

**PRE-MEETING
BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
APRIL 10TH, 2019**

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 Mrs. Furr, Mr. Kotula, Mr. Shelkons, Mrs. Singleton, Mr. Trzcianka and Mrs. Montell (Not Present: Mr. Besong)

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Sam Gagliardi, Police Officer Shipley, Foreman Mike Josapak, CEO Bob Weber

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OTHER RECORDING DEVICES

AGENDA (Changes and/or Deletions)

VISITORS - None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Secretary

1. STATE ETHIC FORMS

If you haven't turned in your State Ethics Commission Statement of Financial Interests to the secretary, please do so by May 1st, 2019.

2. USDA Grant/Loan

Work in progress.

3. Software Conversion

Work in progress. Will go live in May after we mail out late notices. We will not have access to the software during the conversion which is estimated to take three to five days. During this time all utility bill payments will be tracked manually and then inputted onto the new system after conversion.

4. Tablets for New Software

The new software has the ability to enter meter readings onto a tablet instead of writing down the readings. These readings then can then be uploaded to the software saving time and eliminating the human error of manually entering the readings. We can get tablets that meet our needs for well under \$200 each.

5. Trailer Court

Building Inspector, Brian Hill is working on his findings and will forward them to the solicitor for assistance in contacting the property owner.

6. Fire Department Roof

Burns & Scalo repaired the roof at the Fire Department. All of the leaks were located on seams. They stated that if we reseal the seams within 5 years that would give another 5 years of life on the roof (10 years total).

7. Borough Building Walkway and canopy/roof

The estimate for engineering design and putting a canopy over the walkway is over \$57,000. One recommendation from the engineer was relocating the air conditioner unit under the walkway, tearing down the walkway and putting in a land bridge.

8. Parking Lot Lights in lower lot

Left a message with Bill from Weber Electric asking for an update on our request.

9. Virginia Avenue Crosswalk

The engineer looked at the area where council asked to consider a crosswalk. There is no place in the area where a crosswalk may safely be placed. This area of Virginia Avenue is a "S" bend and there are blind spots.

10. 2018 Audit

The audit is currently being wrapped up by Mark Turnley's office.

11. No Smoking on Borough Property

Ordinance was advertised for adoption at next week's meeting.

12. GPS Policy (Resolution)

Mr. Trzcianka had changes that he sent to the attorney to update the draft.

13. CDBG Application

Application has been submitted and a letter was written to the county commissioners on behalf of Mayor Gagliardi asking that they support our project.

14. Crown Castle

After review by the solicitor the secretary asked Crown Castle to increase the contract percentage from 30% to 35%. This was presented to Crown Castle and they agreed to the 35%. We will have a contract for signature at next week's meeting. There will be a \$2,000 bonus for signing the contract within 45 days.

15. Memorial Day Parade

Reminder - March letter from the Baden American Legion cordially inviting council to participate in the annual Memorial Day Parade which will be held on Monday, May 27, 2019. Lineup is at 9:15AM and the parade starts at 10:15AM.

16. Water Tank Maintenance Schedule

Engineer is working on the maintenance schedule and what needs to be contracted out.

17. Property Maintenance Code

Ordinance was advertised for adoption at next week's meeting.

18. Hearing for Sisters of St. Joseph

The Sisters of St. Joseph is appealing for tax exemption status. The hearing is on Monday April 15th. The secretary and solicitor will be attending and the school district was asked to attend as well. Back in 2008 the Sisters of St. Joseph added 23 apartments to their mother house that they claimed was for retired nuns. This information was sent to the county commissioner as well as our attorney in preparation for the hearing.

Discussion took place regarding billing minimum utility usage for 23 units.

19. BYA Proposed Structure

A meeting with representatives of the BYA, school district, borough secretary and solicitor will take place on April 23rd regarding the BYA wanting to put an indoor facility on the second ball field in the park. Since the property is owned by the school district, leased by the borough and used by the BYA there are many legal issues regarding liability that need to be addressed.

20. Earth Day

Pencils made from recycled newspaper were purchased to hand out at the Earth Day Event being held by the Sisters of St. Joseph this Saturday from noon until 3:00. Any Council volunteers to attend and represent the borough?

21. Recreation Board Playground Grant

Nothing is done at this time. Recreation Board is gathering information (quotes, pictures, budget, summary....).

22. Liquid Fuels

The 2019 Liquid Fuels payment was received in the amount of \$138,718.08.

