

PRE-MEETING BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL MARCH 8, 2023

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: Mr. Jones, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Singleton, Mr. Stuban and Mr. Trzcianka

NOT PRESENT: Mr. Bosh, Mr. Shelkons, Mayor Montell

ALSO PRESENT: CEO and Fire Chief Dennis Baker Jr., Foreman Rodney Keenan

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OTHER RECORDING DEVICES

AGENDA (Changes and/or Deletions)

VISITORS

- Nick Napp with Nosy Company presented council his product that monitor's air quality, temperature and light levels.
- Ryan Eichhorn informed council that he plans to move forward with the construction of the duplex on Jefferson Street. He asked council if they had plans to change building inspection companies. Discussion followed regarding construction permits, costs and multiple review/revision charges.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Manager

1. **Theater**
No update.
2. **Water Ordinance Update**
No update.
3. **SPC Regional Traffic Signal Grant**
The second and final payment from Liquid Fuels in the amount of \$23,851 has been made. Next step should be bidding process later this year.

Traffic Light at the bottom of Phillips Street needs to be moved to the new pole that Duquesne Light put up at a cost of \$4,210. Since we are getting new fixtures within the year, I have reached out to SPC to confirm that we should just leave them as is for now.
4. **Beaver County ARPA Municipal Infrastructure Grants**
We received a letter on February 21, 2023 from the county stating that the \$204,000 ARPA funding must be spent by December 31, 2024. This money carries with it, a 20% contribution by the borough.
5. **Prevention Network / Class Academy**
The solicitor was advised to start legal action for the over \$21,000 owed the borough. A payment of \$12,336.20 was received on March 1, 2023. No update on legal action at this time.
6. **Harmony Road Property**
Ambridge Area School District approved the tax exoneration. Will go to the courthouse to finalize the purchase.

7. Ethic Forms

REMINDER: Forms were placed in mailboxes please return them to me by May 1st.

8. Beaver Valley Regional Police Department

In order to have the DCED Governor's Center for Local Government Services assistance in the Regionalization each municipality involved in the regionalization needs to sign a letter of intent.

There is no cost for this service. Council agreed to sign the letter.

9. Annual Reports

The annual DCED Reports have been submitted to the State. The annual recycling report has been submitted to the county.

10. H2O Grant

No updates

11. T-Mobile

Emails and documentation from previous T-Mobile representatives have been sent to the solicitor.

12. Advertisement for Part Time Clerk

20 Applications have been received. Need to review and set up interviews.

13. Library Lift Inspection

The bill for the library lift inspection has been received in the amount of \$243.43. Is the borough or library paying for this annual inspection?

14. Liquid Fuels

2023 Liquid Fuels allocation in the amount of \$124,149.91 was received in this month.

15. CDBG Certificate of Compliance

Each council member and office staff must sign the annual Certificate of Compliance stating that you are not a county employee. This is required to submit for funding through the CDBG.

16. Meeting Room Chairs

Chair cost for the meeting room will be around \$450 per chair. We will be getting 12 chairs.

17. Non-Uniform Healthcare Cost

The 2023 cost increase for healthcare is 5.9%. The new monthly cost per employee is \$1,690.11

18. Beaver County Tax Collection Committee

Attended the annual meeting of the BCTCC. We voted to extend the contract with Berkheimer for 10 years with no change in the rate being charged to the municipality / school district.

19. Cleveland Brothers Generator Agreement

The generator agreement has expired. Cost is \$5,845. A copy of the agreement has been given to council for review.

Public Works

Written Report –

2/6/23-2/12/23

- Pumps and one calls
- Water samples
- Dispose of run over Welcome to Baden sign
- Take paint machine to be serviced
- Relocate manhole lids to harmony tank
- Replace interior water line in pole barn
- Look into Heritage Valley/Prevention network water meters
- MS4 survey

2/13/23-2/19/23

- Pumps and one calls
- LB Water meeting
- Install signs on North Ave
- MS4 survey
- Replace lights in pole barn
- Get Ford Chevy 550 quote for dump bed
- Fix pole barn gutters
- Clean and service trucks
- Fix Steele St water break

2/20/23-2/26/23

- Pumps and one calls
- 4500 inspection
- Finish Steele St water break
- Replace catch basin and pipe from Steel St. water break
- Water samples
- Cold patch
- Meter service calls
- DEP training class
- Jet manhole 58
- Service line on Athalia

