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# REGULAR SESSION BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL FEBRUARY 21, 2018

Council President Judi Montell called the Regular Session 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. Besong, Mrs. Furr, Mr. Kotula, Mr. Shelkons, Mrs. Singleton, Mr. Trzcianka, and Mrs. Montell

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mayor Samuel Gagliardi, Attorney James Amato, Engineer Tony Sadaka, Code Enforcement Bob Weber

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OTHER RECORDING DEVICES

## AGENDA (Changes and/or Deletions)

## VISITORS

Mrs. Nelson from Lincoln Avenue addressed council in regards to needing someone to clean her walkway during the snow in January. She called the borough and asked that the street department clean her walkway and steps. Council explained that the borough employees are not permitted to go onto private property. It is a liability issue. Mrs. Nelson was told that the borough was trying to get a list of residents who may want to volunteer to help out the residents who need assistance.

Mark Kolakowski spoke to council stating that after meeting with a lot of the council members he is certain that the steps have been made to correct the mistakes made previously. He stated that it was never his intent to hold up the hiring process. Mr. Kolakowski wanted to clarify his situation in Florida where it was said that he was terminated from his position in Florida in 1995. There was a new sheriff and anyone who opposed him was terminated. He got a six figure salary and promotion where he worked another eleven years with two more sheriffs. The story that everyone heard about him were half-truths. Everybody in town has talked to him about this whether it's from the little local store or down at the shopping center and Giant Eagle. Mr. Kolakowski stated that what happened in the media had nothing to do with him. He apologized for causing an inconvenience by delivering his paperwork directly to a councilmembers house at 5:30 in the afternoon. He again stated that what came out in the media had nothing to do with him and he never spoke to him (John Paul from the Beaver Countian). Mr. Kolakowski hoped that going forward there are no hard feelings.

Michael Stuban from 44 Anthony Wayne Terrace asked Mrs. Furr to explain her comments that were made on the Beaver Countian Website. He asked Mrs. Furr to explain her statement that Council conducts numerous secret votes that she doesn't know anything about. Mr. Stuban asked for specifics. She said she was only contacted three times, once about a tree, once about a waterline break and then one other time. Mr. Stuban asked that the secretary repeat what she explained on Monday regarding phone votes. He didn't want the residents to think that things like this are actually done. Mrs. Rakovan explained that phone vote includes emails. If there is an emergency such as the borough server crashed and all of the computers were unable to backup and information could be lost. This was an emergency where it could not wait until next month's meeting so she contacted council to approve the purchase of a new server. Another example was when we had a waterline break that required an outside company to come in do the repair. She contacted the councilmembers by email which last year included Mr. Kotula, Mr. Stuban, Mrs. Furr, Mr. Shelkons, Mr. Trzcianka and the two

who do not have email was Mrs. Montell and Mr. Besong. Mrs. Rakovan explained that she did not follow up on emails with a phone call. Once she has four approvals she has a quorum. It is not her responsibility to make sure councilmembers read their emails. She also explained that she uses the same method just to get information to councilmembers that does not require any approval but is a means of keeping them informed. Phones votes (email) are prompted by whoever needs them. She emphasized that she has never on her own or under the direction of a councilmember specifically handpicked council members or left out council members to make sure that a vote goes through.

Mr. Weber commented to council that he got a lawn and tree service from Charles Street to offer to remove the tree on Harmony Road that is laying on the wires. It will be done for free. The tree will be gone tomorrow.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION** by Mr. Trzcianka, second by Mrs. Furr, carried unanimously to approve the minutes of January 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2018

#### **APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID**

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

#### **RESOLUTIONS – Attached to agenda for public review**

**18-01** Supporting a Citizens Commission for Legislative and Congressional Redistricting to prevent gerrymandering.

**MOTION** by Mr. Shelkons, second by Mr. Trzcianka, carried unanimously to adopt Resolution 18-01.

**18-02** Requesting a Pennsylvania Small Water and Sewer Program Grant in the amount of \$300,810 with a 15% borough match in the amount of \$45,121.50. This is to place two backflow preventer valves on our main waterline and replace 18 fire hydrants.

**MOTION** by Mr. Trzcianka, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to adopt Resolution 18-01.

#### **ORDINANCES - None**

#### **BIDS – None**

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. January letter from the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources with Grant information.
2. February letter from the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission with information regarding 4<sup>th</sup> cycle for the Projects-Regional Traffic Signal Program.

**MOTION** by Mr. Trzcianka, second by Mr. Besong, carried unanimously to have the engineer look into updating the traffic lights on State Street.

