

**PRE-MEETING  
BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL  
DECEMBER 14, 2015**

Council President Mrs. Montell called the Regular Session of Council to order at 7:00 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. Besong, Mr. Kotula, Mr. Shelkons, Mr. Stuban, Mr. Trzcianka and Mrs. Montell (Not Present: Mrs. Michaels)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mayor Sam Gagliardi

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OTHER RECORDING DEVICES**

**AGENDA (Changes and/or Deletions)**

**VISITORS**

- Tom Turney, 334 and 336 State Street stated that as the 2015 tax collector he will be turning over all items paid for by the borough to the secretary on January 4<sup>th</sup>. He also noted that as of that date 173 outstanding parcels have not paid their borough taxes. This information is not 100% accurate due to early 2015 taxes that were collected prior to him by the previous collector. He also stated that Mrs. Michaels is on track with being sworn in and up and running. After January 3<sup>rd</sup> he will be forwarding all tax mail to Mrs. Michaels. He will be turning over his tax records to the borough auditor the first week of January. Secondly Mr. Turney addressed his concern with the tax rates and knowing how citizens have difficulty paying their taxes. He asked that other avenues of revenue be looked at.
- Patsy Borriello, 501 Bryan Avenue addressed Council in regards to the street sweeper not cleaning up in front of his property on State Street stating that all the leaves on State Street are in front of his building. He stated that he called the borough secretary twice regarding this matter (A work order was written up). Mr. Stuban explained that the public works department was fixing waterlines and addressing other issues. He also commented that State Street is a state (PennDot) road. Mr. Borriello also addressed the street lights not working and him not being able to hear during the meetings. He commented that the microphones are not being used properly and stated that this is his last warning and he will file an ADA complaint.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Secretary**

Mrs. Rakovan noted that Council had a copy of her report.

**Per Capita Tax Collections**

Late bills being paid. Minimal collections.

**Borough Purchased Tax Collector equipment**

Tom Turney will be turning all borough purchased equipment over to the borough so that it may be documented and signed for by the new collector.

**General Code**

The preliminary update/revisions still need to be reviewed.

**Utility**

System running well. Still learning. Meters are currently being read for the 2015 last billing cycle. Currently 5 properties have been shut off. (4 properties are vacant, 1 needs to pay their bill)

**Ordinances Tabled at November meeting**

941 Amending the Code striking Chapter 170

942 Establishing the licensing and inspection of all rental units

**Advertisements**

Need to advertise reorganization meeting for 2016 (Monday, January 4, 2016)

**2016 Boards**

A list of open positions was supplied for Council to review for appointment/reappointment during the reorganization meeting.

**Calendar**

Available in the borough office.

**2014 Water Usage/Loss Report**

Researched and calculated the usage and loss report for 2014. The percent of lost water unaccounted for is 8.5%.

**Duties of the Code Enforcement Officer vs. Building Inspector**

Sent an email to Larry Morley to see if he has a written breakdown of job duties for his municipality.

**Quigley Waterline Break (December 1, 2015)**

The waterline break on Daniel Drive has resulted in the need for DEP involvement. Although Baden supplies and bills for water to Quigley and the residents who live along that road, Baden does not own the lines. When the line broke it depleted the water tank to an extreme low. There is no shut off where the Quigley line is tapped in the borough system so a portion of Franklin Avenue had to be turned off too until Quigley got someone to repair their line. In addition the line to Quigley does not meet the DEP standards. The DEP is requesting a meeting with Quigley and the Borough to address what needs to be done, procedures and responsibility. The meeting is set for Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM at the DEP office.

**Right To Know**

Three requests received:

1. Copy of the 2014 Check Register
2. Copy of Widmer Engineering bills regarding the Anderson and Alley storm sewer
3. Copy of revised plans for the storm sewer on the alley connecting Berry to Bryan

**Public Works**

Mr. Josapak had nothing to report.

**CEO**

Mr. Demchak was not present.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Tim Firich reported that there were over 20 calls in the month of November. The Baden Fire Department and Police Department got their training to distribute Narcan for drug overdoses.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS****Administration & Finance (Michael Stuban)**

Maple Street Drainage - Cost estimate for drainage is \$11,000. The water runoff has been washing out a resident (Mr. Hazelwood) property.

Milton Street Drainage Pipe – Cost estimate is \$2,000 per day. There was discussion regarding what the repair involved. Not failing pipe but a misplaced separated pipe.

Quigley High School Waterline – There was a break that required the shut off of approximately 30 homes in Baden. Cost to place a shut-off valve at the line where Quigley connects is approximately \$15,000.

Comprehensive Plan - As part of the DEP MS4 they are asking about an emergency phone call system to contact residents where there are problems like waterline breaks that would cause water shut-off.