2/27/23-3/5/23

- Pumps and one calls
- Jet manhole 135A to 135C
- Cold patch roads
- Fix street signs
- Replace flags
- Fix police dept water line
- Fix berm on Harmony road
- One call on Phillips st for new gas line
- Patch Tevebaugh holes
- MS4 survey
- Begin replacing street signs
- Water meter repair work orders
- Locate manholes and water service for new house on Grant St

Notes:

Tri state maintenance has begun jetting and cleaning catch basins
Approximately 40 catch basins need repaired/rebuilt
Manholes 138 to 139 need jetted and televised for new house on Grant St- dead end with standing water/possibly sewage backup in manhole 139
Truck 3 dump bed has been repaired
Purchase of John Deere Backhoe and dump truck

Mr. Trzcianka asked Foreman, Rodney Keenan about the backhoe. Rodney stated that he got two quotes per council's request. Mr. Stuban noted that he thought the Foreman was supposed to attend all work session meetings. Rodney explained how the John Deere backhoe has been upgraded and is now able to pick up heavier materials. He went over the waterline break by Camilla Street and how the sanitary sewer was effected by the break. The sanitary sewer is too deep for public works to fix if it needs repaired. The pin on the truck has been replaced, so the bed closes now. It is not powerful enough for the borough's needs. He would like a new truck. Discussion took place regarding trading in versus selling the backhoe on Municibid. Mr. Trzcianka asked that Rodney get an estimated delivery time for the backhoe. Discussion took place regarding where the funds would come to pay for a backhoe. Mr. Stuban noted that Covid funds could be used. The county funds will be used for the stormsewers.

Mr. Trzcianka asked the foreman when hydrants were going to be flushed, lines painted and Johnson Avenue water issue. Mr. Keenan stated that when the weather gets nice he will plan for hydrant flushing and line painting. He expressed his concerns with digging up Johnson Avenue and blocking access to McDonald's and the car wash.

Fire Chief

Incidents / Training:

20 Incidents (February)
49 Incidents (Year to Date)
250 Training Hours / 20 firefighters (February)

Apparatus:

The new Pickup truck has been built and should arrive at the dealership this week. Registrations have been renewed for apparatus
Some modifications and upgrades are being completed on Rescue 47 to improve compartment space. This project is being funded by the FD

Grants:

2021 FEMA AFG Grant, Initial order was placed for SCBA, with an expected arrival date of April. I am requesting a check in the amount of \$9,108.10 for the required non-federal match payable to the fire department (priorly approved by the council to pay from Airpack Fund) this will be used toward the first invoice from Pro-Am and will meet our cost-sharing requirements set forth in the grant agreement.

2021 FEMA SAFER Grant, no update / Still in the running.

The 2022 State Fire Commission Grant Application has been approved; the award amount is \$15,000. Funding should be deposited within a few weeks

2022 FEMA AGF application has been submitted in the amount of \$44,552.00, the purpose of this grant is to upgrade rescue equipment.

Consolidation Study Baden / Harmony:

Spoke with DCED last week, and the report should be completed sometime in April. They also sent me the information that was discussed at the meeting with the

municipalities last November. I placed that information on the Fire Department Clipboard in case any of the council did not see that information when it was sent to the Borough.

General:

Just a reminder regarding the Comprehensive Plan I submitted. If any council member has any questions please feel free to contact me.

Emergency Medical Responder Class is wrapping up and the students will be completing testing for certification.

On May 6, 2023, we will be hosting a community event that will include an open house, community CPR classes offered throughout the day, and fire safety and rescue demonstrations. We will have a few food trucks, which may also include Police, EMS, and ESU. Asking borough not to rent community room that day

CEO

16 Code Issues have been addressed (Year to Date)

10 of those have been abated

6 are still in progress

1 Citation

1010 4th Street. (any update from the solicitor) Next of Kin addresses were provided to the magistrate

533 Ehman. Reinspection completed on 2/28/23

851 Schiller - Magistrate gave the owner 60 days to clean up the property.

755 Schiller. Mortgage Company PA Housing Finance Agency, has Safeguard Properties taking care of securing and preservation of the property. (no current updates)

255 State Street - Magistrate provided a 30-day extension, due to the property going into foreclosure and sheriff's sale. Owners did start cleaning up the property, I was also contacted by the company assigned to the foreclosure and they stated the issues would be resolved.

