

**PRE-MEETING
BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 11th, 2019**

Council President Judith 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.

A one minute moment of silence was held in memory of those who lost their lives on 9/11/2001

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT Mr. Besong, Mrs. Furr, Mr. Kotula, Mrs. Singleton, Mr. Shelkons, Mr. Trzcianka and Mrs. Montell

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Sam Gagliardi, Fire Chief Dennis Baker, 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**
Submitted to underwriting and financial review.
2. **Trailer Court**
No further action is taking place at this time.
3. **Borough Building Walkway**
Martino was not under a contract for the walkway. They were in town doing other work for the borough and asked to help us out with the walkway. The railing is also rusty and chipped.

The secretary was asked to get some prices/quotes from other contractors.
4. **Water Tank Maintenance Schedule**
Engineer is working on the maintenance schedule and what needs to be contracted out.
5. **BYA Proposed Structure**
No update.
6. **Baden Properties to Sell**
Barone Appraisals is doing the assessments on the properties. Waiting to hear from them.
7. **Teamsters 250 Pension Grievance**
Hearing date is set for October 8th.

8. Civil Service Rules & Regulations

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

9. Sink Hole on Bauman Avenue

Sewer line and road have been repaired. Restoration of the wall and yard is currently being done. The process for the loan is becoming extensive and costly (advertisements, attorney fees, closing costs....) Recommend using Liquid Fuels funds. There is enough in the account to cover this cost as well as the planned small paving project that is going out for bid. Per the PennDOT we will need a resolution stating that we are using their funds for an emergency repair.

10. Paving

Put out for bid. Should have tabulations for next week's meeting.

11. Recreation Board

Will be releasing the 2019 budgeted funding for the recreation board and harvest festival. They are requesting their annual council/mayor donation in the amount of \$50 from the flower fund.

12. Veterans Service Center

Requesting their annual donation per the budget in the amount of \$525.

13. Insurance

Due to the number of workers comp claims over the past three years our current carrier is dropping the borough from their coverage. PIRMA is currently looking elsewhere for coverage. Expect an increase in the workers comp insurance for next year.

14. McDonalds

McDonalds will be completely torn down and one of the larger McDonalds will be put up. From tear down to rebuild they are looking around 3 months of closing down the restaurant. Currently they are planning for this to happen in early spring 2020. They have been asked to donate any old pictures of Baden that they had within the restaurant to Baden for their history archives.

Notes from the Solicitor

Mr. Amato will be out of town next week and therefore will not be at the meeting.

- Moore Avenue – The hoarding house. Does Council wish to proceed with getting a warrant to inspect the inside of the house?

Discussion took place going forward with the warrant for inspection.

- Class Academy – The contract is currently a month to month contract with a 30 day notice required to open the contract. What does council wish to include in the letter?

Discussion took place regarding rate increase, student enrollment increase and radio service.

- Electrician Hearing – The electrician did not respond to the magistrate so there will not be a hearing on Friday. A judgement will be filed against him. If by chance he shows up for the hearing then the judge may move the hearing to another date. Council does not need to go on Friday to the hearing.

PUBLIC WORKS

Berry Street Waterline

Mr. Josapak reported that the Berry Street waterline project is completed.

Fire Hydrants

New fire hydrant has the wrong threads and needs to be replaced. This does not affect fire protection.

Storm Sewer

Storm drain at the end of McNair has been cleared. Mr. Josapak questioned who would be responsible (homeowner or borough) to extend the pipe if it becomes an issue. The secretary was asked to check with the solicitor.

Playground Equipment

The playground equipment donated from the Sisters of St. Joseph does not have the bolts to put it together and some of them were cut off or drilled out. Mr. Josapak also noted that the directions for installation require special foundation that he is uncomfortable to do. Discussion took place to contact the playground company to see what they can do and what the cost would be to put the equipment up for the borough.

CEO

Hearings

Mr. Weber has 3 hearings scheduled.

