Video Relay Service (VRS)**

VRS allows a person who uses American Sign Language (ASL) to communicate over the phone. The VRS user connects to the relay communications assistant via an internet-enabled device with a video camera. The communications assistant relays the conversation back and forth between the people on the call – in ASL with the VRS user and by voice with the other person. For more information on VRS go to [fcc.gov/vrs](http://fcc.gov/vrs).

### **Voice Carry Over (VCO): 1-877-627-3024**

VCO allows a person with a hearing disability, but who wants to use his or her own voice, to speak directly to the other person on the call. The communications assistant then types the other person's response, which is displayed on the VCO user's text telephone.

### **Emergency Assistance**

TTY callers should dial 911 directly in an emergency. All 911 centers are equipped to handle TTY calls. Minnesota Relay can process emergency calls, but this may delay the response to your call.

### **For More Information on Minnesota Relay Services**

[mnrelay.org](http://mnrelay.org)  
1-800-657-3775

### **To File a Complaint Regarding Minnesota Relay**

1-800-657-3775

Email: [mn.relay@state.mn.us](mailto:mn.relay@state.mn.us)

You will need to provide: the date and time of the relay call, the calling from and to phone numbers, the CA's identification number, and the nature of your complaint.

You may also file a complaint with the Federal Communications Commission

[consumercomplaints.fcc.gov](http://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov)

Voice: 1-888-225-5322

TTY: 1-888-835-5322

ASL via VP: 1-844-432-2275

### **Minnesota Access to Communication Technology (MN ACT)**

MN ACT provides free specialized telecommunications equipment to income eligible Minnesotans who are having trouble using the telephone due to a hearing, speech, or physical disability.

[mn.gov/deaf-hard-of-hearing/communication-access/mnact/](http://mn.gov/deaf-hard-of-hearing/communication-access/mnact/)

Voice: 1-800-657-3663

ASL via VP: 651-964-1514

# Apply for Lifeline

Lifeline is a federal program that helps lower the monthly cost of your phone or internet service.

## You May Qualify

Get up to \$9.25/month off your phone, internet, or bundled service.

- If you, a child, or a dependent participate in a government assistance program like:
  - SNAP
  - Medicaid
  - Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
  - Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit
  - Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- If your income is at or below 135% of the [Federal Poverty Guidelines](#)  
Learn more about [how to qualify](#).

## Information Needed

We will use this information to see if you qualify for a discount:

- Your full name
- Your date of birth
- The last four digits of your Social Security Number
- Your home address
- An email address (so we can contact you)

If your address is not permanent or not recognized by the USPS, use the mapping tool in the online application to describe your location.

If your eligibility, identity, or address cannot be confirmed automatically, you will need to submit additional documents. Learn how in our [acceptable documentation guide](#).

## One Per Household

Only one Lifeline discount is allowed per household.

A **household** is a group of people who live together and share money.

If you share housing but don't share your money, you and your housemates are considered separate households.

## Learn More

Visit [LifelineSupport.org](#) to find participating phone and internet companies and see if you are eligible.

### RELATED RESOURCES:

-  [Lifeline Program Overview](#)
-  [How To Apply](#)
-  [Manage Your Benefit](#)

## How to Apply



Apply online at [LifelineSupport.org](#).

— OR —



Print and fill out a paper application from [LifelineSupport.org](#), then mail it with proof of eligibility to:

Lifeline Support Center  
PO Box 1000, Horseheads, NY 14845

— OR —



Contact [Barnesville City Hall](#) at (218) 354-2292 and we can assist you in applying.



Universal Service  
Administrative Co.

NEED HELP?

Call (800) 234-9473 or Email [LifelineSupport@usac.org](mailto:LifelineSupport@usac.org).

# College is REALLY EXPENSIVE!



The cost of continued education has skyrocketed, as has the amount of debt students must incur.  
Scholarships can be life changing!



*“I am motivated to continue my passion for learning and to advance at a higher level, a scholarship would help make that possible! ”*

**Aubree Ernst**, Current Barnesville Senior  
Post Graduate Plans: NDSU for Nursing

## Help Our Barnesville Graduates!

It takes a village. Every dollar given will go to award scholarships for our BHS graduates!



**GIVING HEARTS DAY**



*“Receiving a BEST scholarship would mean a great deal to me! It would remove some financial burden, allowing me to focus on college...opening more doors, allowing more opportunities.”*

**Jack Axness**, Current Barnesville Senior  
Post Graduate Plans: South Dakota School of Mines for Mechanical Engineering



Make Early Gifts TODAY  
[at GivingHeartsDay.org!](http://GivingHeartsDay.org)



Barnesville  
Area Community Fund



## Make Your Financial Gift Today:

**Online:** Make your financial gift anytime between now and Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at [GivingHeartsDay.org](http://GivingHeartsDay.org). Click DONATE and search for Barnesville!

**By Check:** Mail to Barnesville Area Community Fund; PO Box 461, Barnesville, MN 56514. **or** Drop off at Midwest Bank. Please write Giving Hearts Day in the Memo Line!

***Thanks to our generous sponsors,  
donations will be matched up to \$57,788!***

Agassiz Valley Grain, LLC • Ray Schindler Family • Hugh Trowbridge  
Barnesville Grocery • Joanne Halverson • Jeff and Kay Kava  
Strand Ace Hardware • Valley Care and Rehab • City of Barnesville  
Scott and Heather Jerald • Ratzo's Pool Hall • Ken and Jan Bauer  
Craig, Karen and Connie Shulstad • Midwest Bank • Barnesville Lions  
Dean's Bulk Service • Education Minnesota - Barnesville  
Moore Engineering • Brad and Marla Field • Barnesville Animal Clinic  
Barnesville Record Review • and others

**“We have supported scholarships for students because it helps reduce the financial barriers many families face and allows students to focus on their education. Please consider a donation. Every student deserves the opportunity to fulfill their dreams.”**

**Holly & Brett Inniger,**  
Barnesville Residents



**“As a past recipient, I remember how grateful I was for the community support as I began my college career. The BEST program offers a great opportunity for students to pursue their dreams! ”**

**Jordan Poepping,** Barnesville Class of 2021  
Personal Banker at Cornerstone Bank



**BEST: Barnesville Education Scholarships for Tomorrow**



**Barnesville Area Community Fund**  
PO Box 461 Barnesville, MN 56514  
218.354.2145