

REGULAR MEETING BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL FEBRUARY 21, 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, Mrs. Singleton, Mr. Stuban and Mr. Trzcianka

NOT PRESENT: Mr. Shelkons

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Montell, Solicitor Jimmy Amato, Engineer Tony Sadaka,

This meeting is being electronically recorded by the Borough Manager.

AGENDA (Changes and/or Deletions)

VISITORS

MINUTES

MOTION by Joe Bosh, second by Doug Miller, carried unanimously to approve the minutes of January 9, 2024 recessed from January 2nd meeting, January 24, 2024

BILLS TO BE PAID

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

RESOLUTIONS

24-01 Disposal of records in accordance with Act 428 of 1968 Municipal Records Retention.

- 2015 to 2016 Work Orders, 2015-2016 LST and Mercantile, 2015/2016 Financials, Payroll, Invoices, 2015-2016 Utility Billing Records.

MOTION by Michael Stuban, second by Dawn Singleton, carried unanimously to adopt Resolution 24-01.

ORDINANCES – None

BIDS – None

CORRESPONDENCE - None

Mr. Trzcianka stated that he will create the committees for next month's meeting.

Finance (Michael Stuban)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| • General Fund Balance \$147,104 | Expenses \$692,283 |
| • Water Fund Balance \$192,746 | Expenses \$89,836 |

MOTION by Michael Stuban, second by Dawn Singleton, carried unanimously to approve the USDA Loan Project Requisition No. 18 in the amount of \$377,782.38 for engineering services (\$31,850) and contract work performed (345,632.38).

PUBLIC WORKS (Doug Miller)

MOTION by Doug Miller, second by Michael Stuban, carried unanimously to Purchase Valve Turner at a cost of \$6,155

MOTION by Doug Miller, second by Dawn Singleton, carried unanimously to put the grader on Municibid with a minimum bid of \$1,500.

TECHNOLOGY / PUBLIC RELATIONS / LIAISON (Joe Bosh)

OnSolve Emergency Alert System

MOTION by Joe Bosh, second by Becky Gallagher, carried unanimously grant OnSolve access as follows:

- Permanent Administrators – Joe Bosh, Elaine Rakovan
- Permanent Initiators – Sasha DiCicco, Michele Miketa
- Temporary Initiators (pre-launch) – Matt Loftus, Becky Gallagher
- Conditional Access Users – Matt Loftus (initiator during emergency declaration, read-only otherwise)

ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL (Becky Gallagher)

Ethic Statements are due by May 1st. Turn them in to the Elaine Rakovan.

Becky Gallagher commented that she spoke with the Vicory House representative regarding the grant that they are applying for. It will not include Baden property, but it does include the Legionville area in Harmony Township.

MOTION by Becky Gallagher, second by Doug Miller, carried unanimously to send a letter of support to the Vicory House for their grant application.

The Baden American Legion is requesting an add for annual dinner. Last year the borough put a full page ad for \$100 paid from the Council Flower Fund.

MOTION by Becky Gallagher, second by Dawn Singleton, carried unanimously to place a full page ad for \$100 from the Council Flower Fund.

The Zoning Hearing Board still needs to have an alternate appointed to the board. Elaine Rakovan noted that there is a zoning hearing board meeting scheduled for March 25th. Elaine asked that council authorize the solicitor to review the charges and fees for the hearing the boards.

MOTION by Michael Stuban, second by Dawn Singleton, carried unanimously to have the solicitor review the hearing board fees and charges.

PUBLIC SAFETY (Dawn Singleton)

Dawn Singleton went over the reports for the Police, Fire Department and CEO.

BUILDING / GROUNDS / EQUIPMENT (Michael Stuban)

Delinquent garbage bill – Michael Stuban and Attorney Amato went over the actions that may be taken regarding this matter. The property owner did not show up for the

hearing. Options include putting a lien on the property or go after the property owner's assets. Discussion followed which included sending a letter to the mortgage company informing them that the property is going to have a lien placed upon it. The property has well water and septic tank so we are unable to shut off water service.

