

**REGULAR MEETING
BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
AUGUST 20, 2025**

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: Joe Bosh, Becky Gallagher, Doug Miller, John Shelkons, Dawn Singleton, Michael Stuban and Dave Trzcianka

NOT PRESENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Judi Montell, 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 - None

MINUTES

MOTION by Michael Stuban, second by Becky Gallagher, carried unanimously to approve the minutes of July 16th, 2025.

BILLS TO BE PAID

MOTION by Dawn Singleton, second by Doug Miller, carried unanimously to pay all bills with two signatures.

RESOLUTIONS

25-04 Declaration of official intent to reimburse the general fund or water fund used to construct improvements to the water system with funds received from the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority.

MOTION by Dawn Singleton, second by Joe Bosh, carried unanimously adopt Resolution 25-04.

ORDINANCES – None

BIDS – None

CORRESPONDENCE – None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance (John Shelkons)

General Fund Balance	\$242,518	Expenses	\$131,259
Water Fund Balance	\$245,504	Expenses	\$183,564

Tax Exoneration

MOTION by John Shelkons, second by Dawn Singleton, carried unanimously to exonerate taxes for parcel 13-003-0314.000 that would like to purchase from the repository. Borough taxes are less than \$2,000 and not been paid since 1982.

2026 MMO

MOTION by John Shelkons, second by Joe Bosh, carried unanimously to budget \$95,846 for the 2026 non-uniform pension plan Municipal Monetary Obligation. State aid of approximately \$44,000 will offset the obligation.

PennVest Service Agreement

MOTION by John Shelkons, second by Dawn Singleton, carried unanimously to sign the legal service agreements with James D. Amato & Associates and engineering service agreement with Widmer Engineering Inc.

PUBLIC WORKS (Doug Miller)

No Parking Signs

MOTION by Doug Miller, second by Dawn Singleton, carried unanimously authorizing the engineer and solicitor to update the No Parking Ordinance to include all streets and appropriate signage where necessary.

TECHNOLOGY / PUBLIC RELATIONS / LIAISON (Joe Bosh)

Soliciting Permits

Joe Bosh stated that he will update the website with the soliciting permits as he receives them from the borough office.

Borough Video

Joe Bosh spoke with Allen Freed (video Creator) and Joe will be posting the video on a Baden Borough YouTube Channel. It will be available to the public on September 1st.

Fiber Optic Service

Joe Bosh noted that the borough manager had a second fiber optic service that reached out to her regarding doing business in Baden. He will be reaching out to them to schedule a meeting to obtain more information.

ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL (Becky Gallagher)

Executive Session

Becky Gallagher requested an executive session after the meeting to go over the non-uniform contract negotiation.

America 250

Becky Gallagher stated that the recent Beaver County America 250 went over their planned events in more detail.

October 25th of this year will be the liberty tree planting. They invited every dignitary they could think of. Council and Mayor should try to attend.

Becky Gallagher went over Baden's America 250 meeting. Armed Forces Day on May 16th 2026 is in planning as well as the event on June 20th of 2026.

PUBLIC SAFETY (Dawn Singleton)

Aerial Repair

Dawn Singleton made a motion to approve the invoice from Advantech Services in the amount of \$13,006.70 for the repair of the Aerial Fire Truck.

Dave Trzcianka asked to get more information, questioning the labor cost on the invoice. He stated that council should have been notified prior to the chief authorizing the repair. Discussion followed including what was not functioning the truck (lights, boards....). Joe Bosh commented that this is not a small amount of money and asked at what point is council supposed to get involved and approve a purchase/expense. Elaine Rakovan stated that normally any expense out of the norm are either brought to her as the manager and she or the department head brings it before council. Usually this is equipment purchases, vehicle repairs/maintenance and emergency costs. She noted that often if it is an immediate necessary expense and she sends a text out to all of council informing them of the cost (i.e. vehicle in for inspection and it needs new tires, waterline break and we need outside help....). Elaine Rakovan commented that at last week's meeting the chief did state that the repair was costly, but from a budget stand point, he pulled the funds from other budgeted account so that overall, the fire department will not be over budget. Dave Trzcianka stated that we have to pay the invoice because the work has been done, however he felt that council needs to re-evaluate how much a department head can approve without council input. Elaine Rakovan stated that she is requesting council approval because this expense will cause that budget line item to be over the budgeted funding.

