

Listening Part 4: Listening to a News Item – Transcript

You will hear a news item about a community hockey team.

During a press conference on Friday, Mayor Billy Barnes announced that the city would be paying the owners of the Bausworth BC Tigers hockey team four million dollars to end their contract with the city of Bausworth. The 10-year contract was originally signed in 2010, and the four million dollar figure was an agreed-upon penalty the city would pay if they broke the contract.

The mayor acknowledged that the city had been losing money for years due to low attendance at Bausworth Arena. He reminded the small crowd gathered that it was his predecessor, Michael Matteoli, who initially signed the contract with the team. Barnes said he believed Matteoli made a mistake, but did not blame him.

“The fact is, we should have realized that a city of our size, with a population less than 80,000, is simply not capable of filling an 8,000-seat arena for 30 games per season,” Barnes said.

The team’s owners could not be reached for comment, but anonymous reports suggest that the team is considering relocating to Lukin City, Ontario, which has a population of 200,000.