

REGULAR MEETING BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL JUNE 17, 2026

Council President Dave Trzcianka called the Regular Meeting of Council to order at 6:00 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: Becky Gallagher, Dawn Singleton, John Shelkons, Tom Turney, Dave Trzcianka

NOT PRESENT: Joe Bosh, Shannon Reynolds

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Andy Gall, Solicitor Jimmy Amato, Engineer Tony Sadaka, Manager Elaine Rakovan

This meeting is being electronically recorded by the Borough Manager.

AGENDA (Changes and/or Deletions)

ORDINANCES - None

VISITORS

Loretta Thompson for Bauman Avenue asked council for an update on the painting of the yellow lines on Bauman Avenue. Dave Trzcianka stated that no lines have been painted yet and between waterline breaks, sinkholes, sewer and waterline projects and losing one public works employee public works is prioritizing what needs to be done. The lines will be painted this year.

Randy Tetrack from Straube Avenue presented a petition and addressed council in regards to speeding on Straube Avenue and the recent incident where a car was spinning tires and slid off the road and almost hit a child that was in the yard by the mailbox. He stated cars are flying down the road and police are seldom seen. The speeding is by cars, quads and motorcycles. Vehicles are not stopping at the stop sign.

Jeff Shakespear, the father of the young man who almost got hit gave details regarding the incident and stated his concerns with over 18 children playing and riding their bikes along Straube Avenue. Police presence is minimal. His wife had to call 911 twice because the police didn't show up after 15 minutes. The discussion of placing rubber speed humps (the borough currently has 2 available) on the road took place. The borough engineer will take a look at the road and determine where and how many humps may be put down in accordance with state guidelines. Mayor Gall stated that the Beaver Valley Regional Police Chief informed him that they have assigned two extra patrols in the Phillips Street area. Additional residents spoke out about cars taking the alley off of Phillips and cutting through to Straube. Comments about the amount of money the borough would make giving out speeding tickets. It was explained that all money from traffic tickets go to the regional police.

Mike Solomich from Straube Avenue explained that the car that almost hit the child was off the road on two wheels and left a rut in the yard showing that the car was out of control.

The child that almost got hit spoke to council and explained how the car swerved on two wheels, halfway in the drive and the fishtailed towards the neighbor's property. He said they he is too scared to ride his bike or even walk his dog. He then asked council to please put the speed humps on the road.

Tom Turney asked if anyone got the license plate of the vehicle. Jeff Shakespear and his wife explained that the driver lived further down the road. The police (Officer Amanda Stitt) wrote up the report and filed charges on the driver who showed no remorse for his actions and fled the scene, only returning when the police were notified.

Dave Trzcianka commented that the residents should contact Representative Rob Matzie regarding concerns (speeding) on Phillips Street.

John Shelkons commented about closing Straube Avenue after the last house before the bend. Discussion followed.

Carrie Quinlan for Dorothea Street stated that there is an alleyway between Dorothea Street and Straube Avenue that could be accessed from Phillips Street. She had a concern regarding speeders in the alley, especially ATV's and side-by-sides.

Alan Rose from Straube Avenue also commented that the ATV's, dirt bikes and electric bikes are loud and running all hours of the night and go straight through stop signs.

John Senkowski from Straube Avenue stated that he has experienced speeding from drivers coming up from Schiller Street. He than addressed the concrete that was placed on the hillside of Straube Avenue. The concrete has not solved the erosion of the hillside and now the area next to the concrete is eroding. He also commented that more people are encouraged to dump onto the property. The no littering sign that the borough put up has fallen over and needs to be put back up. Dave Trzcianka commented that if the road was closed it would prevent the dumping. Mr. Senkowski also noted that the right of the road is eroding and has caused a channel that is 6 to 7 inches deep. Engineer, Tony Sadaka commented that the thoughts of closing the road would change approach to fix the issue. He will be looking into all options (speed humps, road closure...)

Don Rusczyński spoke to confirm that speeding is a problem on Straube Avenue.

Lesabeth Trzcianka from Virginia Avenue asked that traffic be monitor on Virginia Avenue for speeding and not stopping at stop signs.

