

**REGULAR SESSION  
BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2015**

***NO MONDAY MEETING***

Council Vice-President Mrs. Michaels 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, Mrs. Michaels, Mr. Stuban, and Mr. Trzcianka  
(Not Present: Mrs. Villella and Mrs. Montell)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mayor Sam Gagliardi, Engineer Tony Sadaka and Attorney James Amato

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OTHER RECORDING DEVICES**

In addition to the secretary, Mayor Gagliardi is also recording the meeting.

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

**VISITORS**

- Andrew Sabol from the 300 block of State Street addressed Mayor Gagliardi in regards to the previous meeting where he promised Mr. Sabol and the audience that something was going to be done with the speeding issue on State Street. Mr. Sabol commented that since the last meeting he has seen no improvement and noted that earlier in the day a BCTA Bus went flying past his house in excess of 50 miles per hour. Mr. Sabol gave additional examples and expressed his frustration about not seeing police presence on State Street. Mayor Gagliardi did inform Mr. Sabol that there were five citations given out for speeding on State Street. The Mayor also explained that the officers are sitting on State Street but after an hour with no speeders they will move on to another area. Mr. Sabol stated that early morning and late afternoon are the bad times.
- Jim Connolly from 909 Fifth Street addressed Council in regards to the runoff ditch and sewer line that runs along the back of his property. Mr. Connolly asked Council who is responsible for maintaining the ditch. The letter received from the attorney strictly addressed Mr. Connolly not being permitted to fill in the ditch (ravine). Mr. Connolly wants to know who is responsible for cutting and maintaining the area. The engineer, Tony Sadaka stated that he will meet with Mr. Connolly on Friday to look into this matter.
- Margie Lease from Dippold Street spoke on behalf of the Baden Neighborhood Watch clarifying the rumors that the committee was gunning for people's jobs such as the office staff and public works. She stated that there is no truth to those rumors.
- Shirley Spence from 1031 Third Street addressed Council in regards to Section 105-1 of the borough code asking if this section is still in effect. For the past four months she has been asking about 625 North Avenue and the overgrowth of weeds that are impeding on her property. She stated that when Bob Weber was CEO it was handled quickly, but the new officer is stating that he can't do anything until a new ordinance is passed. She felt the ordinance that she addressed earlier should cover her request. All she asked was for a weed letter

to be sent out. Mrs. Spence also asked that Bob's Import be looked at for weeds, parking on the streets and looking like a terrible junkyard.

- Al Everett, 665 Milton Street addressed Council in regards to the PennDot project on Phillips Street. He gave his concern about Milton Street sinking because of the galvanized pipe that is under the road deteriorating. He also commented that the triaxles from PennDot drove across and waited on this area during their project causing the sinking of the road area. The engineer is going to look at the pipe and possible weight limit for Milton Street.

**MOTION** by Mr. Stuban, second by Mr. Trzcianka, carried unanimously to have the engineer inspect the pipe under Milton Street and address a possible weight limit.

- Richard Gallagher from Dippold Street asked about the meeting minutes being posted on the Borough website as he requested the previous month. Mrs. Rakovan noted that the minutes were scanned and sent to the website administrator. She also noted that the updates take place on Fridays and they should be available this coming Friday. He asked about other updates for the Borough noting that events are showing for 2014, not 2015. Mr. Gallagher addressed the importance of the website. Mrs. Rakovan explained that Facebook is a quicker means of communication for the residents.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of August 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> were tabled for approval during next months meeting due to no meeting being held on Monday.

## APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID

**MOTION** by Mr. Stuban, second by Mr. Kotula, carried unanimously to pay all bills with two signatures.

## RESOLUTIONS - None

## ORDINANCES - None

## BIDS – Garbage Contract (As tabulated by the Borough Engineer)

Company	Curbside Garbage & Recycling 3 year	Curbside Garbage & Recycling 5 year	Curbside Hazard & Electronic Waste 3 year	Curbside Hazard & Electronic Waste 5 year
Waste Management	\$ 774,480	\$ 1,317,120	\$ 68,040	\$ 116,550
Brunner	\$ 848,868	\$ 1,450,728	No bid	No bid
Valley Waste	\$ 915,600	\$ 1,556,520	No bid	No bid

**MOTION** by Mr. Stuban, second by Mr. Trzcianka, carried unanimously to award the garbage contract to the lowest responsible bidder, Waste Management.

Discussion took place regarding the curbside pickup of electronics and hazardous waste and if it is worth the cost to that is being spent on the service. It was noted that the garbage rates will not be going up next year with the new contract.

A gentleman mentioned the garbage men starting pickup before 6:00 AM.

Another gentleman asked if he could go onto another property to cut the grass. Mrs. Michaels stated that it is private property and she wouldn't recommend it.

## CORRESPONDENCE

1. August letter from ISO stating that the Public Protection Classification for Baden Borough is 03, effective December 1, 2015.
2. August letter from Civil & Environmental Consultants as required by the 2012 Oil and Gas Act informing Baden that PennEnergy Resources is applying for a Permit to Drill and Operate an Unconventional Well from the PA DEP for 7 gas wells located in Economy Borough.

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

### SECRETARY

Mrs. Rakovan commented that she gave Council a copy of her report.