Hoarding House

Mr. Weber stated that they are working on cleaning up the house. It is going slowly. He did not cite them yet because they asked for extra days. Discussion took place regarding condemnation, fire hazard and what legally the borough can do.

House on State Street

Mr. Shelkons informed council that kids have been seen in the building that we are currently in courts with for condemnation. He asked if signs could be put up because this is a safety issue now. The secretary was asked to check with the attorney.

POLICE

Speeding

Mayor Gagliardi stated that he and the police chief have met and created a plan regarding the speeding problem within our borough.

FIRE CHIEF

Chief Baker stated that they had 14 calls last month. All vehicle inspections are complete. Fire Prevention week will be the second week of October. State Fire Commission annual grant application has been completed and submitted to replace air cylinders, gloves and hoods.

2018 Assistance to Fire Fighter Grant

The fire department was awarded this grant in the amount of \$57,500 to replace existing exhaust system in the station with a complete exhaust removal system. This grant has a 5% match of approximately \$2,700. Chief Baker asked if council would consider paying the grant match.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance (John Shelkons)

Account Balances

General Fund Balance \$148,627	Expenses \$99,618
Water Fund Balance \$424,528	Expenses \$217,984

Public Safety (Ted Kotula)

Part Time Police

One part time officer we just hired picked up additional hours with another department so we need to hire another part time officer.

Building, Property & Grounds (Ted Kotula)

Harvey's

Harvey is parking vehicles all over the borough right of way and alley. It was noted that the fence is up so this should not be happening.

Dollar General

Mr. Kotula addressed his concern with the traffic coming from Dollar General. He wasn't sure what we could do. Mrs. Rakovan noted that people will be going to the Harmony Township meeting addressing their concerns with not only the traffic but lack of sidewalk.

Microphones

The frequencies have been changed on the microphones so there should be no further issues with feedback.

Library Steps

Discussion took place regarding the poor condition of the library steps. The secretary was asked to have the contractor who will look at the walkway to see what they can do with the library steps.

Public Works (Dave Trzcianka)

Nothing to report

Municipal (Dave Trzcianka)

Crush Sewer Route 65

There is going to be a hearing with the insurance company and construction company.

Conway Sewage

They are having a meeting with Conway Municipal Authority and Norfolk Southern over their connection to Baden's plant.

Library (Suzie Furr)

Mrs. Furr stated that a packet was handed out with information of what the Library is doing.

Election Day Fundraiser

Mr. Shelkons stated that the library wants to sell soup in the lobby during Election Day and asked if council for approval.

Memorial Repair

Mr. Shelkons stated that the librarian stated that someone from the Legion was looking at the memorial regarding repairs. She didn't know who it was. Discussion took place regarding making sure that the legion and borough communicate regarding any repairs

and chances especially since we will be redoing the steps with the grant funding that we received.

Community Relations & Recreation (Dawn Singleton)

Banner Program

Mrs. Singleton stated that the letter and forms for the banner program will be implemented after some changes and additions are made. They are opening a separate bank account for the Banner Program so that the money will be trackable.

Harvest Festival

So far there are 31 vendors and letters were sent out to legislators asking them to donate gift baskets. The baskets will be dropped off at the borough building. Six tents have been purchased for the Festival.

Administration & Legislation (Bob Besong)

Mr. Besong stated that he went to a meeting with McDonald's and if anyone wants to see the plans ask the secretary. This McDonald's will be one of the biggest in the area. The Mayor asked about permitting fees and how much the borough will make. The secretary explained that BIU will profit from the permit and the borough will only get 10% of permitting fees.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

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

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Nothing to report.

Executive Session

MOTION by Mr. Kotula second by Mrs. Singleton carried unanimously to go into executive session at 7:35PM to discuss personnel.

MOTION by Mr. Trzcianka second by Mr. Shelkons carried unanimously to return to session at 8:13PM.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Trzcianka second by Mr. Shelkons carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:14PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,



Elaine K. Rakovan
Borough Secretary
September 18, 2019