

REGULAR MEETING BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL AUGUST 21ST, 2024

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: Mr. Bosh, Mrs. Gallagher, Mr. Miller, Mr. Shelkons, Mrs. Singleton, Mr. Stuban and Mr. Trzcianka

NOT PRESENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Judi Montell, Solicitor Jimmy Amato, Engineer Tony Sadaka, Assistant Chief Matt Loftus

This meeting is being electronically recorded by the Borough Manager.

AGENDA (Changes and/or Deletions)

DEBT ORDINANCE - None

VISITORS

Bob Miller from 956 2nd Street addressed council in regards to the alley between 2nd and 3rd Street regarding Pine tree limbs hanging over into the alley from the Apartment C. The pine cones fallen off and hit his truck. There is also a Maple tree with branches hanging over the alley and bushes that are growing out into the alley. They all need cut back because cars are getting damaged. He also addressed the grass and old garden owned by the apartments that needs cut. Dave Trzcianka asked the manager to notify the Code Enforcement Officer and Public Works.

MINUTES

MOTION by Michael Stuban, second by Joe Bosh, carried unanimously to approve the minutes of July 10th and 17th, 2024

BILLS TO BE PAID

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

RESOLUTIONS - *(Attached to the agenda for Public Review)*

24-03 Supporting the Pennsylvania Commission for the United States Semi-quincentennial (America250PA)

MOTION by Becky Gallagher, second by Dawn Singleton, carried unanimously to adopt Resolution 24-03.

ORDINANCES – NONE

BIDS – NONE

CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance (John Shelkons)

- General Fund Balance \$213,030 Expenses \$171,579
- Water Fund Balance \$376,475 Expenses \$136,910

MOTION by John Shelkons, second by Michael Stuban, carried unanimously adopt the 2023 audit.

PUBLIC WORKS (Doug Miller)

Phillips Street Storm Sewer Repair – Discuss cost, extent of repair, agility agreement with PennDot, Engineer to do specs and permitting, emergency status, three quotes

Elaine Rakovan explained that Phillips Street storm sewer is getting bigger and worse. She addressed council consider this an emergency before someone or a vehicle goes into the sinkhole. The engineer would need to write up some basic spec so that we can get accurate quotes for the repair cost.

MOTION by Doug Miller, second by Michael Stuban, carried unanimously to have the engineer do the specs for the repair and look at possible future areas that may have issues as well as declaring the Phillips Street sinkholes an emergency.

TECHNOLOGY / PUBLIC RELATIONS / LIAISON (Joe Bosh)

Solicitation Ordinance

MOTION by Joe Bosh, second by Dawn Singleton, carried unanimously to amend the Parking Ordinance to include the word trailer under Section 180-3 of the borough code.

ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL (Becky Gallagher)

Nothing to Report

PUBLIC SAFETY (Dawn Singleton)

MOTION by Dawn Singleton, second by Joe Bosh to amend the Parking Ordinance to include the word trailer under Section 180-3 of the borough code.

BUILDING / GROUNDS / EQUIPMENT (Michael Stuban)

MOTION by Michael Stuban, second by Becky Gallagher, carried unanimously to sign the already reviewed and approved (by the Baden Planning Board and Beaver County Planning Commission) lot consolidation / subdivision of the Villella properties located at the end of Lincoln Avenue and the Vagias lot consolidation located on Adams Street (unopened street off of Kellinger Drive).

Multimodal Grant – Grant opening starts September 23rd and turn in date is November 5th. Michael Stuban asked that council consider what we would like to apply for such as Phillips Street drainage and Milton Street culvert.

Fire Department and CEO Meeting – Michael Stuban asked the manager set up a meeting with the Fire Department and CEO to over Fire Department issues and

questions as well as CEO matters. One of the questions and concerns regarding the fire department quick response program which information was presented to council at the meeting.

Matt Loftus went over the quick response program. Last month the fire department got the small Explorer vehicle certified as a quick response vehicle through the Department of Health. They would like to take that unit and utilize more for the borough residents. We have 12 or 13 medical providers. This would essential be in effect for about 9 of them who live in Baden or 2 air miles from the fire station in an adjacent community. One of these individuals when they are home may take the unit home with them so that they may be available for immediate response for medical issues within Baden Borough. The policy that was presented to council was to put control and focus on the program. It has been very beneficial so far and they are trying to assist with the county wide ambulance shortage. The policy covers protocols, licensing, equipment and certifications. This should shorten response time to under two minutes instead of 8 to 9 minutes. Due to the critical nature of some calls, they may not be called out. They do not see any fluctuation in fuel charges. The insurance company is also fine and there will not be additional insurance charges. Michael Stuban stated that since council just received the information they will need time to review it and discuss at the meeting that will be set up with the Fire Chief / Department.

BVRPD – Michael Stuban stated that the BVRPD Commission reject (did not make a motion) the police chiefs retirement incentive request. The police chief sent a letter to the commission stating that he is removing his request for retirement and now would like to start contract negotiations. Jimmy Essek will be his negotiator.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Break Retarders – Jimmy Amato stated that various municipalities have been spoken to. Sewickley Borough has an ordinance and they have never written a ticket. He concluded that the consensus is that the signs help with deterring the use of break retarders but ticketing is difficult to do.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

1. Paving Project

The paving project is being completed.

2. USDA - Water System Improvements

The project is being closed out.

3. State Street Waterline Replacement (North to Virginia)

WEI filed a request with PennDOT to close out the Highway Occupancy Permit for this project.

4. DEP Water System Notice of Violation (NOV) – Harmony Water Storage Tank

The disinfectant residual management system is now fully installed. WEI will talk with DEP to try to obtain an operations permit for the new system. The DEP construction permit we obtained also allows the Borough to rehab the tank (the tank is 25 years old and is due). The Borough should decide whether to pursue this work or not before the permit expires.

5. PennVEST - Waterline Replacements

WEI will be sending plans for review and scheduling a meeting with the Borough in September to review and finalize the plans before submission to DEP. A final decision is needed from the borough regarding the fire hydrants to be replaced.

The anticipated schedule going forward has the following milestone dates:

Plans and Specifications Submittal to DEP 9/27/2024

Pennvest Application Cut-off Date 10/30/2024

Pennvest Board Meeting Date (Approval of Project) 1/22/2025

Anticipated Construction Start Date 5/15/2025

6. DEP Water Service Line Inventory

Waterline inventory is due to be submitted to DEP by October 2024.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Montell hoped that council will attend the September 12th BVRPD meeting.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

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

Elaine Rakovan addressed council in regards to the Harmony Road tank repairs that were a part of the tank inspection that was done back around 2016. Covid put a halt on the project which is estimated to be up to \$100,000. The DEP permit is set to expire soon, but if we let the DEP know that we are working on it, they should extend the permit. She explained that by the time the engineer gets the bid specs together and it is advertised it will most likely be spring of next year before it will get done. By then there will be enough money in the maintenance fund to cover the cost.

MOTION by Michael Stuban, second by Dawn Singleton carried unanimously to move forward with the Harmony Road tank repairs.

MOTION by Michael Stuban, second by Joe Bosh to exonerate the 2022 and 2023 taxes for the Prospect Street Property.

Matt Loftus reported that the state gave the fire department an additional \$72,000 for the fire station renovations.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Joe Bosh, second by Becky Gallagher, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 PM

Respectfully Submitted for Approval,

Elaine K. Rakovan
Borough Manager
September 11, 2024

