

# **REGULAR MEETING BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL MARCH 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, John Shelkons, Tom Turney, Dave Trzcianka

**NOT PRESENT:** Dawn Singleton, Shannon Reynolds, Mayor Andy Gall

**ALSO PRESENT:** Solicitor Jimmy Amato, Engineer Tony Sadaka, Manager Elaine Rakovan and Assistant Fire Chief Matt Loftus

*This meeting is being electronically recorded by the Borough Manager.*

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

## **ORDINANCES - None**

## **VISITORS**

Allen Rose from Straube Avenue addressed council in regards to property and road restoration from the waterline project. Dave Trzcianka stated that property will be restored once the project is complete and the road (area that was cut open) will be paved at that time too. He also addressed a tree that is leaning towards and over Straube Avenue. He had concerns about it falling over and taking out the power lines and damaging property. The borough will take a look at the tree and Duquesne Light will be contacted if needed.

## **MINUTES**

**MOTION** by Joe Bosh, second by Becky Gallagher to approve the minutes of February 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026

## **BILLS TO BE PAID**

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

## **RESOLUTIONS - None**

## **BIDS – None**

## **CORRESPONDENCE - None**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Finance (John Shelkons)**

General Fund Balance	\$134,635	Expenses \$203,604
Water Fund Balance	\$378,916	Expenses \$161,689

## **Waste Management Contract**

**Motion** by John Shelkons, second by Joe Bosh to extend the Waste Management contract for one year (2027) at a monthly increase of \$0.92 per housing unit for a total brought increase of \$1,633 per month. Garbage rates will not be increased for 2027.

## **PennVEST Loan**

**Motion** by John Shelkons, second by Joe Bosh to approve the payment application request #5 from the PennVEST loan in the amount of \$282,665.26

**Motion** by John Shelkons, second by Joe Bosh to approve PennVEST change order #3 for \$5,359.39 for waterline break on Dettmar & Union.

**Motion** by John Shelkons, second by Joe Bosh for new printers and copiers through Ford Office Technology (a COSTAR business) for \$659.21 per month. This includes maintenance and toner.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY (Becky Gallagher)**

### **Beaver Valley Regional Police (BVRPD)**

February Police Report:

11 traffic stops  
9 non-traffic  
9 criminal arrest

There are currently two officers off (one on workers compensation and the other short term disability). The regional has hired another officer.

Pulaski has signed a police contract with New Brighton.

A resolution was passed to adopt a policy for the disposition of the annual general fund surplus.

The discussion of the police station has been tabled until next month.

### **Waterline Break**

During the recent fire on Walnut Street the fire department did not hook up a fire hose correctly and it caused the line to break. Matt Loftus was unaware of this event and is going to check into it.

Discussion and concerns took place regarding Baden Fire Department responding to calls in Aliquippa. This has been discussed with the Fire Chief in the past and we are still waiting for a meeting to be set up with the Fire Chief. Matt Loftus felt that this should be discussed at the public meeting so that all of council can be addressed. He stated that he would put together a full response for next months meeting. Dave Trzcianka stated that he asked for a meeting with the Fire Chief and the public safety committee. Matt Loftus stated that he will prepare something for the next meeting.

The fire truck procession that took place on the previous Monday was addressed. Becky Gallagher felt that what the five year old did was wonderful, but it is not done for everybody and is unnecessary. Residents became worried and concerned that there was a major fire in town. Matt Loftus understood the concerns. Council agreed that it was not necessary.

## **America 250**

Planning the May 16<sup>th</sup> and June 20<sup>th</sup> events.

We received a \$10,000 grant from the county.

A county parade will take place on September 19<sup>th</sup>

The America 250 mobile unit will be in Beaver County June 6<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>.

## **Borough Dumpster**

Council discussed putting signs on the dumpsters stating that it is not a community dumpster. Only the recycling dumpsters are for the community.

## **PUBLIC WORKS / MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY (Joe Bosh)**

Water will be shut off on Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> for switching over to the new lines. Letters were sent to the residents effected by the shut off. Signs will be posted on the poles and information was also placed on the website and social media.

## **TECHNOLOGY / LEGISLATION (Joe Bosh)**

The website was updated with the yard sale information as well as updated the fishing pier information.

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS / ADMINISTRATION**

Newsletter articles may be submitted to Shannon or Elaine Rakovan.

## **BUILDING / PROPERTY / CODE ENFORCMENT (Tom Turney)**

### **Code Enforcement**

No issues reported. Tom Turney would still like to attend a court hearing for code enforcement issues.

### **Police Substation**

Removal of the lockers do not appear to be a problem. The flooring and wall/baseboard repairs would need to be done. The police department would need to be responsible for the removal and repairs if approved by council.

### **Fishing Pier**

Tom Turney spoke to West View Water Authority and they are very opposed to the project because of public safety and concerns about their water intake pipe. Michael Stuban was asked to speak and he stated that he did speak to West Views engineer and they are adamantly against the pier.

John Shelkons stated that he is waiting to speak with a representative of West View Water. Discussion took place regarding property ownership and the permit that was received by the Army Corp of Engineer.

## **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Nothing to report

## **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.

### **3. HOP for Waterline Break on State Street (Emergency HOP)**

WEI is preparing an "emergency" HOP for the 3/16/26 waterline break restoration across from 161 State Street. PennDOT requires that the application be filed within 15 days of the work being done.

### **4. PennVEST - Waterline Replacements**

The contractor has installed main line on Strube Ave and has done further work on Dettmar and Union Avenues to make connections to the existing system and to replace service lines and connect the water customers. A shutdown is planned all day on Saturday, March 21st to install two valves at 6th and Virginia, replace a hydrant at Virginia and 5th, and perform the necessary tie-ins on 3rd Street. This is being done on Saturday to avoid disruption to school schedules.

The 5th application for payment has been submitted for Borough Council approval today and covers work completed in February. Total due this application is \$282,665.26.

Change Order 3 has also been submitted for Borough Council approval. The change order covers work done by the contractor to assist in the repairs to the existing watermain that broke during construction. Total for the change order work is \$5,359.39 and will be covered by project contingency funds through the PennVEST loan once approved by DEP/PennVEST.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT (Andy Gall)**

Not Present

## **PRESIDENTS REPORT (Dave Trzcianka)**

Nothing to report

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

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Becky Gallagher, second by Ton Turney, to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted for Approval,

Elaine K. Rakovan  
Borough Manager