3. February letter from the Bureau of Elections regarding inspection of polling sights for handicap accessibility.
4. January letters from Representative Rob Matzie regarding grants available through the DCED and DCNR.
5. January letter of complaint from Eric M. Shrum Dunmyer regarding the Council proceedings for hiring of Part-time Police Officers on January 17, 2018.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Administration & Finance (John Shelkons)

General Fund Ledger Balance \$97,732  
Water Fund Ledger Balance \$57,275

Expenses \$110,508  
Expenses \$48,789

**MOTION** by Mr. Shelkons, second by Mr. Trzcianka carried unanimously to have the solicitor amend the borough tax law ordinance removing the ½% earned income tax on non-residents who work within the borough.

### Public Safety (Ted Kotula)

**MOTION** by Mr. Kotula, second by Mrs. Furr carried unanimously to hire 4 part time officers (Eric Dunmyer, Chris Stitt, Thomas Plunkard, Anthony Bofo).

Mr. Kotula stated that all applications have to go through the secretary's office and tracked by the borough secretary with date and assigned number. He also wants to find a means of meeting with council to go over the applications and answer their questions regarding why the committee picked the applicants those want to hire.

Mr. Kotula stated the he'd like to look into getting GPS on the borough vehicles. He will be working on getting more information regarding the price and benefits of having the GPS on the vehicles.

### Building Property & Grounds (Ted Kotula)

Mr. Kotula stated that Terry Barnik is working on finishing the electrical service in the park.

**MOTION** by Mr. Kotula, second by Mr. Trzcianka carried unanimously to purchase lettering for the back wall in council chambers for a cost of \$350 from Jason Wood Working. It will say "Borough of Baden Est. 1838"

### Public Works (Dave Trzcianka)

**MOTION** by Mr. Trzcianka, second by Mr. Kotula, carried unanimously to rank the CDGB projects (1) Looping the Berry Street waterline to State Street (2) Replacing the Berry Street waterline from Ehman Avenue to the dead end (3) Replacing the Ehman Avenue waterline from State Street to Berry Street.

### Municipal (Dave Trzcianka)

Resident on Daly Avenue has complained about Waste Management driving their truck through their yard. He asked that Waste Management be contacted.

Mr. Trzcianka stated that he asked the county about potential EMA Coordinator for the borough. He was given a resume. It is not a Baden resident but he is highly qualified and certified.

Mr. Trzcianka stated that the rain has been keeping the sewage plant very busy. There is discussion that Conway may be wanting to connect to Baden's Sewage Plant. The engineers and solicitors are working on it.

### Library (Suzie Furr)

Mrs. Furr informed Council that Jody Oliver from the county library commission attended their last meeting. They are still looking for a new librarian and another library board member. Elisabeth Trzcianka was elected as the Library Board President.

**Community Relations & Recreation (Dawn Singleton)**

Mrs. Singleton stated that the Easter Egg Hunt will be March 24<sup>th</sup>.

**MOTION** by Mrs. Singleton, second by Mr. Shelkons carried unanimously to purchase six snowflake lights at a cost of \$1,840. The Recreation Board is also purchasing six snowflakes.

Mr. Shelkons confirmed that between the Christmas Fund and Contingency Fund there is money to cover the cost of the lights.

**Administration & Legislation (Bob Besong)**

Mr. Besong stated that he is working with Bob Weber on addressing the problem at Harvey's and Bob Imports.

**Solicitor's Report**

Nothing to report

**Engineer's Report**

1. Paving Project - Contractor will have to finish paving in the spring of 2018.
2. Generator – Prospect Street Booster Station - Duquesne Light has disconnected the un-needed power service on the building. Next the contractor will come back and complete demolition for the project and we can close the project out.
3. MS4 Stormwater Management - A large portion of the Borough's outfalls have been inspected using the process outlined in the Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination Program (IDD&E) documentation. We have identified outfalls that are buried or otherwise inaccessible for inspection and sent the list to the Borough. We can proceed if the Borough is able to uncover and/or assist us in locating these outfalls. We have also identified 19 outfalls that are located below SR 65 and are only accessible by entering Norfolk Southern's property or right of way. These outfalls have not been inspected or surveyed for inclusion on our MS4 storm sewer system map.
4. CDBG FY 2018 Grant Application - The CDBG grant application is due March 29, 2018. The Borough may select up to three projects for submission. Widmer Engineering prepared cost estimates for three waterline projects as requested.
5. DCED Small Water and Sewer Grant Application - We are working with Borough Staff to prepare application which is due February 28, 2018.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Gagliardi addressed the ordinance presented to council for review regarding the fire department wanted to update the assessment of cost reimbursement for equipment from insurance companies. He asked that council read the amendment and consider making a motion to advertise and adopt.

Mayor Gagliardi report that there were 333 calls last month. Fines collected \$393.27.

**President's Report**

Nothing to report

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Shelkons gave an update on the railroad bridge. Access is denied for the next two months due to repairs that are being made on the bridge.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Mr. Trzcianka, second by Mrs. Furr, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,



Elaine K. Rakovan  
Borough Secretary  
March 19, 2018