

# **PRE-MEETING BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL DECEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

Council President Dave Trzcianka called the Pre-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, John Shelkons, Michael Stuban and Dave Trzcianka

**NOT PRESENT:** Mayor Judi Montell, Dawn Singleton, Doug Miller

**ALSO PRESENT:** Manager Elaine Rakovan, Code Enforcement Officer and Fire Chief Dennis Baker and Foreman Rodney Keenan

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OTHER RECORDING DEVICES**

## **AGENDA (Changes and/or Deletions)**

## **VISITORS**

No visitors

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### **Manager**

1. **PennVest Waterline Project Loans**  
Current project. First payment has been made to the contractor.
2. **Straube Avenue Erosion**  
The property owner did a Right To Know request for information. A 30 day extension has been sent and the solicitor is addressing the request.
3. **No Parking Sign Ordinance Update**  
Discussion has taken place with the engineer regarding the updating of the ordinance and what the borough all wants to have done. (Review current list of parking restrictions, assure proper marking/signage, add additional road signage where necessary, make recommendations for yellow lines). No update. Should be completed by spring.
4. **Baden Fire Department Lease**  
Solicitor is working on the lease agreement.
5. **End of Year To Do List**
  - Adopt the 2026 Water and General Fund Budget
  - Advertise the 2026 Budget for 10 day review - DONE
  - Advertise the 2026 reorganization meeting for Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup>
  - Resolution for the tax rate (If there is a tax rate increase it will need to be advertised)

## **NO UPDATE ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS**

### **6. Street Opening Ordinance**

Open item.

### **7. Ambridge Water Authority Rate Increase**

Reached out to AWA again, asking them to update the contract and give calculations for our charges. No response.

### **8. Wall – Corner of Lincoln Avenue and Phillips Street**

Additional communications with PennDOT and the property owner's attorney have taken place.

## **Public Works – Written Report**

### **11/1/25 - 11/2/25**

- Pump monitoring & water intake readings (weekend)

### **11/3/25 - 11/9/25**

- Pumps and one calls
- Water samples & reports (DWELR & cathodic reporting)
- Set up and take down tables/chairs in council chambers for voting
- IXOM booster station calibration
- Work orders/meter replacements
- Lead Line Inventory spreadsheet
- Cut up and remove downed tree in alley off of Phillips Street
- Install V-BOX salt spreader on Ford F250

### **11/10/25 - 11/16/25**

- Pumps and one calls
- Meter replacements
- Work orders
- Hang banner on bridge over 65
- Water samples and reports
- Repair leak at the top of Harmony Tank for sodium hypochlorite feed line
- Re-run heat tape at the top of Harmony Tank for feed and return lines
- Replace salt spreader roller, chain, and bearings on GMC 4500
- Replace faucet in borough building community room
- Put up flags for Veterans Day
- Sewer line jetting

### **11/17/25 – 11/23/25**

- Pumps and one calls
- Water samples and reports
- Drop off/pick up Ford 250 & GMC 4500 for state inspection
- Remove fallen tree from Harmony Road
- Repair Harmony Road turn-around with millings (across from Harmony tank driveway)
- Switch from Rafa system SCADA interface to High Tide Technology SCADA interface
- Swap from pump #2 to pump #1 in State Street pump house for winter months
- Submit OEL exceedance evaluation form to DEP
- Take down flags from Veterans Day
- Sewer line jetting
- Street sweeping
- Lead Line Inventory Spreadsheet
- IXOM booster station calibration
- Work orders and service calls

**11/24/25 – 11/30/25**

- Pumps and one calls
- Water samples and reports
- Street sweeping
- Clean & organize Public Works garage
- IXOM booster station maintenance
- Repair Harmony Road catch basin with concrete fill/patch
- Water line project update meeting with Fryer Wright
- Clean catch basins/clear leaves & debris
- Install snow plow on GMC 4500
- Service calls/work orders

Notes:

Ethan Carey’s first day at Baden Public Works was 11/24/25  
RAFA1, our current SCADA web application is switching its web interface to High Tide Technologies web application/interface.

**Fire Chief**

Chief Baker stated that he will prepare an end of year report for the January 2026 meeting for both the fire department and code enforcement. Th grant has been submitted for the fire truck.

**Code Enforcement**

Chief Baker gave an update on code violation hearings.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance (John Shelkons)**

General Fund Balance	\$128,286	Expenses	\$140,568
Water Fund Balance	\$228,931	Expenses	\$192,850

**Public Works (Doug Miller)**

Not present. Nothing to report.

**Technology / Public Relations / Liaison (Library, Parks & Rec., M/A) (Joe Bosh)**

**Borough Emails**

Joe Bosh addressed email changes (group access) that need to be done for better access and communication for the office staff.

**PennDOT Road Closure**

Discussion took place regarding Baden not being notified that Route 65 was being closed for a Duquesne Light project.

**Library**

State aid has been increased for the Baden Library to 7.1%.

**Administration / Personnel (Becky Gallagher)**

**Ambulance Service**

Becky Gallagher asked that the Economy Ambulance membership application to be shared on Baden's website as well as notifying the residents of the ambulance services. Discussion followed regarding making donation, state funding, insurance payments and lack of financial support for ambulance services.

**America 250**

Beaver County will host the community days on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Each municipality will have a booth at the Beaver Valley Mall. They will be doing Beaver County Boom, Midland 4<sup>th</sup> of July and Fort McIntosh Day. Baden will apply for grant money available through Beaver County (Baden will apply for \$10,000 in grant funding). A state mandated pep rally will be held on January 26<sup>th</sup> for the Liberty Bell.

**Public Safety (Dawn Singleton)**

Not present.

**Building / Grounds / Equipment (Michael Stuban)**

**Recreation Grant**

Michael Stuban addressed applying for a Recreation Grant for the Memorial Park in conjunction with the Ambridge Area School District since they are owners of the property.

**BVRPD Pension**

Michael Stuban stated that the attorney's determined that the pension shortfall should be paid by the regional and not the individual municipalities for 2025. The auditor general approved the special process for maximizing the state aid due to regionalizing. Baden will get a refund on the out of pocket paid by Baden into the pension plan.

**MAYORS REPORT**

Not Present

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

**PRESIDENTS REPORT**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Becky Gallagher, second by Joe Bosh, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting and go into executive session regarding personnel at 7:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,

Elaine K. Rakovan  
Borough Manager