

**PRE-MEETING
BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MAY 15th , 2017**

Council vice-president Mr. Trzcianka called the Pre-Meeting of Council to order at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Baden Municipal Building, 149 State Street, to conduct business of general purposes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mr. Kotula, Mrs. Montell, Mr. Shelkons, Mr. Stuban, and Mr. Trzcianka
(Not Present: Mr. Besong and Mrs. Furr)

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Sam Gagliardi, Officer Shipley and Foreman Michael Josapak

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OTHER RECORDING DEVICES

AGENDA (Changes and/or Deletions)

VISITORS

Patsy Borriello addressed council in regards to water runoff along the alley where catch basins were put in a couple of years ago. During the two down pours last week from Berry Street the only catch basin that is catching water is the one on the right. Nothing on the left. He stated that he was crucified by certain people because he wouldn't give the ok to put a catch basin on his property; it wouldn't have done any good. He stated that what's there isn't a catch basin; it was put there to hold water because it is more than 48 square foot. One catch basin toward Bryan Avenue sits high. He stated that one catch basin could have been put in and it would have saved a lot of money. Mr. Borriello commented that he was never included on this plan and he is the one paying the price, no one else. He has been complaining for 30 years and nothing was ever done. He stated that he spoke before council for 15 minutes on this same issue and the minutes only say a few words. Mr. Borriello stated that whatever he says doesn't count. The water from the alley is draining onto the neighbor's property and then into the basement of his (vacant) white house. Mr. Borriello then addressed the CEO saying he was going to condemn his building. He stated that he wants council to know that he will not speak to that man (CEO). The CEO has been harassing him for 30 years and he is a mole for someone. Mr. Borriello stated that he has no use for the man (CEO) who comes around with a camera, he comes around with this. Mr. Trzcianka stated that this is the first time that he heard that the catch basins were no working. Mr. Borriello stated that let it be known that he will not talk to him (CEO) unless he has a witness beside him. He will not answer the phone calls, but he will call him back. Patsy has no use for him (CEO) and he has enough evidence on that man to put him in jail. Mr. Borriello continued to address getting a fine of over \$100 from a part time police officer who said he got a complaint from somebody who said he threw grass onto the street. Mr. Shelkons asked Mr. Borriello if he was looking for answers from him since Mr. Borriello was looking at him. Mr. Borriello stated to Mr. Shelkons that you were not elected to get even with somebody. Mr. Borriello said that he is the one who encouraged Mr. Shelkons to run for council. Mr. Shelkons stated that he is not being picked on and is not being treated any differently than anyone else. Mr. Borriello responded that the politic thing doesn't work for him. Mr. Trzcianka stated that the engineer would have to look into this. Mr. Stuban noted that a motion would need to be done. Mr. Borriello then addressed his neighbor putting downspouts on his building that go out onto the sidewalk washing gravel all over the sidewalk. The sidewalk was cut up and no permit was given. Mrs. Rakovan noted that this issue was turned over to the CEO for handling. Mr. Trzcianka asked that the information be given to the building inspector too. Mr. Borriello went back to commenting about the CEO stating that someone needs to tell him (CEO) that he can't just call people up and tell them who complained. Mr. Kostial concurred with

Mr. Borriello giving his own personal experience with the CEO. Council stated that the CEO would be spoken to.

Mr. Kolakowski thanked council for doing everything they could in regards to researching the mirror request. He also thanked council for addressing abandoned homes in town, especially the house that is located on Center Street. Mr. Stuban explained the process with judicial sales, tax forgiveness and condemnation of the properties. Further discussion followed regarding options for cleaning up the properties and vacant buildings. Mr. Kostial asked that council look at Fourth Avenue.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Secretary

Correspondence

1. Letter from Bill Barno thanking the Baden Police Department and Chief Christner for addressing a potential problems and solving it quick for him. He also thanks Council, Borough Secretary and her office staff, the fire department, and street department for making Baden the best little town around. Baden is the town he loves to live in.
2. Letter from Ashley Cravotta regarding a parking issue in front of her residence at 372 State Street. There is a fire hydrant, bus stop and 15 minute only parking sign in front of her house. They have 4 vehicles with little to no parking available. She asks that council assist her with this matter. (Copy given to the police)

Congressman Keith Rothfus

Congressman Rothfus will be in Baden Borough in the evening on Monday, June 5th for a community outreach (tickets will be required and limited to 80 citizens). He will be using the community room and asks that there be one police officer present.

