

**PRE-MEETING
BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 17th, 2018**

Council President Judi Montell 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. Besong, Mrs. Furr, Mr. Sheikons, Mrs. Singleton, Mr. Trzcianka and Mrs. Montell (Not present: Mr. Kotula)

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Sam Gagliardi, Police Chief Christner

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OTHER RECORDING DEVICES

AGENDA (Changes and/or Deletions)

VISITORS

Luciano and Eda Giordani from 959 Collins Avenue spoke to council about the 956 Collins Avenue and the condition outside the property. There is a car with flat tire in the yard, multiple sheds without permits and messy open storage. They were told that the Code Enforcement Officer and Police Chief will look at the property as well as the building inspector.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Secretary

Landslides

Forrest Street – Bid results are attached. Lowest bid was \$74,000.
Circle Street - Working on bid package

Culvert under Milton Street

The culvert has been televised. Engineer is working on proposals for possible repairs.

Dollar General

Would like to connect to the borough's storm sewer and possibly the sanitary sewer (they will contact the Municipal Authority). Developer, Engineer, Rodney Keenan and Secretary met to go over what they propose. They already have ROW to go through the garage property. There will be a retention pond on the Dollar General property and they would like the overflow to be connected to the borough's inlet on Ehman. Rodney told them that the inlet needs to be televised to see if the pipe can take on the extra water as well has check the condition of the Terracotta pipe . They will also put in a larger inlet on Ehman since it already appears to be too small.

Jefferson Street House

Waiting for the hearing date to make the property tax exempt.

Lease Renewal for T-Mobile

Solicitor is reviewing and is having an outside company look it over at no additional cost. We had to sign a nondisclosure form before review of the lease.

Borough Roof

The contractor is currently working on the roof. With the heavy rains we did have some leaks that caused ceiling tiles to fall. Additionally they damaged the air conditioner while lifting it to put the roofing down. Called Maier to repair the AC. The roofing company will pay for the repair

No Smoking On Borough Property

Sign have been purchased and posted.

Penn Energy

Agreement has been signed it will take 3 to 4 months to receive the signing agreement bonus.

Sidewalk

Waiting for Martino to get back to the Engineer with a start time.

Newsletter

Currently being type set. Hope to have to printer in the next couple of days.

Water Tanks

Water tank inspection went extremely well. They are in great shape. The only maintenance that needs to be done is painting of the tanks, replacing/repairing a slab of cement outside one of the tanks and pulling out the caulking at the base of the tanks and re-caulking them.

Upset Sale of Tower (Baden Borough)

Crown Castle called and they took care of paying the taxes.

School Resource Officer Agreement

Baden Academy signed and returned the agreement. Agreement emailed to the Prevention Network and waiting for a response.

Allegheny County Crime Lab Bill

Baden Borough police, along with our surrounding municipal police departments have not paid the crime lab for services since 2013 when they were moved out of the county. Bills were never being sent to the

police department, but were included in the blood test result that were sent to officers. Unlike other departments whose bills were in the \$20,000 to \$60,000 range Baden owes \$6,781 to the Allegheny County Crime Lab for services from 2013 to 2018. A motion will be needed on Wednesday.

Playground Inspection

A PIRMA representative inspected the playgrounds. Report attached.

- Schiller Street – 12 inches of soft landing material, new swing set must of double the height of the swing set for clearance and soft landing material, cut of protruding metal and fill in bolt holes to prevent injury (Secretary already notified public works to do this)
- Virginia Heights – 12 inches of soft landing material, remove the merry-go-round
- Tot Lot – Remove all equipment. Replace with composite play equipment. Move play area out from under the trees. 12 inches of soft landing material.

Library Steps

PIRMA representative stated that repair of any chipped area or tripping hazards need done.

EMC Report

Matt Loftus supplied an update of his certification status. Report is attached.

Waste Management

A Waste Management representative will be present at Wednesday's meeting for council and audience to address regarding their service to the borough. Although Mr. Kotula is not present he asked that I read the attached letter during at Wednesday's meeting.

PRINT Map of Baden

Approximately 15 years ago a company by the name of PRINT solicited advertisements to make and print maps of Baden at no additional cost. They would like to do this again. There is no cost to the borough. All they ask is that we supply them with some desk space while they work and solicit advertisements.