23. Selling of Borough Property

Per the letter from the attorney the borough will need to do a resolution to sell borough property. If the property is valued over \$1,500 it will need to be advertised for public bid.

Public Works

Pole Building Roof - Mr. Josapak stated that the roof on the pole building needs replaced. The cost would be \$3,536.40. Discussion took place regarding the mismatched color of the roof. Mr. Josapak was asked to get a price to replace the entire roof to make the color uniform.

Adding another Bay to the Pole Building – Mr. Josapak asked council to get the price to add another bay for storage. Discussion took place regarding finding other means for storage and if the bay was truly needed. He listed the vehicles, equipment and supplies that need to be properly stored inside a building. Mr. Josapak was asked to get pricing.

Sweeping

Sweeping has been done.

Potholes & Signs

Potholes have been repaired in town with cold patch. All of the signs (playground, opposing traffic does not stop...) that have been requested to be put up in the past few months have been put up.

Water Breaks

All the water breaks over the winter months need to have the street repaired however, hot mix will not be available until May so the residents will need to be patient until then.

Hydrant at the end of McNair

The new home at the end of McNair will be tapping into the water and sewage. Mr. Josapak would like to add a fire hydrant at the end of the road.

Johnson Avenue

There have been calls regarding a possible waterline break on Johnson Avenue. Mr. Josapak noted that they tested the water and there is no chlorine present and he believes this is spring water that use to come up in the parking lot of the Prevention Network but since they repaved their parking lot the water is now coming up on Johnson Avenue.

Playgrounds

The Recreation Board list for the playground has been completed with the exception of putting up the swings on Schiller Street. Mrs. Singleton stated to hold off on putting up the swings until she talks with the recreation board regarding the playgrounds and the possible grant that they are applying for.

Water Tanks

Mr. Josapak stated that the only thing on the five year plan list for the water tanks that they could do is post no trespassing signs around the tanks. Everything else needs to be done by an outside contractor. Mrs. Rakovan noted that the engineer is working on the water tank maintenance list.

Boom Mower

Council agreed to rent the boom mower again this year to cut back the hillsides within the borough. This is normally done around July.

2004 F650 Dump Truck

Mr. Josapak asked to sell the 2004 truck and use that money to purchase another smaller truck which will be better utilized by the borough. Discussion took place regarding the need for the big dump versus a small truck. Mr. Trzcianka asked Mr. Josapak to get a trade-in and resale price on the truck.

CEO**Harvey's**

Sent a letter telling him to clean up his property from the cars. Harvey has done nothing.

Discussion took place regarding what Harvey wants to do and needs to do. This matter has two sides as it involves the borough and PennDOT. Mr. Kotula stated that Harvey was told to keep up and follow the Borough's code. There was also supposed to be a meeting with the PennDOT, the police chief and Harvey. Mr. Kotula stated that PennDOT has never contacted the Chief. Mrs. Rakovan commented that the engineer will be surveying the borough right of way. Mr. Kotula stated that they let Harvey know that the borough does have other options for towing companies.

Bob's Imports

Sent a letter telling him to clean up his property from the cars and he is complying.

Mellon Avenue Alley

Resident is blocking access to the alley with a fence. Mr. Weber asked that the fence be moved and the resident does not want to do it. He also has ducks which cause a horrible odor.

Punks/Daycare

Mr. Weber asked the attorney to get the citations against the daycare dropped as the lot size of the property does not meet the required area to fall under the storm water ordinance.

Borriello Hearing

Still waiting for a hearing date and time.

POLICE**Baden Burglar**

The burglar that was caught in Baden took a plea deal and will be getting 36 to 72 months in jail.

New Vehicle

Officer Shipley stated that Sgt. Alvarez is working on the financing paperwork for the new vehicle. Mr. Kotula also noted that the new vehicle will be shipped to the borough since we are short handed to have officers drive and get the vehicle.

Part Time Officers

Officer Shipley reported that part time officer Dunmyer will be leaving for the State Police in early June. We are in dire need of part time officers. Until Chief Christner is back from his injury there will be a lot of overtime to cover the open the shifts.