234 State Street - ongoing issues with property maintenance resulted in a citation, in addition to a pending citation from the previous CEO. I was contacted by the person responsible for the estate prior to the hearing. He wanted to try and work something out in regard to the citations. Being it was an ongoing issue for a few years, and he was responsible for maintaining the property I would not withdraw the citations and advised him the magistrate would have to determine if any fines should be imposed. In turn, he did not show up for the scheduled hearing and was fined \$600. Also, the dead tree that was leaning on the front of the house has been removed.

423 Moore Ave - Complaint filled with DEP regarding the condition of the property. An Exterior inspection was completed on 2/16/23 also spoke with the complainant. A letter was sent to the property owner on 2/16/23 and also sent to DEP so they are aware it is being addressed.

2023 Amusement Tax Letters have been sent out

Inspection Program, Submitted Draft Ordinance to Manager for Solicitor and Council review. The solicitor contacted me with a few general questions and stated he saw no issues and it looked good.

Asked council to consider authorizing more hours for code enforcement, this will aid in the administrative work for the inspection program.

Police

Not Present

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance (John Shelkons)

Not present

Public Works, Sanitation & Municipal Authority (John Jones)

Nothing to Report

Technology, Social Media, Library & Community Relations (Joe Bosh)

Not Present

Administration & Legislation (Doug Miller)

Nothing to Report

General Government, Building Property/Grounds, Parks & Rec (Dawn Singleton).

Mrs. Singleton stated that the Parks and Recreation Board has new officers:

President is Jennifer Woolstrum
Vice President is Butch Singleton
Secretary is Lesabeth Trzcianka
Treasurer has not been appointed

Easter Egg Hunt will be on March 25th.

Mrs. Singleton asked about putting a filing cabinet in the council meeting room. Mrs. Rakovan explained that the recreation board files cannot be with borough records (files). Mrs. Rakovan recommended putting it downstairs in the hallway.

Mrs. Singleton addressed council in regards to the recreation board paying to have changing tables placed in the ladies and men's room downstairs. Discussion followed regarding placement of the changing tables, the borough paying for them and if they meet the ADA requirements for placement.

The American Legion Auxiliary would like to have a cleanup day on Saturday, April 15th. They will clean up along State Street (they notified PennDOT), both parks and the memorial park. They also will be asking the businesses if they would like to fly a flag outside their business. If they do the auxiliary will supply them with the flag.

Mrs. Singleton commented that both parks will need more mulch this spring because it has settled.

Public Safety (Michael Stuban)

Fire Inspection Ordinance – Mr. Stuban asked council to review the ordinance that CEO and Chief Baker supplied for council reviews.

Civil Service – Mr. Stuban stated that Civil Service recommends the hiring of Alexandra Lizzi. Discussion took place if a credit history was needed.

Police Regionalization – Mr. Stuban stated that they are moving along. He does not think that it will be up and running by the end of April.

400 Block of Mellon Avenue – Mr. Stuban stated that the police sent a memo after reviewing a traffic issue that public works is having with exiting the alley. They asked that a no parking zone/sign be placed up.

Mirror on Phillips Street by Lincoln – The borough and police have been asked by Rhodes Transit to have a mirror put up on Phillips Street off of Lincoln to assist with visual safety of oncoming traffic on Phillips Street. Discussion took place regarding mirrors being illegal. Mrs. Rakovan stated that she would call PennDOT regarding this matter.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Not Present

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

Mrs. Trzcianka commented that the Women's Club would like to purchase a Life Vac for the police and fire department.

Chief Baker commented that Weber Electric addressed the parking lot lights and will be repairing the lights along the driveway. There were squirrels living in the light pole.

Mr. Stuban noted that April 28th is the date for the Volunteer/Employee Appreciation Dinner. Doors open at 6:00PM.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

President Trzcianka noted that a decision needs to be made about a new backhoe and truck and selling the backhoe and red truck on Municibid. Starting bid price was discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Jones, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,

Elaine K. Rakovan
Borough Secretary
April 12, 2023