MINUTES

MOTION by Dawn Singleton, second by Tom Turney to approve the minutes of May 13th and 20th, 2026.

BILLS TO BE PAID

MOTION by Dawn Singleton, second by Becky Gallagher to pay all bills with two signatures.

RESOLUTIONS

26-03 Disposal of old records in accordance with the Pennsylvania Municipal Records Manual. Records include 2007 to 2011 Work Orders, 2005 to 2009 Grants, 1970 to 2011 Waterline Improvements, 1964 to 1993 Street Improvements, 2000 Correspondence, 2004 to 2011 Audits, 2011 EIT, 2008 to 2010 Building Permits, 2011

LST and Mercantile, 2011 Finances (Bond, Pennvest), 1961 to 1980 Paving Files, 2011 Payroll, 2011 Invoices and 1979 to 1997 Baden Police Records per the direction of the Beaver County District Attorney’s office.

MOTION by Becky Gallagher, second by John Shelkons to adopt resolution 26-03.

ORINANCES - None

BIDS – None

CORRESPONDENCE - None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance (John Shelkons)

General Fund Balance	\$173,203	Expenses \$177,021
Water Fund Balance	\$504,171	Expenses \$216,163

PennVEST

MOTION by John Shelkons, second by Dawn Singleton to approve the payment application request #8 in the amount of \$310,964.69

Salt Spreader

MOTION by John Shelkons, second by Dawn Singleton to purchase a new salt spreader for the GMC 4500 from Sabre Equipment for \$6,974

Altitude Valve for Harmony Tank Pit

MOTION by John Shelkons, second by Becky Gallagher to purchase a new Altitude GA Valve from Cla-Val Services for the Harmony Tank Pit at a cost of \$2,013.

Ductless Heating/Cooling System for Harmony Water Tank Chlorination Building

The building that houses the chlorination equipment needs a regulated temperature to maintain the chlorine strength. The price for a ductless heating and cooling system installed by Albert’s is \$5,765.

MOTION by John Shelkons, second by Tom Turney to purchase the heating and cooling system from Albert’s at a cost of \$5,765.

Pump Houses Surge Protectors

Surge protectors are needed at each pump house for the RAFA System. Connect Electric cost for 4 surge protectors and relocating the switch location for the exhaust fan at the harmony road tank is \$2,750.

MOTION by John Shelkons, second by Dawn Singleton to have Connect Electric install 4 surge protectors and relocate the switch location for the exhaust fan at the harmony road tank at a cost of \$2,750.

Mill & Overlay Parts of Straube Avenue & 3rd Street

The waterline contractor gave the price to mill and overlay beyond the street openings:

Straube Avenue (Phillips St. to Carle St.): \$21,785.50

3rd Street (North Ave. to Dead End): \$28,193

Total: \$49,978.50

John Shelkons made a motion to approve the mill and overlay. Tom Turney voted no stating that it is not cost effective because he felt that an overlay will not last 2 months.

ROLL CALL to approve the milling and overlay of portions of Straube Avenue and 3rd Street.

Becky Gallagher	Yes
John Shelkons	Yes
Dawn Singleton	Yes
Tom Turney	No
Dave Trzcianka	Yes

Four (4) yes, One (1) no, **MOTION CARRIED**

Ambridge Water Authority Contract

MOTION by John Shelkons, second by Becky Gallagher to authorize the solicitor send a letter to the Ambridge Water Authority regarding the contract renewal for bulk water.

Tom Turney explained that during the work session West View Water gave a presentation regarding what they can offer to Baden regarding water supply as well as taking over the entire water system. Baden asked for pricing as well as a position statement regarding providing water to our community.

PUBLIC SAFETY (Becky Gallagher)

Beaver Valley Regional Police Department (BVRPD)

There were 728 dispatch calls in Beaver County and 414 of those calls were for the BVRPD.

The K9 golf outing raised over \$18,000 for the K9 fund.

The police chief posted on Facebook that e-bikes and e-scooters are not permitted on public roadways.

Grant money was received for new police cruisers. The old vehicles will be put up for sale to other police departments.