FIRE CHIEF

Not present (written report supplied)

COMMITTEE REPORTS**Finance (John Shelkons – not present)**

General Fund Balance \$206,721	Expenses \$73,917
Water Fund Balance \$227,062	Expenses \$70,747

Non-Uniform Pension – Mr. Shelkons stated that the 2019 rate for the non-uniform pension has been calculated and they (council) disagrees with the how the calculation was made. Council's felt that any savings between the two healthcare plans would be given evenly to the non-uniform members, however the way the calculation was made it is adding this year's savings onto the previous 2018 year's savings calculation which has already been given to the pension for 2018. The calculation should not be compounded. Council will ask the solicitor to review the contract.

Public Safety

Full Time Officer - Mr. Kotula asked council to seriously look at moving forward in the process of hiring a full time police officer.

Building, Property & Grounds (Ted Kotula)

Electric in the Park – Mr. Shelkons is gathering information for the attorney to send a letter to Terry Barnick a letter regarding returning purchased electrical items for the memorial park electricity which Mr. Barnick has not completed.

Crosswalk on Virginia – Mr. Kotula stated that as covered under the secretary's report the engineer does not recommend another crosswalk on Virginia Avenue as there is no safe location that does not have a blind spot.

Sound System – Mr. Kotula stated that the new speakers have been installed and the individual microphones are working well. They tested two microphones and will purchase additional microphones since we now know they work well.

Walkway Roof – As noted in the secretary's report the cost to put a roof over the walkway is over \$57,000. They recommend moving the air conditioner unit under the walkway and putting land bridge in instead. Discussion took place regarding getting additional prices for a canopy roof.

Public Works (Dave Trzcianka)

Cell Tower Light (Kellinger Drive) – The blinking light has finally been fixed by the 911 Center.

Summer Help - Will make a motion to hire three summer help at Wednesday's meeting.

Blight Property – Mr. Trzcianka commented that Westmoreland County added a \$15 fee to title real estate transfer fees which brought in over \$450,000 to tear buildings down. He wasn't sure if we could legally add this to the transfer fees or request that the County add this to the real estate transfer fees. Discussion took place make the fee an extra \$150 not \$15. Mr. Trzcianka stated that he will ask the solicitor to look into this.

Municipal (Dave Trzcianka)

Damage Sewer Line on Route 65 – PennDot stated that the problem is with the contractor, not PennDOT. The contractor stated that the line was already crushed. The Municipal Authority engineer will be sending a letter to Senator Vogel. Mr. Trzcianka noted that the sewer line is temporarily fixed for the time being.

Library (Suzie Furr)

- June 1st the summer reading program will begin.
- Continue to fundraise for the library.
- The state funding for the libraries has been cut almost in half.

Spaghetti Dinner at the Legion

The Legion is doing a Spaghetti Dinner on April 11th to raise money for the library.

Community Relations & Recreation (Dawn Singleton)

Veteran Banners - Mrs. Singleton stated that they are moving forward with the veteran Banner project. They will be drawing up a flyer and making registration forms.

Mr. Josapak addressed Duquesne Light replacing electric poles on State Street and that all of the brackets may not be up for banners or Christmas lights until next year.

Playground Grant - Mrs. Singleton stated that she will be meeting with a playground company on April 15th regarding getting information, ideas and pricing for the playground grant.

Harvest Festival – Purchasing new T-Shirts for the festival and they will be available for sale too.

Easter Egg Hunt – Eggs were stuffed and there was a nice turnout for the Easter Egg Hunt.

Administration & Legislation (Bob Besong)

Not present

MAYOR'S REPORT

Library Steps - Mayor Gagliardi presented his idea for the library steps and ramp renovations. He would like to maintain the ramp access to the library. The Mayor was told that the plans were already submitted to the county for funding.

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

Antenna on Borough Building

Mrs. Rakovan commented that the platform holding the antenna on the roof is missing a bolt and needs repaired.

Storage Tank

Mrs. Rakovan commented that there have been complaints about the old storage water tank looking bad and needing painted.

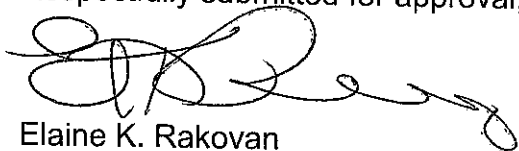
PRESIDENTS REPORT

Mrs. Montell attended the Library Board Meeting. She gave them a lot of credit for trying to raise funds for the library. They have a bill for \$295 for computer access to the main Beaver County Library computer system. She asked for council to consider paying the \$295 for this year only.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Trzcianka, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,



Elaine K. Rakovan
Borough Secretary
May 8th, 2019