

**PRE-MEETING
BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
AUGUST 14th, 2019**

Council Vice President David Trzcianka 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. Kotula, Mr. Shelkons, and Mr. Trzcianka
(Not Present: Mrs. Singleton and Mrs. Montell)

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OTHER RECORDING DEVICES

AGENDA (Changes and/or Deletions)

VISITORS

- No Visitors

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Secretary

1. **USDA Grant/Loan**
Work in progress.
2. **New Software**
The new software conversion went well with few errors and corrections needed. Public works used the tablets and readings were uploaded to software eliminating manual entry by the office clerk and speeding up the bill processing time.
3. **Trailer Court**
No further action is taking place at this time as pictures from 1 year ago to present show no change in the slide.
4. **Borough Building Walkway**
Martino never stopped by to go over the contracted walkway repair. Sent another email.
5. **Water Tank Maintenance Schedule**
Engineer is working on the maintenance schedule and what needs to be contracted out.
6. **BYA Proposed Structure**
No update.
7. **Baden Properties to Sell**
Barone Appraisals is doing the assessments on the properties. Waiting to hear from them.
8. **Teamsters 250 Pension Grievance**
Hearing date is set for October 8th.

9. Civil Service Rules & Regulations

Copy of the changes was given to Mr. Trzcianka and Mr. Kotula two months ago for review and discussion with council.

10. Timber Harvesting

Company doing the harvesting sent a letter stating that they will address any questions when they get closer to harvesting.

11. Sink Hole on Bauman Avenue

Loan - The paperwork has been signed and we are waiting for the next step in the process.

Restoration of the Mrs. Pollock's property – Mrs. Pollock signed an agreement regarding the stone wall and not replacing the fence. The sewer has and road has been repaired. Mrs. Pollock's yard will be restored and the wall built next week as the contractor is on vacation.

Change order #1 for the project is approximately \$123,000.

12. 2020 MMO for the Pension Funds

Police MMO will be \$51,642

Non-Uniform MMO will be \$63,638 (this is utilizing the "council" agreed upon pension rate)

13. Paving

Lower Bauman Avenue, upper Mellon Avenue and portion of Harmony Road will cost \$99,765. Paving old Route 65 would be \$160,000 so this is out of budget.

The secretary was asked to add Bryan Avenue from State Street to Berry Street to the list and paving the lower parking lot of the borough complex.

14. McDonald's

They are renovating (rebuilding) the McDonalds on Johnson Avenue and they would like to meet with some members of council to discuss what their plans are for the renovations. They would like to meet on September 4th at 3:00. Mrs. Rakovan commented that this can't be a quorum meeting so only 3 members of council may attend.

15. Tap in to Baden Water

An Economy Borough resident who built a new home on Phillips Street asked to connect to Baden's water. Discussion took place regarding them getting a letter from Ambridge Water Authority giving them permission to connect to Baden's water as well as filling out a tap in form for Baden Borough.

Mr. Trzcianka asked the secretary to contact Bill Gamble (updating the Civil Service Rules and Regulations) regarding the percentage breakdown for police testing score versus interview.

PUBLIC WORKS**Painting**

Mr. Josapak reported that they have completed line and curb painting.

Lead and Copper Testing

The lead and copper water test is done every three years. This has been done earlier in the month and we are waiting on the results.

Fire Hydrants

Mr. Kotula asked if public works was going to replace any fire hydrants this year. Mr. Trzcianka commented that this is part of the USDA Grant/Loan application.

Storm Sewer

Storm drain at the end of McNair is clogged. The jetter is not strong enough. They have contacted Tri-State Maintenance to try and clean it out.

CEO

Parking Restrictions for Travel Trailers and Boats

The ordinance states that parking for recreational vehicles, trailers and boats is 72 hours. Residents are not following the code. After speaking with the police they feel that the 72 hours needs to be removed and no recreational vehicle, trailer or boat should be permitted on the streets. He asked council to consider changing the ordinance. Discussion took place regarding getting samples of ordinances from other municipalities.

Mr. Weber commented that people are cutting their grass and weeds. Things are looking better. The one resident that has been given 5 citations is cleaning up the properties. If this done before the hearing Mr. Weber will drop the citations.

POLICE

Police Calls

Officer Shipley commented that the calls for the year have been given to the Mayor and council is free to look at them. He noted that some of the calls are more serious. There have been 7 felony offenses in the past month.