MOTION by Michael Stuban, second by Dawn Singleton, carried unanimously to send a letter to the mortgage company.

Michael Stuban stated that if we do not get a response in 3 months, he will make a motion to proceed with legal action.

USA 250th Anniversary - \$10,000 for Celebration

MOTION by Michael Stuban, second by Dawn Singleton, carried unanimously to put aside \$10,000 for a celebration of the USA 250th Anniversary.

Billboard Ordinance – Currently the borough does not address billboards

MOTION by Michael Stuban, second by Dawn Singleton, carried unanimously to have the attorney write a billboard ordinance.

Stray and Feral Cat Ordinance – Michael Stuban handed out a sample ordinance that the CEO supplied. Discussion include costs, responsibilities, enforcement, indoor cats, outdoor cats, number of cats, fines...

Kingerski Easement – The easement for the storm sewer line has been given to Mr. Kingerski for review and signing. Once he signs (notarized) and the borough signs the easement, the solicitor will file it with the county and copy given to the borough and Mr. Kingerski. Once this is completed he will be able to submit his permit paperwork for his garage.

Display Case – Michael Stuban would like to get some sort of display case to show some of the historical artifacts that we have (wooden waterline, old fire hydrant...)

Building Inspector / Zoning Officer – Council discussed changing building inspection companies and getting a separate zoning officer. Currently only BIU does both zoning and building. Both the CEO and Manager showed an interest in being the zoning officer. Elaine Rakovan stated that she is so involved in the zoning issues and understand them that she basically already doing it as the middle person between the property owner and BIU. Discussion followed which included the cost to the borough and the current zoning ordinance not being conducive to Baden Borough especially with issues regarding lot size and set back. Due to this there are unnecessary zoning hearing boards for a variance for setbacks.

MOTION by Joe Bosh, second by Dawn Singleton, carried unanimously to appoint Elaine Rakovan as the Zoning Officer and MDIA as the building inspector with a transition period from the current to new building inspector.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Nothing to Report

ENGINEER'S REPORT

1. USDA - Water System Improvements

JR Contracting has completed work on the main line and now is working on service lines and fire hydrants.

2. State Street Waterline Replacement (North to Virginia)

A 'punchlist' has been prepared and submitted to Stefanik's Next Generation Contracting. Final pavement restoration (milling and overlay with wearing course) at the intersection of State Street and Virginia Avenue will be completed in the spring.

3. Storm Inlet Replacements - ARPA Grant

Construction is complete and the project is being closed out.

4. DEP Water System Notice of Violation (NOV)

Harmony Water Storage Tank Upgrades This effort is being coordinated by the Public Works department.

5. PennVEST - Waterline Replacements

WEI is preparing construction plans based on the list of water lines to be replaced provided by the borough.

6. Tevebaugh Road Speed and Stop Sign Study

Speed study was completed and submitted to the borough. Once the study is approved and sign posted, we will submit the stop sign study and speed hump study.

MOTION by Michael Stuban, second by Becky Gallagher, carried unanimously to have the solicitor draft an ordinance for speed limit on Tevebaugh Road.

7. DEP Water Service Line Inventory

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

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Montell asked about the DEP Lead Line Mandate. Tony Sadaka stated that it is mandatory and there is a lot of information that is needed to be documented. It is so much work that needs to be done in a short time frame. Elaine Rakovan stated that the Tom Cordell did download the spreadsheet from the DEP and he is logging information as they change meters, fix lines...

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Dave Trzcianka stated that he had a couple of council members who are in the municipalities within the Regional Police Department asked about consider the consolidation of fire departments. He would like to have the councils speak with their fire departments and set up a meeting to discuss this matter.

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

Mrs. Trzcianka asked about removing some of the Police Parking signs in the lower lot.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Joe Bosh, second by Doug Miller, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Borough Manager, Elaine K. Rakovan