Newsletter

Mailed to all Baden addresses first week of May.

Roof

Burns and Scalo inspected the borough building and fire department roofs. Proper repair would be costly and both roofs have less than 5 years left with continuous patching as leaks occur. Asked Burns & Scalo to give us an estimate to replace the roofs.

Welcome To Baden Signs

Jason's Custom Woodworking will build two "Welcome to Baden" signs with white composite for letters and trim so that it will never need painted at a cost of \$3,539.80. This would be with Baden removing the signs and digging the holes for the new signs.

Mr. Kostial asked about putting a Welcome to Baden sign on Phillips Street. He is still working with PennDOT to get approval. Mrs. Montell asked about getting a smaller sign that wouldn't require maintenance.

Mirror for Harmony Road

Letter has been sent to the resident on Harmony Road regarding the change in laws pertaining to convex mirrors being illegal on public streets.

Jail Community Service Program

Mayor Gagliardi emailed the form to the secretary. The form must be specific as to what work will need to be done as well as when and how often.

Checks Written Per Budget

Library \$18,000
Recreation Board \$4,000
Veterans Service \$525
Judi Montell \$500 (per motion for Flowers)

Ordinances Tabled November 2015

941 Amending the Code striking Chapter 170

942 Establishing the licensing and inspection of all rental units

Catch Basin on private parking lot

There is an issue with water running from a private apartment parking lot onto the neighbor's property and flooding their garage. The homeowner has gone through the CEO and Building Inspector who told them that it was a civil matter. The homeowner persisted so it was turned over to the engineer to see if it may be an MS4 matter. The engineer went to the sight and determined that it is not an MS4 matter. The apartment owner wants approval that the replacement of the 6 inch pipe with a 10 inch pipe would resolve this matter. This is not for our engineer to determine unless council wishes to pay for the engineer to do so. All the engineer would do is once that property owner makes the correction he feel is necessary then the engineer will document the pipe size and outfall location. Discussion took place as to who should inform the property owner of the answer to his request.

Public Works

Mr. Josapak informed council that the prospect tank generator should be complete within a few weeks. Concrete pad will be poured on Wednesday. The electrical work at Kellinger tank is complete. The electric at the end of the driveway is also complete. The signs are lit and there are outlets available by the signs. The backup batteries have been purchased (5 batteries at \$200 each) and the Scada system is up and running.

Police Department

Officer Shipley presented to Council a mutual aid agreement with the county that they are asking for the solicitor to review and council to approve. The agreement states that the county will assume all liability for the mutual aid.

Officer Shipley informed Council that he received a \$1,500 grant from Walmart. He would like to use the money to purchase one iPad for police vehicle to run JNET as well as getting a hotspot for internet connection. Total cost for equipment would be \$1,125. He also noted that the Walmart Grant may be applied for every 6 months and he will make certain to do so. Officer Shipley is also working with Walmart to obtain a free camera that is currently sitting in the evidence room. On Friday, May 19th Officer Shipley will be getting pinned for the ESU at the Courthouse at 9:00 AM. Council was invited to attend and there will be people there to answer questions regarding the ESU.

Fire Department

Mr. Baker noted that council has a copy of his report. He asked council that if at any point in the future if the police department is going to trade in an SUV if council would consider donating it to the fire department so that it may be used for transportation of fire fighters.

Mr. Baker also addressed the need for volunteer fire fighters during daylight hours to respond to calls in Baden Borough. It was commented by Council that borough employees are permitted to go to fire calls in town and out of town with chief approval. Further conversation took place to clarify borough employees who are firemen to go to fire calls within Baden Borough. Mr. Josapak noted that years ago the public works department was considered auxiliary fire fighters.

Mr. Baker addressed the no burn ordinance versus recreational fires, noting that the one "recreational" fire cause two acres of property to burn up off of Phillips Street. Council agreed that the no burn ordinance should be included in the next newsletter.

