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REGULAR MEETING BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL JULY 17th, 2019

Council President Judith Montell called the Regular 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, Mrs. Singleton, Mr. Trzcianka and Mrs. Montell

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Sam Gagliardi, Sgt. David Alvarez, Solicitor James Amato, Engineer Tony Sadaka, CEO Bob Weber

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OTHER RECORDING DEVICES

AWARDS

- Mr. Besong was awarded the PSAB Donald E. Carmen Award for having over 35 years of service as an elected official.
- Mayor Gagliardi was awarded the PSAB Thomas Cosway Award for over 20 years of service as an elected official.

AGENDA (Changes and/or Deletions)

VISITORS

- Jill Kriesky, PhD with the Southwest Pennsylvania Environmental Health Project presented information on "The health impacts of unconventional oil and natural gas development".
- Sam Chalupiak a boy scout with Troop 405 from 300 Tyro Road informed council that he was attending this evenings meeting for a merit badge.
- Chuck Ceranik from 621 Virginia Avenue addressed council in regards to speeding on Virginia Avenue. The speed sentry sign worked for a few weeks but now we are back to speeding and drag racing up and down the street. Officer Alvarez and other officers have been patrolling the area, but he feels what is needed is an unmarked car on a Friday and Saturday and the police need to give out some tickets. The speeding vehicles coming from the individual who live up on the hill. He also referenced the grey car from the fire department that was speeding down Virginia Avenue for a fire call during the community yard sale that almost hit a pedestrian who was crossing the street. He hoped that police department will do something about this matter.

Mr. Ceranik also addressed a neighbor who is setting off fireworks well after the 4th of July. He is picking up firework casings from his yard and on the roof of his car. The neighbor has now put up blue tarps and created a makeshift fence along his property. Something needs to be done with this neighbor. Mr. Shelkons asked of the police are being called when this neighbor is setting off the fireworks. Mr. Ceranik stated that he does not. Sgt. Alvarez commented that the police are trying to address the issues in the Virginia Avenue area. They have place the speed sentry sign along Virginia and they have increased patrol in the area. As for the neighbor with the fireworks, a resident will be giving a statement/complaint to Officer Shipley so that the individual shooting off the fireworks may be cited under the fireworks law. Sgt. Alvarez also noted that the three strikes rule is now being

enforced. He also commented that the apartments keep bringing in the same type of tenants so it becomes a revolving door of trouble.

- Frank Torhan from 515 Virginia Avenue asked for an update regarding the individual from the apartments parking in his neighborhood. He stated that he has gotten into some heated battles with the individual. Sgt. Alvarez stated that he spoke with Patty the building manager of the apartments regarding setting up parking in their parking lots, however Sgt. Alvarez stated that this doesn't solve the issue because anyone has the right to legally park anywhere on a public street no matter where you live. Mr. Torhan commented that the residents that live there should have the right to parking for themselves and their company. Sgt. Alvarez stated that the law is not written that way. Mr. Torhan stated that this individual has been doing this for over two years. He parks anywhere from First Street to Cottage Avenue while there are plenty of parking spots in his apartment parking lot. Mr. Torhan feels that the individual is doing this on purpose and he and his neighbors do not like it.
- Rocco Ravetti from 615 Virginia Avenue addressed council in regards to a tenant from the apartments asking for him to jump his car a few weeks ago. Since then he has asked Mr. Ravetti for money and then another time asking for a ride at 10:00 in the morning. Since that time the individual is in jail, but Mr. Ravetti asked if something could be done about this because if it keeps up he will take the matter into his own hands. Mrs. Montell stated that he needs to call the police. Sgt. Alvarez stated that with the three strikes ordinance this will help clear out the problem tenants. Mrs. Montell again stated to call the police immediately, no matter what time it may be.
- Sean Trehar 610 Virginia Avenue asked who owns the apartments. Sgt. Alvarez told him that Blaine Roberts is the owner of the apartments. Sgt. Alvarez also noted that the properties are not HUD properties. Discussion took place regarding the guidelines for the three strikes ordinance. Mr. Trehar asked if the apartments do background checks on their tenants. Sgt. Alvarez stated that we do not know what they do. Mr. Trehar felt that there should be something in place regarding this matter.

MINUTES

MOTION by Mrs. Singleton, second by Mr. Kotula, carried unanimously to approve the minutes of June 12th, 19th and July 3rd, 2019

BILLS TO BE PAID

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

RESOLUTIONS – None

ORDINANCES - None

BIDS – None

CORRESPONDENCE - None

1. Letter from Amato, Start & Associates with attached Municipal Authority signed Sewage Interconnect agreement with Conway Borough.
2. Letter from Widmer Engineering with attached review of the Chalupiak Franco Timber Harvesting which was copied to timber harvesting company requiring additional information per the borough code of ordinances.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance (John Shelkons)

General Fund Balance \$270,735
Water Fund Balance \$341,021

Expenses \$87,516
Expenses \$48,860

- **USDA Grant Application**

MOTION by Mr. Shelkons, second by Mr. Trzcianka, carried unanimously to authorize our solicitor and Attorney Salopek work with the engineer regarding the USDA Grant application.

- **Tree on Johnson Avenue**

MOTION by Mr. Shelkons, second by Mr. Trzcianka, carried unanimously to authorize the removal of the tree leaning on the traffic signal located on Johnson Avenue and Route 65. The secretary is trying to get PennDOT to pay for half the cost.