Class Academy

Officer Shipley commented that last year class academy had 35 students. This year they already have 55 students. They have remodeled the entire building to include upstairs and downstairs classroom. The biggest concern is that the inside of the building loses radio service once past the gymnasium. They are trying to come up with a solution. Putting a base station within the academy is what they feel would be the best idea. He noted that there is no reception in the classrooms and the last big event that took place down there five students brawling and bleeding while the police officer, including Shipley was unable to get backup because of no radio reception. Discussion took place regarding Class Academy supplying what is needed to ensure radio access throughout the building. Mr. Trzcianka told Officer Shipley to contact Staley (Bearcom) to see what they recommend. It was also noted that with the increase in student enrollment the Police Service Contract needs to be reopened and rates discussed. Officer Shipley commented that the average arrests per week at the Class Academy were 3 per week last year.

Conversation took place regarding the remodeling and if a permit was obtained. Officer Shipley stated that they took walls and extended into the portion where Western Psych was located. He stated that the entire inside was changed. CEO, Bob Weber, commented about the large amount of drywall was dumped into a dumpster and some that was on the ground soaking wet by the storm sewer.

Trump Visit

As part of his involvement with the County SWAT Officer Shipley was present at the Shell Plant when President Trump visited. Officer Shipley noted that at its peak there will be over 5,500 workers which are expected by December. Currently they have 3,500 workers. He commented that this increase in transients coming to our area to work is showing within our borough. There are more license plates from Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas...and they are sleeping in cars, staying with friends and we have had them sleeping in their trucks along the river. If the workers live over 65 miles away from the plant, they get a stipend per day for travel expenses. So they are purposely staying further away.

New PFA Regulations

Officer Shipley informed council that whenever there is a PFA cited against someone the law states that if they have a firearm they must relinquish it. A year ago the firearm would be taken to the sheriff's office. The new changes take this away from the sheriff's office and now the firearms must be relinquished to the municipality police department. Baden gets 3 to 5 PFA's per month. Officer Shipley stated that he has cleaned out a portion of the evidence room so that they may now accept, log and hold firearms of individuals who have a PFA filed against them. Officer Shipley stated that he did attend a training class regarding the proper logging and storage of the firearms.

Baden Burglar

Officer Shipley informed that the Baden Burglar got 12 to 20 years in prison.

FIRE CHIEF

Not present

COMMITTEE REPORTS**Finance (John Shelkons)****Account Balances**

General Fund Balance \$265,425	Expenses \$123,954
Water Fund Balance \$285,229	Expenses \$37,186

Public Safety (Ted Kotula)**Part Time Police**

Interviewed five officers this past Monday. Will make a motion next week to hire three officers.

Civil Service Rules & Regulations

They are still reviewing the changes. The secretary was asked to confirm the percentage breakdowns for testing and oral interview.

Building, Property & Grounds (Ted Kotula)**Walkway**

The contractor has not contacted the borough. Discussion took place regarding breaking the contract.

Public Works (Dave Trzcianka)**West View Water Tevebaugh Road**

Mrs. Rakovan noted that she did send letters of support for West View Water to submit their grant application for paving Tevebaugh Road.

Municipal (Dave Trzcianka)**Conway Sewage**

Conway Borough did send money to get started on the plant so that they may connect to Baden's sewage plant. Baden Municipal Authority is still trying to get access to their current plant to see their operations.

Library (Suzie Furr)**Funding from Ambridge School District**

The school district is budgeting 2/3 of the previous year's funding for the library. They originally cut it out completely.

Community Relations & Recreation (Dawn Singleton)**Pinney Street Bridge**

Mr. Shelkons noted that there were some repairs to the bridge joints. Mr. Trzcianka commented that this doesn't fix the weight limit so a fire truck is unable to go across it. Mr. Shelkons noted that he had a confrontation with a railroad employee regarding dumping onto Baden's property. He did call his contact for the railroad about this matter.

Electrician for the Park

Mr. Shelkons stated that the electrician did not contest the hearing. We should get the judgement by default.

Administration & Legislation (Bob Besong)

Nothing to report

MAYOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

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

Mrs. Rakovan commented that there is a senior from Ambridge Area High School who is interested in building a bench for the park/playground behind Virginia Heights apartments. She plans to attend one of the borough's council meetings.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Besong second by Mrs. Furr carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:05PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,



Elaine K. Rakovan
Borough Secretary
August 21st, 2019