

**PRE-MEETING
BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
JUNE 15, 2015**

Council President Mrs. Montell called the meeting 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, Mrs. Michaels, Mr. Stuban, Mr. Trzcianka, Mrs. Villella and Mrs. Montell (Not Present: Mr. Kotula)

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Christner

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OTHER RECORDING DEVICES

Representative of the Beaver County Times announced that he would be recording the meeting.

AGENDA (Changes and/or Deletions)

VISITORS

Joe Kostial asked Council President, Judi Montell if a special meeting was held last week because there was nothing written in the newspaper. Mrs. Montell stated that the meeting was an executive session. Mr. Kostial asked about the 175th Anniversary fund disbursement. Mr. Stuban explained as in previous meetings that it was a separate committee that did fundraising which included a borough contribution.

Shirley Spence from 1041 Third Street addressed council in regards to weeds and overgrown foliage along her property. She specifically addressed 625 Franklin Avenue who is in violation of the borough code. Mrs. Spence noted that she wrote a letter on September 26, 2014 to the Code Enforcement Officer and the Mayor who both visited the property. Nothing has been done. Poison ivy is growing everywhere and it is a safety issue. Mr. Stuban explained that the Code Enforcement Officer has resigned. He stated that Council is currently looking to hire a new Officer or outside company to fill the position. Mrs. Spence was told that when the Code Enforcement position is filled her issue will be addressed..

Jim Essek from 409 Ridge Road addressed Council to clarify comments that he stated were made by Councilman Michael Stuban during past negotiations regarding wage increases and pension contributions. Mr. Essek noted that contract was voted on and approved in 2013 with a 1 percent wage increase, 2 percent healthcare contribution and 0 percent contribution into the pension plan. In January 2014 the 5 percent pension contribution was implemented and the bargaining unit filed a grievance. The arbitration hearing was held and Mr. Essek stated that he, the police chief and other officers said the truth that the pension contribution was discussed during negotiations. Mr. Essek stated that Mr. Stuban lied in stating that pension was not discussed. Mr. Essek made further comments regarding the cost associated with the arbitration hearing and the need for the right people to work on the current police negotiations that will be taking place this year.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Secretary

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

1. 2014 Audit is still being worked on but is close to the end.
2. Attended a meeting and follow up luncheon regarding the police consolidation study. If all goes well it will be completed early fall of this year.
3. The annual Water Quality Report must be sent to all residents by July 1st. Data has been gathered. Currently calculating the information and will be sending to DEP for approval prior to printing.
4. The Recycling Grant was closed out and mailed in for processing. They are asking for a detailed closing report of our recycling program which is being worked on.
5. FEMA Ordinance was advertised again due to changes made for Baden under FEMA's direction. Approval will be needed on Wednesday.

Part Time New Hires

Part Time Police - Paul Smith and Steven Gilbert
 Summer Help for Public Works – Robert Schultz, Noah Hartman, Zachary Jones, Brandon Buck

CEO

Ad was placed in the bulletin section of the Beaver County Times.

Tax Collector

The county has sent out the delinquent notices. So far 37 corrections have been mailed in to the county and more are coming in daily. Corrections will be mailed in once per week.

COMCAST Day of Caring April 25th

Filled out paperwork to get the final grant funding. There were some computer login issues that have been resolved so notification of payment should follow.

Garbage Contract

The Garbage Contract needs to be reviewed and advertised for future service. With the curbside pick-up of "special items" the contract may need to be amended as well as determining the length of the contract.

Leaking roofs

Both the fire department and borough building had roof repairs for leaks.

330 State Street

The building has been torn down. The neighbor, Mr. Turney has concerns regarding loose debris of asphalt. The back of the property has been sprayed for poison ivy. Columbia Gas has been dumping dirt (some asphalt) in the area to assist in filling in the back side of the property so that it could be sloped for easy grass care.

General Code

The preliminary update/revisions have come in for review.

Utility

Representative met with the office staff. We are slowly moving forward. Copies of our ordinances regarding billing need to be sent to them however they need to be reviewed prior to doing so to confirm uniformity with our current process.

Memorial Park

The hillside along the fence has been sprayed with weed killer to prevent further over growth. A second spraying will take place later this year.