America 250

The America 250 Celebration is being held on Saturday June 20th. There will be music all day long, blacksmith demonstration, exotic reptile display, petting zoo, bouncy house, 8 food trucks, Amish donuts, antique fire and farm equipment and a miniature railroad. There will also be a pet parade and apple pie bakeoff.

The Fire Chief and Code Enforcement Officer was not present at the work session or this evening’s meeting, but he did supply a written report which is as follows:

Baden Fire Department (Chiefs Report)

Monthly Activity & Operations Report

March 2026

Incident Activity

In May 2026, the Baden Fire Department responded to a total of **25 incidents**. These calls represented a variety of emergency responses and operational demands throughout the Borough of Baden and surrounding mutual aid areas. The department averaged **six (7) firefighters per incident**, with staffing levels ranging from **14 firefighters responding to a structure fire to 1 medical personnel responding to a medical call**.

Of the 25 total incidents, the department **provided Automatic Aid (12) times, (7) of which were canceled, and received Automatic Aid (4) times for a total of 16 incidents utilizing the Automatic Mutual Aid System**, reinforcing the importance of regional cooperation and mutual support among neighboring agencies.

Call Type Breakdown

- **Fire Alarms:**3
- **Fires (Possible / Confirmed):** 5
- **Medical Responses:** 6
- **Rescue Incidents:** 1
- **Service / Other Type Calls:** 1
- **Dispatched / Canceled:** 9

Year-to-Date Incidents: 154

Personnel, Staffing & Response

A total of **378 man-hours** were logged during May. These hours include:

- Emergency incident responses
- Station staffing
- Training activities

Training & Job Performance Requirements

Members completed the **May Job Performance Requirement (JPR)**, which focused on **Ground Ladders**.. This training ensured continued familiarity and confidence with using our ground ladders

Looking ahead, the **June JPR will focus on Pump Operations Review**, and members are encouraged to maintain momentum by ensuring these JPRs are completed and staffing the station when available.

Upcoming Trainings / Classes:

- 8/14 - 8/16 Elis Fire Training Weekend

Apparatus & Equipment Readiness

All **monthly truck checks** were completed in May. Additionally, all **monthly medical equipment inspections** were completed by a medical provider, ensuring compliance with readiness standards and operational reliability.

Our new QRS vehicle is in service and awaiting final EMS Certification Inspection by EMS West.

Grants & Funding Updates

- Norfolk Southern Grant Application Submitted, for acquisition of Heart Monitor / Defibrillator. (**Awarded \$10,000 towards the purchase**)
- Applied for additional funding through Eire and State Farm to make up the funds still needed for the Defibrillator.
- **OSFC State Grant in the amount of \$16,136.55. (has been Deposited)**
- **Matzie / DCED Grant totaling \$50,000 was awarded to support the completion of projects around the fire station.**
- **The AFG grant application period is open and finalizing applications**
- **There are no new updates on the Local Share Grant related to engine replacement.**

Station Project Updates

- The Initial phase of the addition has been completed, and both the final building and electrical inspections have been completed by MDIA.
- Patio Complete
Projects to follow the addition completion.
 - Office update
 - 5th Bay Organization, once the gym equipment is moved to the addition
 - Front shower room update
 - Replace remaining non-led lights throughout the station

Code Enforcement Monthly Report

Reporting Officer: Dennis Baker, Code Enforcement Officer

Reporting Period: May 2026

2026 Inspection Program

- 20 Inspections Completed
- 2 Inspection on the Schedule
- Several more are waiting to be scheduled.

General Violations / Complaints

- 24 code complaints received in April / May
- 13 of them have been mitigated, still working on the others, along with a few citations

Court & Appeals

- An **appeal has been filed** regarding a citation issued for the **Baden Theater**. The judge ordered a continuance because our solicitor was unavailable for the hearing on short notice. I asked the office staff to send the solicitor the new notice as soon as we receive it.

Condemned Properties

- 286 Berry Street, all information was sent to the property owner via email, and she claims they are going to make all corrections so they can move back in
- Lower Moore Ave Property, I am circling back around on this one, which has been condemned for some time, and I lost sight of it.