CEO

Not Present

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration & Finance (John Shelkons)

General Fund Balance \$185,216	Expenses \$100,222
Water Fund Balance \$262,986	Expenses \$55,028

Buildings, Property & Grounds (Ted Kotula)

Mr. Kotula asked for a library update. Mr. Trzcianka stated that the railings have been cut off and the brackets are being made. The contractor will be coming in to do the brickwork. The brackets will be bolted to the side of the wall instead of into the top of the ramp. The wholes on the ramp will be filled in with some sort of grout.

Mr. Kotula stated that both he and Mr. Shelkons are trying to get ahold of the electrician for the park. Mrs. Trzcianka noted that the electrician does have some family health issues that he may be dealing with. She noted that she will try to get ahold of him.

Mr. Kotula addressed a document that he sent to council regarding job duties of committee members. He is putting a book together to help us out.

Public Safety (Ted Kotula)

Mr. Kotula stated that Sgt. Alvarez gave him an update the police vehicles. He noted that the one police vehicle (Explorer) needed more repairs than initially thought so the cost was \$1,600 instead of the \$250. The vehicle needs four new cylinders.

Community Relations (Michael Stuban)

Mr. Stuban addressed Council in regards to the Community Day event in June that will include Touch-A-Truck. He asked that included be a police car, back hoe, borough truck and whatever equipment that the kids could look at.

Mr. Stuban stated that he, John Shelkons and Judi Montell drove around town to look at properties that may need condemned. This included houses on Chestnut Street, Straube Avenue, Grant Avenue, Jones Avenue and First Street. The Jefferson Street house is being researched to see if we can get the taxes cleared and have the property turned over to the borough.

Public Works (Dave Trzcianka)

Nothing to report

Sanitation, Recycling & Municipal Authority (Judi Montell)

Mrs. Montell stated that the librarian received no further information regarding Walmart donating flowers.

Mrs. Montell addressed residents putting leaf bags out that are not getting picked up because our leaf pickup dates are in the fall. She stated that we are going to look at adding a spring leaf pickup date.

Recreation & Communications / Library (Suzie Furr)

Mr. Shelkons reported that the community yard sale is June 3rd. The maps have been sent to the printer. June 17th will be Community Day.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Gagliardi stated that the American Legion electronic sign is working.

President's Report

Nothing to Report

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Borriello stated that everyone knows that he is hard of hearing and he can't wear a hearing aid. He cannot hear the meetings in Council Chambers. Microphones are only good if you use them. He has records from last five years on everyone. Council is not using the microphone. Mr. Borriello asked council what is going to happen. They have money for everything else. \$5,000 for a newsletter is worthless. He has to wait 90 days to get the minutes on the website. Mr. Borriello asked why council can't buy new stuff when they have money for everything else. Mr. Trzcianka commented that the speaker system was tested and it is working fine. Mr. Borriello said that is if you use them.

Mr. Stuban stated that he is going to recess the meeting today for May 22nd at 6:30 PM. This is so we can go over long range planning and the four month budget.

Mrs. Montell stated that she got comments from neighbors and the newsletter was fantastic. She said good job to everyone who worked on it.

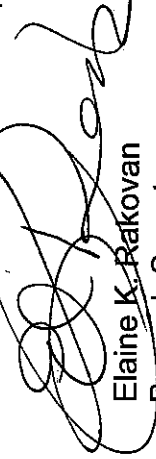
Mr. Borriello asked to inject one more thing stating that if there is no improvement upstairs then he is going to request to record the minute with a high powerful camera. He cannot wait 60 days, 90 days to find out what is going on and some councilmen think this is fun when he can't hear. Mr. Borriello said he can't hear Besong,, the engineer and the solicitor. He continued by saying if this is not straightened up then this is forcing him to file a complaint with the ADA. Once it starts the borough can be fined. If that is what council wants then that leaves him no choice to do that. He stated that he is entitled to hear what everyone says no matter where he is sitting. Mr. Borriello said that this is discrimination against him, 101%.

RECESS

MOTION by Mr. Stuban, second by Mr. Kotula, carried unanimously to recess the meeting until Monday, May 22nd at 6:30 PM.

Meeting recessed at 7:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,



Elaine K. Rakovan
Borough Secretary
June 19th, 2017