CDBG Funding

The \$84,000 that we received from CDBG was to loop the end of Berry off of Ehman down to State Street. Now that we know the condition of the waterline on lower Ehman, doing this loop will blow out the balance of the waterline along Berry and down to

Ehman. May want to have the engineer give an estimate to replace Berry Street waterline from the dead-end to the Ehman and then Ehman down to State Street. With the \$60,000 that we do not need to budget for the bond refinance we could get a short term loan through a bank and pay it back within 5 to 7 years or earlier depending upon the cost estimate.

Tevebaugh Road Inspection

Mr. Sheikons, public works, engineer and secretary met with John Schaudé of West View Water as well as the contractors for their project. Public works emphasized their unhappiness with Tevebaugh Road restoration and maintenance along the way. All of the millings (more than 8 inches) were scrapped to the side of the road. The secretary noted the agreement that stated the road would be graded once per month with 2A PennDot grade stone being put down. The contractor admitted that the last time he used a grader was back in January. The road inspection was not approved. The contractor is to come back by the end of September and grade the road (with crown) and put stone down. The secretary asked what kind of vehicles we will be expecting to drive down this road now that the project is done. Mr. Schaudé noted those trucks (tankers) periodically and well as other delivery trucks. Prior to leaving Mr. Schaudé stated twice that he will ask West View Water if they are interested and willing to pave Tevebaugh Road. Keep your fingers crossed.

Public Works

Not present

FIRE CHIEF

Not present. The Secretary read over the fire department report.

- Approximately 35 Knox Boxes installed or in the process of being installed.
- Fire hydrant testing is on hold since the last waterline break on North Avenue. There are 10-12 more to complete. The Hydrants on the North side of town are on the high pressure system and a part of the line that broke. With all the breaks that have happened in this section of line over the years and it being over 70 years old there is a very great probability that another break isn't far off. The Chiefs fear is that the line breaks when they have a fire. He asked that council put a priority on replacing and updating the waterlines in the North Avenue area.
- 2018-2019 State Fire Commission Grant has been submitted for 5 new sets of Structural Fire Fighting Gear. Total cost \$16,640
- Will be applying for the Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program to replace Air Packs.
- October is Fire Prevention Month. Like last year, the Fire Department would appreciate if council would contribute \$350 from the general fund towards the purchase of Fire Safety and Prevention Materials.
- All PA State Inspections have been completed on vehicles.
- Pump Testing on Engine and Tower are complete
- SCBA bench testing and fill station testing is being completed.
- The annual Too Bash Fundraiser will be early next year and they are also bringing back the Harey Davidson Motorcycle Raffle in 2019.
- There were 17 calls last month.

CEO

Not present.

POLICE CHIEF

Chief Christner informed council that he is working on AED's. The reason why it has is taking so long is that they want the AED's for the police, fire department and Economy Ambulance to be the same type so that the pads will be compatible. He is working with the Fire Department to get them ordered.

Chief Christner stated that 324 (Expedition) is at Harvey's and being delayed for repair because he is having a problem with the insurance company. Mrs. Rakovan stated that the original claim for 324 was filed in December of 2017 and since it wasn't repaired in a timely manner the file got closed so she had to resubmit the paperwork for processing. She also noted that we are waiting for final payment for the 2015 Dodge engine as well as the approximately \$8,000 car rental charge. She noted that the total cost with the rental car to repair the 2015 Dodge is around \$28,000. She offered to give Harvey the payments that the insurance company has sent so far, but Harvey stated that he will wait to be paid in full. Mrs. Rakovan noted that the timing for taking vehicle in for repairs needs to be better. Because the vehicle repair is over \$15,000 the insurance company needs to audit the claim. Chief Christner stated that he needs the vehicles because the school duty officers have a vehicle and having the other vehicle in the shop is making it a bit complicated with training new officers.

Chief Christner stated that on October 3rd at Shiela's Restaurant starting at 9:00 AM there will be Coffee with a Cop.

Chief Christner stated that if the Recreation Board needs anything for the Applefest to let him know.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance (John Shelkons)

Genera Fund Balance \$186,338
Water Fund Balance \$229,729

Expenses \$81,641
Expenses \$125,695

Mr. Shelkons stated to council that the trailer next to the trailer that is affected by the slide on Forrest Avenue is being removed. He stated that maybe we can pay to move the trailer that is affected by the slide. Mr. Shelkons stated that he drives that road and hasn't seen any movement. Mrs. Rakovan commented that stake markers could be set deep into the hillside further up near Forrest Avenue and then we could monitor to see if the hillside is moving because currently the road is not showing any sign of sliding. Mr. Shelkons commented that moving the trailer is much cheaper than a \$72,000 wall. Council agreed to talk with the engineer about our options.