- **Tax Collections**  
The Per Capita Taxes continue to be collected and corrections are being made. We are currently in the face value collection period. Additional corrections for 2014 delinquents are slowly coming to an end. Corrections to the 2013 taxes were sent to the school for approval and processing with the county. Although properties were taken off of the sale list there are some issues with double tax payments, reimbursement and proof of double payment.
- **330 State Street**  
Still doing restoration of the property. For the year 2015 we have to ask the school district to exonerate the borough from taxes as well as the borough needs to send a letter exonerating themselves from taxes. Filed forms with the County asking that all future taxes be exempt for this property based upon it being for borough use.
- **General Code**  
The preliminary update/revisions still need to be reviewed.
- **Ubility**  
Training is taking place and we plan to transition this quarter to the new system.
- **Comcast Day of Caring**  
Received a check for approximately \$1,950.
- **Street Openings**  
Billed Columbia Gas for the street openings on line replacement and received payment of approximately \$10,000.

### CEO

Not Present

### POLICE CHIEF

Not Present

### PUBLIC WORKS

Nothing to report

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Trzcianka stated that the fire department had 22 calls last month. He also noted that they started their first responder program. They responded to 4 medical emergencies in town last month.

Mr. Trzcianka explained the ISO report and how the rating can assist in lowering homeowners insurance. The fire department was a class 4 and now they are a class 3. In the entire country there are only 2,891 departments to have class 3 rating. The lower the number the better. Affecting the rating was the age of the fire trucks, smaller water lines and fire hydrant tracking.

Motorcycle Raffle was a sale out. The winner was from Wampum.

A resident asked about the location of wells that are being drilled in Economy Borough. The drilling will be taking place on Hoenig Road along Big Sewickley Creek.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Administration & Finance (Michael Stuban)

General Fund Balance	\$115,545.35
Water Fund Balance	\$178,280.58

Mr. Stuban asked if there were any questions on the 2014 Audit.

**MOTION** by Mr. Stuban, second by Mr. Trzcianka carried unanimously to accept the 2014 audit.

Mr. Stuban discussed the request of the police department to purchase a new police car. This is part of a lease rotation that has been established to invest in new vehicles instead of large expenses on repairs. The cost of the vehicle across four years will be \$26,737.

**MOTION** by Mr. Stuban, second by Mr. Trzcianka, carried unanimously to purchase the vehicle from Tri Star Motors at \$26,737 across four years.

**MOTION** by Mr. Stuban, second by Mr. Kotula, carried unanimously to upgrade the police vehicle package at a cost of \$9,834.20.

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

Mr. Besong commented that the park looks great but asked that the tree stumps be ground down. Mr. Kotula stated that he just received information prior to meeting that the Boy Scouts Troop 405 are asking to remove the stumps and fix up that corner of the park.

**MOTION** by Mr. Kotula, second by Mr. Besong carried unanimously to authorize the Boy Scouts fix up the park.

Mr. Besong asked that a yellow line be placed on Bauman Avenue up from McNair Street.

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

Mr. Kotula stated that the police chief would like to go to a program for community awareness for police patrol response to an active shooter in schools. This a free program with the only cost being for part time coverage while the full time officers attend the program. The program will take place in Economy.

**MOTION** by Mr. Kotula, second by Mr. Trzcianka carried unanimously to authorize the full time officers to attend the program on police patrol response to an active shooter in schools.

Mr. Kotula mentioned that Mr. Shipley will be attending a grant writing work shop in October. This was approved by council before, but he was unable to attend at that time.

Mr. Kotula commented that he is working on street light outages. He stated that the residents are getting a quicker repair response time when they call Duquesne Light themselves. He stated that he is working on getting in touch with a Duquesne Light representative to discuss the issue with poor response time when the borough initiates street light repairs.

Mr. Kotula reviewed the dates and times for the upcoming Applefest on October 10<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Car Cruise from Noon to 6:00 PM. Zombie Walk is from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM. He also noted that the Library Wine and Cheese will be on September 26<sup>th</sup> at the Baden Legion. The cost for tickets is \$25.

Discussion took place regarding the closing of State Street for the Applefest.

**Library (Kim Vilella)**

Mrs. Vilella was not present at the meeting.

**Public Works (Dave Trzcianka)**

Mr. Trzcianka noted that the storm sewer repair paperwork for Anderson and the alley from Berry to Bryan Avenue are ready to go out for bid.

MOTION by Mr. Trzcianka, second by Mr. Kotula to advertise the bids.

**Recreation & Communications (Donna Michaels)**

Reported previously by Mr. Kotula

**Sanitation, Recycling & Municipal Authority (Donna Michaels)**

Nothing to report

**Solicitor's Report**

Nothing to Report

**Engineer's Report**

Nothing to Report

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Gagliardi commented that in addition to speeding on State Street the police are also monitoring North Avenue, Harmony Road, Bauman Avenue, Phillips Street, Prospect Street and Johnson Avenue.

Total fines collected for the month was \$754.21

Total traffic citations: 35

Mayor Gagliardi gave an overview of some of the calls and incidents that the police had during the previous month. Total calls: 226

**President's Report**

Nothing to report.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Trzcianka addressed the Borough News having an article about the need for local municipalities to support their fire departments. Discussion followed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Mr. Besong, second by Mr. Trzcianka, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,



Elaine K. Rakovan  
Borough Secretary  
October 18, 2015