

REGULAR MEETING BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL FEBRUARY 18, 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: Joe Bosh, Becky Gallagher, Shannon Reynolds, Tom Turney, Dave Trzcianka

NOT PRESENT: Dawn Singleton, John Shelkons

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

John and Diane Senkowski from 552 Straube Avenue addressed council regarding the broken concrete that was placed on Baden's right of way to prevent erosion of the road side. Mr. Senkowski stated that it was considered dumping, the law states that you can't dump onto private property without the property owner's permission. He cited PA Statute 75 PA CS 3709. Pictures were presented. They want the concrete removed. The engineer, public works foreman, council representative and the Senkowski's will meet at the location to review and discuss this matter.

Beverly Kotys asked for an update on the library funding from the school board. It has not been resolved. She also asked about advertising the borough meetings on the sign at the end of the driveway.

MINUTES

MOTION by Tom Turney, second by Shannon Reynolds to approve the minutes of January 5th, 14th and 21st, 2026

BILLS TO BE PAID

MOTION by Becky Gallagher, second by Joe Bosh to pay all bills with two signatures.

RESOLUTIONS

26-01 Ratification of a the declaring a state of disaster emergency within the borough due to a pending severe winter storm beginning January 24th. 2026 through January 26th 2026.

MOTION by Shannon Reynolds, second by Becky Gallagher to approve resolution 26-01.

26-02 Declaring a state of disaster emergency within the borough due to possible flooding from the severe winter storm that occurred between January 24th and 26th, 2026. Effective for 30 days.

MOTION by Joe Bosh, second by Becky Gallagher to approve resolution 26-02.

BIDS – None

CORRESPONDENCE

- **PennDOT Invoice** – Personal visit from Representative Matzie informing council that after he spoke with Secretary of Transportation, Michael Carroll, PennDOT will cover 90% of the \$502,138.68 bill for the sinkhole repair caused by a failed storm sewer. The 10% balance will be deducted from the Liquid Fuels funding across 5 years.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance (Joe Bosh)

General Fund Balance	\$113,043	Expenses	\$174,522
Water Fund Balance	\$380,103	Expenses	\$166,762

Waste Management Contract

Offered to extend the contract for one year at a monthly increase of \$0.92 per housing unit for a total brough increase of \$1,633 per month.

Motion by Tom Turney, second by Joe Bosh to table the Waste Management Contract for next month.

PennVEST Loan

Motion by John Shelkons, second by Shannon Reynolds, to approve the payment application request #4 from the Pennvest loan in the amount of \$63,611.79

Motion by John Shelkons, second by Joe Bosh to approve Pennvest change order for \$6,482.27 for unknown/unmarked storm sewer.

PUBLIC SAFETY (Becky Gallagher)

Beaver Valley Regional Police (BVRPD)

The BVRPD Commission is reviewing a policy for surplus carryover of money from the prior budget year. The commission tabled this discussion until next month's meeting.

January Police Report:

- 19 traffic stops
- 1 non-traffic
- 5 criminal arrest

K-9 Unit Charity Golf Outing will be on June 7th. Discussion took place regarding making a donation from the flower fund. Personal donations were recommended.

American Legion

Motion by Becky Gallagher, second by Joe Bosh to use \$100 from the Flower Fund for an advertisement/donation for the American Legion Banquet.

America 250

Rally will be at the courthouse on February 24th.

Baden's first event will be May 16th, Armed Forces Day.

PUBLIC WORKS / MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

A new gas tank has been placed on the truck.

Plow mounts are being placed on the truck so plows may be transferred over if needed.

Still looking for a waterline break.

TECHNOLOGY / LEGISLATION (Joe Bosh)

eCode 360

The borough ordinances are being updated and placed in that borough code.

PUBLIC RELATIONS / ADMINISTRATION (Shannon Reynolds)

The messaging function has been shutoff on the Facebook page. Comments may still be made on the actual Facebook page.

BUILDING / PROPERTY / CODE ENFORCMENT (Tom Turney)

Water Fountains

MOTION by Tom Turney, second by Joe Bosh to replace the two water fountains in the borough building for a cost not to exceed \$2,000.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Opinion letters regarding council stipend and fishing pier were presented to the manager at the start of meeting. She will make sure council gets a copy for review and discussion at next months meeting. Discussion took place regarding the fishing pier, community yard sale and setting up a bank account for the pier and liability insurance.

MOTION by Tom Turney, second by Becky Gallagher to have the yard sale profits go towards the fishing pier fund.

The yard sale be on June 6th.

ENGINEER'S REPORT (Tony Sadaka)

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. Street Parking Study

WEI is continuing to collect information and working to prepare a study of street parking on all Borough streets so that recommendations can be made and the street parking ordinance can be updated.

Dave Trzcianka felt that someone from public works and the police department should be a part of a committee to be a part of the study. If the plow truck can fit through the road, then a fire truck will fit.

3. PennVEST - Waterline Replacements

The contractor has installed main lines on Detmar and Union Avenues. Extreme cold and snow have slowed down their progress in the past month.

The fourth application for payment has been submitted for Borough Council approval today and covers work completed in January.

Change Order 2 has also been submitted for Borough Council approval. The change order entails additional work required to remove and replace a portion of the undocumented storm lines located off-road between North Ave/5th St intersection and the 5th/Rose St loop during construction. Moving the waterline from the storm line's path would have required additional permits/payments and was considered (not selected due to added cost). Total for all change order work is \$6,482.27.00 and will be covered by project contingency funds through the Pennvest loan once approved by DEP/Pennvest.

MAYOR'S REPORT (Andy Gall)

The BVRPD is looking into have a towing agreement that will be consistent for the towing companies that are used in each municipality.

PRESIDENTS REPORT (Dave Trzcianka)

President, Dave Trzcianka addressed Tom Turney's fishing dock proposal and the removal of council monthly stipend pay.

Tom Turney stated that he does not feel it is necessary for councilmembers and mayor to be paid.

Baden resident, Beverly Kotys spoke up in support of council being paid.

MOTION by Dawn Singleton, second by Becky Gallagher to have the solicitor review Tom Turney's fishing dock proposal and council pay matter.

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

Saint Terressa of Calcutta Church

Saint Terressa of Calcutta Church is a tax exempt property; however, they paid the 2025 taxes which need to be refunded.

MOTION by Tom Turney second by Shannon Reynolds to refund the 2025 taxes for Saint Terressa of Calcutta in the amount of \$13,867.98.

Library Flag Pole

Pully on the flag pole needs fixed.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Tom Turney, second by Shannon Reynolds, to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 PM.

Respectfully Submitted for Approval,

Elaine K. Rakovan
Borough Manager