

# **PRE-MEETING BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL NOVEMBER 12<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, Doug Miller, John Shelkons, Dawn Singleton, Michael Stuban and Dave Trzcianka

**NOT PRESENT:** Mayor Judi Montell

**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**

Ryan Eichhorn owner of the property Harmony Road that he is building homes on addressed council in regards to tap in fees for water and sewage when the taps already exist.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### **Fire Chief**

- Chief Baker asked council for permission to apply for the Statewide Local Share Assessment grant for new fire apparatus. Discussion included applying for the grant, but not guaranteeing that the borough can provide matching funding. There is no upfront obligation to apply for the grant.

### **Code Enforcement**

- Michael Stuban commented that the office is getting complaints that the Code Enforcement Officer is not returning calls or following up on complaints. Discussion followed including what complaints are the responsibility of the police (streets and alleys), as well as office clerk Sasha contacting landlords regarding garbage issues with rental properties.

### **Manager**

1. **PennVest Waterline Project Loans**  
As of now, the contractor will begin next week.
2. **Non-Uniform Union Contract**  
Contract has been signed.
3. **Straube Avenue Erosion**  
The solicitor sent a letter to the property owner stating that we are in our own right of way. The property owner responded with a rebuttal. It was sent to the solicitor for response.

**4. 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)

**5. Wall – Corner of Lincoln Avenue and Phillips Street**

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

**6. LSA Statewide Grant for Phillips Street storm sewers**

Grant application was submitted on time. An email has been received from the Economic Development Analyst who has been assigned to our project. Awards will not take place until September 2026 and no work may commence on the project or it will not be eligible for funding.

**7. State Street and Route 65 Sinkhole**

PennDOT sent a bill for \$502,138 for the repairs to the storm sewer, sinkhole and road/curb repairs.

**8. Baden Fire Department Addition**

The MDIA issued a letter regarding the Fire Station Electrical permit. It is not approved and needs corrections and resubmitted for review.

**9. Franco Subdivision**

The Beaver County Planning Commission reviewed the plans. If the signature plans are received by the regular meeting, a motion will be made to sign the final plan for submission to the county.

**10. 2026 Calendar**

They are being printed.

**11. Public Works Interviews**

There were 3 applicants and all 3 were interviewed by councilmen Doug Miller and John Shelkons. The borough manager and public works foreman were also present.. Applicants were all asked the same questions.

**12. End of Year To Do List**

- Adopt the 2026 Water and General Fund Budget
- Advertise the 2026 Budget for 10 day review
- 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**

**13. Bucket Truck**

STILL WAITING.

**14. Grant Avenue**

Paving of the end of Grant Avenue. A copy of the letter was given to council at the January 2025 meeting.

**15. Street Opening Ordinance**

Open item. Needs updated.

**16. Ambridge Water Authority Rate Increase**

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

## **Public Works – Written Report**

### **10/1/25 - 10/5/25**

- Pumps and One Calls
- Repair Johnson Ave Water Main
- Cleanup/Clean Equipment from Water Main Repair
- Lead Line Inventory
- Grass Cutting/Trimming
- Meter Reading Callbacks/Re-checks

### **10/6/25 - 10/12/25**

- Pumps and One Calls
- Water Samples & Reports
- Harmony Tank Sodium Hypochlorite Tank Refill
- Work Orders/Meter Replacements
- Jetting Sewer Lines
- Wood Chipping
- Lead Line Inventory Spreadsheet
- Grass Cutting/Trimming

### **10/13/25 - 10/19/25**

- Pumps and One Calls
- Borough Building Rear Door Restoration/Painting
- Inspect/Dig Virginia Ave Sinkhole
- Complete TTHM OEL Exceedance Forms & OER Report
- Fryer Wright Project Meeting
- Harmony IXOM Booster Station Troubleshooting
- Design One Call for Survey

### **10/20/25 - 10/26/25**

- Pumps and One Calls
- Meter Replacements
- Water Samples and Reports
- PFAS/UCMR5 Quarterly Samples
- Johnson Ave Asphalt Patch/Paving
- Maintenance, Winterize, and Stow Mowers + Weld/Repair Mower Trailer
- Clean Catch Basins of Debris/Leaves
- Remove Roadkill Deer from Tevebaugh
- Meet/Assist Repairman for Virginia Ave Pressure Reducing Station Valve
- Chlorometer Calibration (New Brighton)
- Remove Wood Chipping Box from GMC 4500

### **10/27/25 – 10/31/25**

- Pumps and One Calls
- Water Samples and Reports
- Lead Line Inventory Spreadsheet
- Fryer Wright Complex Meeting
- Work Orders
- Clean Catch Basins of Leaves
- IXOM Booster Station Maintenance
- Meter Replacements
- Maintenance and Winterize Summer Equipment

Notes:

Last day for summer help was 10/31/25

Foreman, Rodney Keenan stated that the pump station repairs are done. It will be inspected every 3-5 years. He also stated that he will need a new salt spreader next year. They managed to patch and make repairs to the current spreader for this year.

Michael Stuban addressed that the public works employees can't take time off two at a time unless approved by council. This is written in the contract.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

General Fund Balance	\$128,219	Expenses \$149,725
Water Fund Balance	\$236,305	Expenses \$85,807

### **Water Budget**

- The Water Budget was reviewed and balanced. It did include the water rate increase due to the PennVEST waterline project.

### **General Fund Budget**

- The General Fund Budget was reviewed and balanced. There will be no tax increase for 2026.

### **Public Works (Doug Miller)**

#### **Interviews**

- Doug Miller reported that interviews were done for the open public works position and it is recommended to hire Ethan Carey. He worked for Baden as summer help and is leaving Sewickley Borough Public Works to work for Baden.

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

#### **OnSolve**

- Joe Bosh addressed other ways to use OnSolve for important resident notification. It was not recommended for it to be used as event announcements.

#### **SharePoint**

- Discussion took place regarding SharePoint and what the office staff is doing and inputting onto SharePoint versus the Code Enforcement Officer.

### **Administration / Personnel (Becky Gallagher)**

#### **Food Drive**

- The food drive on election day went well. Becky asked about doing another drive.

#### **America 250**

- The county has grant funding for America 250 events that Baden will be applying for. The tree planting at Fort McIntyre was a very nice event.

**Public Safety (Dawn Singleton)**

**BVRPD**

- Pulaski Township will be contracting services starting 1/1/2025.

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

**Lease Agreement**

- Michael recommended that the borough have a building lease agreement with the Baden Fire Department.

**MAYORS REPORT**

Not Present

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

**PRESIDENTS REPORT**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Joe Bosh, second by Becky Gallagher, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting 7:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,

Elaine K. Rakovan  
Borough Manager