Zoning Hearing

July 20th – 410 State Street. Waiting for confirmation of attendance from board members prior to advertising and processing the paperwork.

Public Works

Not Present

CEO

Vacant Position

Police Chief

Chief Christner stated that he spoke to Dave Trzcianka about purchasing another radio. The cost will be over \$700. He asked that Council approve the purchase at Wednesday's meeting.

Fire Department

Tim Firich stated that the Fire Department responded to 21 incidents within the month of May. There was a greater amount of structural fires during the month of May. The Rescue truck went out for inspection. On June 1st through approximately 20 months' worth of paperwork, training, and equipment purchases the Baden Volunteer Fire Department became the 23rd out of 2,700 Volunteer Fire Department in the state of Pennsylvania to be certified at the advanced rescue level through Pennsylvania Department of Health and Pennsylvania Fire Commission. The Fire Department also became licensed to provide emergency medical services within the Borough of Baden, not including ambulance service. This is a limited service in the event of a delay in ambulance service or car crashes where immediate medical care is needed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration & Finance (Michael Stuban)

- Code Enforcement Officer - Job descriptions have been passed out. Council was asked to review them for Wednesday.
- House Bill regarding Police Pensions going to a defined contribution versus a defined benefit for all future new hire officers. The pension would also be removed from negotiations and the arbitrator's hands. Council was given information regarding this bill.
- Web page – Someone on Council needs to be assigned to update the web page.
- Cameras – Council still needs training to access the cameras.
- Key Fobs - Set up the front door to open during meetings. Discussion also included one of the doors for the police department.
- Payment in Lieu of Taxes – Heritage Valley and the Cyber School. Mr. Trzcianka felt it should be all non-profits.

Buildings, Property & Grounds (Bob Besong)

- 330 State Street – Cleanup has started. We need to decide what we want to do with the property.
- Trash on Phillips Street and Harmony Road – Trash needs to be picked up along the roads. Mr. Besong is willing to assist. Mr. Stuban mentioned a community cleanup. Mr. Trzcianka mentioned the inmates from the jail.

Community Relations (Ted Kotula)

Mr. Kotula was not present at the meeting.

Library (Kim Vilella)

Mrs. Vilella thanked Mrs. Montell on beautifying the library grounds for Memorial Day. The book sale for the library went very well. Mrs. Vilella informed Council that the Ambridge School District had cut library funding for the Ambridge and Baden Library. They worked with the school board to get 90 percent of the funding back for the both libraries.

Public Safety (Kim Vilella)

- Radio - Mrs. Villella stated that Dave Trzcianka will make a motion on Wednesday for the radio.
- New Hires – Paul Smith and Steven Gilbert
- Negotiations – Three Council members will be on the committee. Mr. Besong expressed his opinion to have all of council involved in the negotiations.

Public Works (Dave Trzcianka)

- Flushing hydrants
- Patching Streets
- Four summer help have been hired.
- Street sweeper is working

Recreation & Communications (Donna Michaels)

- Yard Sale – very successful and it will be an annual event. Mrs. Michaels thanked Tom Turney for working so hard on getting the maps completed.
- Applefest – October 10th from 10AM to 6PM at the borough complex.

Sanitation, Recycling & Municipal Authority (Donna Michaels)

- Garbage contract – Being reviewed with a three and five year contract. Should be available for advertisement at next month's meeting.

Mayor's Report

- Open meeting law – Mayor Gagliardi felt that there was a question and concern regarding an open meeting of over three council members needs to be publicized. He stated that the last meeting had over three in attendance and should have been advertised. He asked that the solicitor be asked to review the question. Mrs. Villella stated that we are permitted to recess the meeting to another date.

President's Report

Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

Fred Strecker spoke loudly about issues from ten years ago regarding his mother. He also asked what the tax release amount was for the property at 330 State Street.

Mr. Kostial stated that Mr. Turney did get his \$100 for an advertisement in the Yard Sale Map. Mr. Stuban stated that the ad was for his service to make the map instead of taking \$100 in cash.

Mayor Gagliardi asked if donations and borough money was commingled in the 175th Anniversary Account. Mr. Stuban stated that the funds were in one account and distributed by the committee.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mrs. Michaels, second by Mr. Trzcianka, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,



Elaine K. Rakovan
Borough Secretary
July 13, 2015