PUBLIC WORKS / MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY (Dawn Singleton)

Prospect Water Tank Pump

MOTION by Dawn Singleton, second by Tom Turnley to ratify the emergency approval of a new pump for the Prospect Water Tank for a cost of \$45,092.46 through Muniworx.

Speed Bump Straube Avenue

MOTION by Dawn Singleton, second by Tom Turnley to authorize the engineer to do a traffic study for speed humps on or closing Straube Avenue.

TECHNOLOGY / LEGISLATION (Joe Bosh)

Not Present

PUBLIC RELATIONS / ADMINISTRATION (Shannon Reynolds)

Not Present

BUILDING / PROPERTY / CODE ENFORCEMENT (Tom Turney)

Old Police Lockers

Tom Turney asked for an update on the lockers. Becky Gallagher stated that the BVRPD are interested but they have not gotten to it yet.

Code Enforcement

Tom Turney summarized the code enforcement officers report. There were 24 complaints in April and May. Thirteen of them have been mitigated and the others are still outstanding. The oldest outstanding issue is the old movie theater which has been appealed to Beaver County Common Pleas.

Fishing Pier

There are approximately \$28,000 in donations and Tom Turney is planning to push for a grant next year where the borough only needs to supply 15% of the cost and the balance 85% will would come from the grant.

A resident spoke out asking about opening the Tevebaugh Ball Field. Discussion followed which included regulations with crossing the creek, liability and feasibility. Additionally, the Borough does not own the property. It is owned by the Municipal Authority.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report

ENGINEER'S REPORT (Tony Sadaka)

1. EPA Required Water Reports

WEI is working on the Annual 'Consumer Confidence Report' and also the 'Risk Assessment.'

2. PennVEST - Waterline Replacements

Wright has completed Wright has completed services and tie-ins from the northern end of Camilla St to the eastern side of Wilson St. The western side of Wilson St. has services completed except for three (3) houses. Wright finished placing services down Camilla St and almost done with Wilson St.

The 8th application for payment has been submitted for Borough Council approval today and covers work completed in May. Total due this application is \$310,964.69.

MAYOR'S REPORT (Andy Gall)

Mayor Gall stated that the Beaver Valley Regional Police Department has school resource officers for Baden Academy, Class Academy and Rochester School. During the summer months these officers are used to fill vacations and target areas where police presence is needed. Mayor Gall will ask the chief to place officers in the area of concern that presented this evening.

The contract with the Beaver Valley Regional Police is up for renewal in 6 months. The three options are to stop service, renew the contract as is or present changes.

Mayor Gall gave insight into the arrest that took place in Baden for attempt of kidnapping. There is minimal information at this time. It was a 24 year old male. There is no danger. The individual is in jail. There is no further information because the investigation is still underway.

PRESIDENTS REPORT (Dave Trzcianka)

Water Skada/Rafa System

President Trzcianka explained that the current RAFA system is not working and causing unnecessary call outs and overtime. He asked foreman, Rodney Keenan to get pricing for new system that works and be cell and/or web based.

Baden Facebook

President Trzcianka stated that the Baden Community Network Facebook page is not the Baden Facebook page. Borough information is posted to Baden Borough. The borough does not monitor the community network page.

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

Becky Gallagher explained that the agency BCRC (works with individual with intellectual challenges) made a display and they would like to have it displayed in the Baden Borough Building for approximately 1 week. The display includes a video and promotes what BCRC has to offer.

Phillips Street Sinkholes

Elaine Rakovan explained that the sinkholes on Phillips Street are getting better. We will not hear about grant funding until the fall and working on the sewer would void our opportunities to get the grant funding. Public works would like to purchase a metal plate for traffic safety. Renting a plate is almost \$1,000. The cost to purchase a plate is less than \$3,000.

MOTION by Dawn Singleton, second by Tom Turnley to purchase the metal plate not to exceed \$3,000.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Tom Turney, second by Becky Gallagher, to adjourn the meeting at 7:28PM.

Respectfully Submitted for Approval,

Elaine K. Rakovan
Borough Manager