Joe Bosh gave a second to approve the invoice. Dave Trzcianka voted no.

ROLL CALL – To approve the invoice from Advantech Services in the amount of \$13,006.70 for the repair of the Aerial Fire Truck.

Joe Bosh	Yes
Becky Gallagher	Yes
Doug Miller	Yes
John Shelkons	Yes
Dawn Singleton	Yes
Michael Stuban	Yes
Dave Trzcianka	No

Motion Carried: Six (6) yes, One (1) no

Code Enforcement

Dawn Singleton stated that discussion took place after the Beaver Valley Regional Police meeting regarding shared services of Code Enforcement under the four communities within the regional police. Discussion followed including fire department and public works consolidation. Mayor Montell expressed that she is opposed to any other consolidation of services at this time.

BUILDING / GROUNDS / EQUIPMENT (Michael Stuban)

Building and Parking Lot Lights

MOTION by Michael Stuban, second by Becky Gallagher, carried unanimously to repair and/or replace light fixtures in the borough building at a cost of \$6,991 and the parking lot lights at a cost of \$1,680 by Choice Contracting Light.

ARC3 Parking Lot

MOTION by Michael Stuban, second by Dawn Singleton, carried unanimously to authorizing the solicitor to write a letter to the owner of the property stating that the sinkhole on their property is not the responsibility of the borough to repair.

House Bill 1204

Michael Stuban made a motion to send a letter to our legislators asking that they support House Bill 1204 which will make PennDOT responsible for all state owned roads and drainage within all municipalities. Currently boroughs and townships have different laws governing the maintenance of PennDOT installed storm sewers/drain. Joe Bosh had questions and because he did not have enough information on the bill he voted no. Michael Stuban changed his motion.

MOTION by Michael Stuban, second by Becky Gallagher, carried unanimously to send a letter to our legislators asking that they support House Bill 1204 but to wait until after next month's council meeting so that everyone may read the bill before the letter is sent.

2026 Calendar

Michael Stubans asked that if anyone has anything for next year's calendar to have the information to the office within the next two weeks.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Dave Trzcianka asked about removing the signs on the utility poles. Elaine Rakovan explained that the signs on the poles may be removed. As for the signs in the grass along the roads, the code enforcement officer would have to look at each one individually because the borough code has guidelines regarding location and setbacks.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

1. Harmony Water Storage Tank Upgrades

Future funding is needed to rehabilitate the Harmony Water Storage Tank. The total COSTARS quote amount is \$221,950 and we most likely will need to have a temporary water storage tank setup during construction (estimated separate cost of \$25,000).

2. Storm Sewer Rehabilitation on Phillips Street and Grant Application

WEI is reviewing the storm sewer inspection report and videos received from the borough office this week and will provide recommendations when complete.

3. PennVEST - Waterline Replacements

WEI is working with PennVEST, the Borough Manager, bond counsel and solicitor to progress the project, moving towards closing the PennVEST loan at the end of September. Below is our planned timeline (subject to revision going forward as necessary).

Milestone Date

Submit all documents to PennVEST	9/3/2025
Conference Call with PennVEST	9/10/2025
PennVEST Closing (Settlement)	9/24/2025

MAYOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Bauman and Harmony Road Line Painting

Dave Trzcianka stated that some residents on Bauman Avenue told public works that they do not want lines painted on Bauman Avenue. We also received a phone call and written letter from a resident and signatures from some other residents not in favor of the lines. Dave Trzcianka had manager, Elaine Rakovan contact the engineer to see what the guidelines are for line painting. Per PennDOT, a traffic study would need to be done to determine if lines are needed and what the correct application would be. Discussion followed.

Joe Bosh made a motion, second by Becky Gallagher to not paint any lines on Bauman Avenue (Harmony Road). Michael Stuban voted no.

ROLL CALL – To not paint lines on Bauman Avenue (Harmony Road).

Joe Bosh	Yes
Becky Gallagher	Yes
Doug Miller	Yes
John Shelkons	Yes
Dawn Singleton	Yes
Michael Stuban	No
Dave Trzcianka	Yes

Motion Carried: Six (6) yes, One (1) no

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

ADJOURNMENT and EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Michael Stuban, second by Dawn Singleton, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting and go into executive session at 7:27 PM regarding personnel and negotiations.

Respectfully Submitted for Approval,

Elaine K. Rakovan
Borough Manager