Public Safety (Dave Trzcianka)

Mr. Trzcianka stated that the police department did have a conference call with the pension company to address questions and possible options of the pension plan.

Mrs. Rakovan read an email from the borough's arbitrator regarding the negotiation/arbitration process.

Building, Property & Grounds (Ted Kotula)

Not present

Public Works (Dave Trzcianka)

Nothing to report.

Municipal (Dave Trzcianka)

Mr. Trzcianka that the Municipal Authority will be adding Conway to their system. Conway will pay for any upgrades that may be needed to the system. Council will have to approve the agreement since they are a subsidiary to the borough. The agreement will be available for council approval at Wednesday's meeting. This will lower the Municipal Authorities portion of their bond payment. This will be a long process and most likely won't be complete until around 2020.

Library (Suzie Furr)

Mrs. Furr stated that the library is preparing for the Applefest. They will have a raffle for an American Girls Doll and Legos.

Community Relations & Recreation (Dawn Singleton)

Mrs. Singleton gave an overview of Recreation Board meeting. She asked John Shelkons to give an update on the electric for the park. Mr. Shelkons stated that he mounted the light at the end of the park. The gazebo should be lit up. The flood light to the flag needs to be brighter and a light needs to be attached to the wishing well and shine over to the bridge area. The last thing that needs done is the trunk line needs to be run from the steps to the end of the park. The contractor stated that he will stay with this project until it is done. Mrs. Singleton spoke about having the Pittsburgh perogies at the Applefest. Mr. Shelkons stated that they will have at 2 to 5 perogies at Applefest. Mrs. Singleton stated that she will have Mike Josapak check the speakers, booths, garbage cans and electrical for the Applefest. They received a donation from Heritage Valley and Castebrook for \$500 each. She gave a list of vendors who will be at the Applefest.

Halloween Parade will be October 20th
Santa on the Fire Truck will be December 21st.

Mrs. Singleton went over the playground inspection. Schiller Street swing set needs 10' clearance front/back and 6' on the side. At the Schiller and Virginia Heights playground, all equipment needs to be cleaned, painted and any protruding pieces cut and holes filled (Schiller Street). 12" of pea gravel needs placed down. Merry-go-round needs to be removed. Can't have adult swing next to an infant swing. Tot Lot needs everything removed. If swing is kept it must go to the lower lot away from the trees and have 12" of pea gravel. All parks should have benches for adults and sing for parental supervision and hours etc.

Discussion took place regarding the merry-go-ground. Mrs. Singleton felt it should be pulled and removed. Mr. Trzcianka and Mr. Shelkons stated that it could be fixed. Mrs. Rakovan noted that the merry-go-round must have a speed control devise.

Mrs. Montell stated that the Tot Lot should be sold.

Mrs. Singleton commented that several kids do use the playgrounds. She wants council to consider giving the recreation board an extra \$10,000 next year for the playgrounds. Mrs. Montell again noted that the Tot Lot should be sold and keep Schiller Street and Virginia Heights. Mr. Trzcianka commented that we first need to see how many kids use the playgrounds.

Mrs. Singleton asked that public works help do the playground work that needs fixed. Mr. Trzcianka stated that the Recreation Board should put a plan of attack together and see what the road crew can do and fit into their schedule. She said that the swing set and swings need to go up. Mrs. Montell suggested selling the Tot Lot and give the money to the Recreation Board for the other play grounds.

Mr. Stuban gave his opinion on times have changed and it is difficult to find volunteers and he felt that public works should be responsible for the play grounds. The equipment is owned by the borough and holds the liability regarding the equipment.

Administration & Legislation (Bob Besong)

Nothing to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

Old Business Not on the Agenda, New Business or Unfinished Business

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Mrs. Montell informed council that she will clean up around the borough sign and use the left over money from the garden club funding to plant Mums and make it look nice for Applefest.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Besong, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to return into session at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,



Elaine K. Rakovan
Borough Secretary
October 15th, 2018