### **Buildings, Property & Grounds (Bob Besong)**

Mr. Besong stated that we are still waiting on the chairs for the community room.

### **Public Safety & Community Relations (Ted Kotula)**

Meeting date doors opening – Mr. Kotula asked that the doors open 15 minutes prior to meeting time.

Police Software Training - Mr. Kotula stated that software training is needed on the Police computers. It allows surrounding departments to share information. The cost is approximately \$300. PA update training will be approximately \$30 per officer. Mrs. Montell asked if Part Time Officers are included in the training and if so, can other departments that they work for share in the cost. Mayor Gagliardi explained that starting in January the new police schedule will cut back greatly on part time officers.

Street Lights - Mr. Kotula noted that he has a list of lights out and he continues to contract Duquesne Light. Over 23 phone calls. He also asked the Police Chief to update the list of street lights that are out. A comment was made about not paying the bill in full. Mr. Trzcianka stated to contact the PUC.

### **Library / Recreations and Communications (John Shelkons)**

Mr. Shelkons stated that the library went over the budget at their last meeting and because of the hold up on state money they will be cutting the hours starting in January until funding comes through. They will be knocking out five hours each week which will help them stay in budget. The library board also gave two names to submit for the library board. They are Rebecca Beares and Justin Hostetler. Discussion took place regarding Stella Voegel and Donna Napolian wanting reappointment. Mr. Shelkons asked for his responsibility as the Library Committee Chairman. Mrs. Montell explained their Bylaws were changed. The ordinance regarding the library needs to be looked at. Mr. Shelkons just wanted clarification on his position. Mayor Gagliardi asked about a wine and cheese profit report. Mr. Shelkons stated it was not discussed. Mrs. Montell stated that the money made was quite low compared to previous years.

Vacancies on the Recreation Board - Mr. Stuban asked Mr. Shelkons about the Recreation Board and possible names for open positions. Discussion took place regarding Council members serving on appointed boards. Mr. Stuban explained how Mrs. Michaels was not a Recreation Board member but she did start the Applefest on her own and over saw that over the years. Further discussion followed regarding openings and finding enough people to serve on the boards.

Electric for the Borough Park – Mr. Shelkons stated that all of the electrical lines in the park are damaged. It will be costly and an estimate to repair the lines is in the works. Discussion took place regarding where to connect for the electricity.

### **Public Works (Dave Trzcianka)**

Water Breaks – Mr. Trzcianka stated that the public works department has been very busy fixing breaks.

Bids for the old Police Vehicle – Municibid relisted the vehicle and the bid price is up to \$5,700. Mr. Trzcianka stated that he will make a motion on Wednesday to accept the lowest bid no lower than \$5,700.

2006 Used Fire Truck - Mr. Trzcianka noted that there is a fire truck in Illinois. Initially it was on sale for \$625,000. It went off and then back on the sale list at \$425,000. He stated that he would like for Council to authorize sending two firemen and a mechanic to look at the truck. Mr. Trzcianka commented that the fire department is looking at selling two of their trucks to offset the cost of the newer vehicle. The balance would be paid by a loan a low 2% state loan and money saved in the fire truck fund. Mr. Stuban noted that presently we put \$25,000 a year into the fire truck fund and this can be used to pay the loan. Conversation took place regarding what the Fire Department wants and it was noted that some firemen feel that Engine two should be kept. Mr. Trzcianka noted that the size of the fire department has gone from over 50 to almost 30 over the past years. Mr. Shelkons asked for clarification of who pays for the truck. Mr. Stuban explained that with the loan no tax increase would be needed.

**Sanitation, Recycling & Municipal Authority (John Shelkons)**

Nothing to report

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Gagliardi noted that the lights at the end of the driveway are not working.

**President's Report**

Nothing to report.

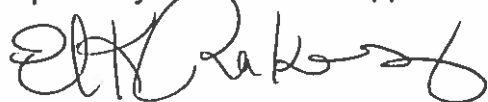
**OLD BUSINESS**

Mrs. Montell asked where the new tax collector is going to have office space. Mr. Stuban stated that she asked if she could set up a desk in the Council Chambers. He thought that she spoke with the council members who were asked to look into finding office space for her. Mr. Besong asked if she was going to pay for the space. The Mayor felt that Council Chamber should be fine. Mr. Stuban felt that a fee of \$100 would be assessed as rent. It was also noted that an agreement would need to be written up. She plans to have office hours Tuesday and Wednesday 9AM to 11AM and Thursday 3PM to 6PM.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Mr. Stuban, second by Mr. Kotula, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,



Elaine K. Rakovan  
Borough Secretary  
January 18, 2016