Public Safety (Ted Kotula)

- **Civil Service Rules and Regulations**

Mr. Kotula is reviewing the Civil Service Rules and Regulations. He will have more discussion for the next meeting.

MOTION by Mr. Kotula second by Mr. Trzcianka, carried unanimously to approve a handicap parking space in front of 1041 Third Street as per the review of the Baden Police Department.

Building, Property & Grounds (Ted Kotula)

- **Alley behind the Methodist Church**

MOTION by Mr. Kotula second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to have the engineer survey the right of way on the alley behind the Methodist church and for the solicitor to assist with notifying the property owner in regards to moving/removing the fence that is impeding upon the boroughs right of way.

- **Retaining Wall on Schiller Street Property**

MOTION by Mr. Kotula second by Mrs. Furr, carried unanimously to have the solicitor assist the building inspector in contacting the property own on Schiller Street who built a retaining wall and changed the grade of his driveway causing debris, water (ice in the winter months) to cover the road.

- **Harvey's Fence Permit**

MOTION by Mr. Kotula second by Mr. Trzcianka, carried unanimously to sign the agreement that was written by the solicitor regarding Harvey's permit for placing a fence along the borough right of way on the unopened section of lower Washington Street.

- **Sink Hole**

MOTION by Mr. Kotula second by Mr. Trzcianka, carried unanimously to sign the agreement with Mrs. Pollock in regards to the restoration of your property where the sinkhole has occurred on Bauman Avenue.

- **Property Appraisal**

MOTION by Mr. Kotula second by Mr. Trzcianka, carried unanimously to sign the properties appraisal agreement with Barone & Sons for the four parcels that council wishes to sell. Cost will be \$500 each (\$2,000 total)

- **Walkway**

Borough Secretary sent a letter to Martino asking for updates and time line for the walkway repair. Martino stated that they will be here next week to look over the walkway repairs.

- **Fire Department Roof**

Water leaking under the membrane. Company will be supplying a price to have entire roof resealed. This should extend the life of the roof by 10 years. Obtaining price for service agreement that would inspect & repair the roof twice a year.

- **Electric in the Park**

Hearing is scheduled for August 13th at 10:45 for the individual who has not completed the electrical repairs in the park.

Public Works (Dave Trzcianka)

- **Bearcom Service Agreement**

Bearcom annual service agreement for Scada System (\$5,640 per year). Council chose not to get the agreement.

- **Grievance Attorney**

MOTION by Mr. Trzcianka second by Mr. Kotula, carried unanimously to utilize attorney John McCreary to handle the labor dispute (grievance). His rate shall be \$250/hour (no charge for travel, no retainer required).

- **GPS Policy**

Mr. Trzcianka commented that the policy references a disciplinary policy which we do not have at this time. We need to look into this before further discussing this matter.

Municipal (Dave Trzcianka)

- **Conway Sewage Plant**

Conway is going to connect to the Baden Sewage Plant. Conway will fund all the improvements needed to the Baden Sewage Plant so that they may accept Conway's sewage. There will be a new agreement between Economy, Harmony, Baden and Conway. The time frame for this project is years in the future.

Library (Suzie Furr)

- Nothing to report.

Community Relations & Recreation (Dawn Singleton)

The Recreation Board is working on the Harvest Festival.

- **Veteran Banners**

They are going to put a flyer out for the Banner Project. It will be on the parks and recreation board website and flyers will be available in various locations in the community.

Administration & Legislation (Bob Besong)

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- **USDA Grant/Loan Application**

The USDA application is progressing. We are working on language for agreements for engineer and solicitor.

- **Berry Street Waterline Loop – CDBG Grant (FY 2018)**

The project preconstruction meeting was conducted last week. A 'notice to proceed' will be sent to the contractor for the project as soon as Community Development gives the ok (any day now).

- **Chalupiak Franco-Corfiot Timber Harvest Plan Review**

The application package and plan was reviewed with comments.

- **Bauman Avenue Storm Sewer Line**

Project was awarded to CTM Construction. The work is ongoing. The storm system should be done next week. Retaining wall to be completed after the type of wall is approved.

- **Paving for Bauman Sink Hole**

Mr. Sadaka recommended bidding out the paving repair of Bauman Avenue and to include upper Mellon Avenue and whatever other streets that may need to be repaired so that we get more paving done for the money. Discussion took place regarding the funding for the additional paving. Attorney Amato agreed with making the paving separate from the sink hole emergency repair.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Gagliardi addressed the concern with speeding throughout Baden. They are doing the best they can with the assets and resources that they have.

Fines – \$473.43

Calls – 462

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

Mr. Kotula read an article regarding North Sewickley Township hiring 4 more part time police officers directly from the police academy. This will bring their police department to 10 part time officers and 1 full time officer.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

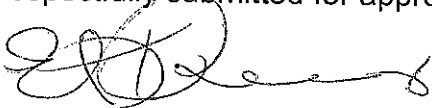
Mrs. Montell stated that the Warriors Call Box asked permission to have a banner put up in Baden for their 5K Run advertisement in August.

MOTION by Mr. Trzcianka second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to authorize a banner be put up in Baden for the Warriors Call Box 5K Run that is taking place in August.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Besong second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,



Elaine K. Rakovan
Borough Secretary
August 14, 2019