

# REGULAR MEETING BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL OCTOBER 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2022

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, Mr. Miller, Mr. Shelkons, Mrs. Singleton, Mr. Stuban and Mr. Trzcianka

**NOT PRESENT:** Mr. Jones

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mayor Judi Montell, Engineer Tony Sadaka, Attorney James Amato

## AGENDA (Changes and/or Deletions)

## VISITORS

- Bob Pudo from Anthony Wayne Terrace addressed council in regards to honor past councilman Bob Besong, asking that something be named after him within the borough.

## MINUTES

**MOTION** by Mr. Stuban, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to approve the minutes of September 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 .

## BILLS TO BE PAID

**MOTION** by Mrs. Singleton, second by Mr. Stuban, carried unanimously to pay all bills with two signatures.

**BIDS – None**

**RESOLUTIONS – None**

**ORDINANCE – None**

## CORRESPONDENCE

1. Note from Christ Lutheran Church thanking council for recognizing their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.
2. Letter from The Prevention Network stating with enclosed partial payment of approximately \$7,000 for providing a school resource officer.  
Discussion took place regarding The Prevention Network stating that they were going to pay in full which they did not.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Finance (John Shelkons)

- General Fund Account Balance \$344,167 Expenses \$108,425
- Water Fund Account Balance \$254,908 Expenses \$89,157

## **Multimodal Grant**

**MOTION** by Mr. Shelkons, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to authorize the engineer to apply for a multimodal grant for guide rails or any other project he deems worthy.

## **Actuary Study**

**MOTION** by Mr. Shelkons, second by Mr. Stuban, carried unanimously to authorize an actuary study to be done on the police pension plan.

## **USDA Loan Request**

**MOTION** by Mr. Shelkons, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to pay Requisition #13 in the amount of \$7,000 to Widmer Engineering for the USDA Funding for waterline replacement project

## **Public Works, Sanitation & Municipal Authority (Joe Bosh)**

### **Public Works Foreman**

**MOTION** by Mr. Bosh, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to appoint Rodney Keenan as public works foreman with terms (3 month reviews).

### **Public Works Laborer**

**MOTION** by Mr. Bosh, second by Mr. Miller, carried unanimously to hire Joel Chalupiak as a public works employee with terms (passing of physical exam and drug test).

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

### **Website**

Mr. Bosh stated that by the end of the week he should have access to the website software so that he may build and update the website. For now there should be no cost.

## **Administration & Legislation (Doug Miller)**

Nothing to report

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

### **Harvest Festival**

Mrs. Singleton stated that it was a successful event.

### **Halloween in the Park**

Halloween in the park will be on Saturday. She asked council to donate candy from their flower fund to be handed out.

## **Public Safety (Michael Stuban)**

### **The Prevention Network**

**MOTION** by Mr. Stuban, second by Mr. Bosh, carried unanimously to cancel the contract with the Prevention Network sending them a letter of a 60-day notification as per the agreement.

Mr. Stuban stated that besides The Prevention Network owing the borough almost \$20,000 we are unable to find an officer willing to work at the school. We will continue to try to fulfill the contract obligation with part time officers, however they are in breach of the contract for not paying for services.

### **School Crossing Guard**

**MOTION** by Mr. Stuban, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to hire Lavender Woolstrum as the school crossing guard.

### **Police Contract**

**MOTION** by Mr. Stuban, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to authorize the public safety committee to open the police contract if needed to address the Chief of Police early retirement proposal. *(President Trzcianka noted that there was an executive session regarding personnel prior to today's meeting and on Monday October 17th).*

### **CSI**

**MOTION** by Mr. Stuban, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to hire CSI to review documents regarding a borough employee.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Nothing to report

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

#### **1. USDA - Water System Improvements**

WEI is working to complete the final plans and specifications for the project.

#### **2. State Street Waterline Replacement (North to Virginia)**

WEI will prepare plans and specifications for the project so that we can bid concurrently with the USDA project.

#### **3. Fire Department Roof**

The project is being closed out.

#### **4. Storm Inlet Replacements - ARPA Grant**

WEI is preparing plans for inlet replacements throughout the Borough and will also incorporate a repair to address the failing storm sewer line on Bauman Avenue near State Street. A Highway Occupancy Permit must be obtained for the work to be done on PennDOT roads before the project can proceed further.

#### **5. Boat Launch Permit (GP-3)**

We received comments from Beaver County Conservation District on the General Permit (GP-3) application for the boat launch on the Ohio River.

#### **6. Second Street - Apartment Storm Sewer/Sinkhole**

A sinkhole is forming where the storm main meets an incoming pipe from the apartment building. Discussion took place regarding who is responsible for the repair since it is under the sidewalk and may involve the private storm water line from the apartments.

#### **7. Grant Avenue - Shoulder Settlement**

WEI will work with the street department to address the immediate situation, but long-term solution will be needed.

## **8. Baden Library**

We recommend closing out the project. Discussion took place regarding the concrete sealant being on the railing and it needs to be removed. It looks very messy.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Montell stated that the Harvest Festival was a very lovely event and the Recreation Board did a great job.

## **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

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

#### **Harvey's Fence**

Mr. Shelkons addressed Harvey's not webbing the entire fence around his property. It was agreed by Harvey that he would web the entire fence and it hasn't been done. Mr. Trzcianka stated that he would call Harvey and remind him to do it.

#### **Political Signs**

Mr. Shelkons asked what the rule was regarding political signs on borough property. Mayor Montell stated that she felt political signs are not permitted on any borough property. Mr. Stuban stated that there is no written rule, however we allow them on the property during election day but nothing else. If they are put up prior to election day the borough crew will not necessarily take them down, especially when grass cutting and they will not put them back up. Mayor Montell stated that she felt an ordinance is needed to control the placement of signs (political, yard sale, advertisements...)

#### **Cutting of residential tree/weed overgrowth onto borough streets**

Mr. Stuban asked the solicitor about what the borough cutting overgrowth of property owner's trees/weeds. Mr. Amato stated that if the tree/weeds are growing over onto the borough streets/signs, the borough has every right to cut it back. If the growth is not across the line then the property owner has the obligation to cut it and if they don't then the borough can cut it and lien the property. Mr. Stuban asked the solicitor what can the Code Enforcement Officer do about this matter. Mr. Amato stated that there were 3 things we can do. 1. If the growth is past the property line and on borough property we have the right to cut it. 2. If the growth is not across the line, the CEO can cite the property owner. 3. The borough eradicated the issue and a lien placed upon the property. Discussion took place regarding notifying property owners that they are responsible for their property overgrowth impeding upon borough streets and signs and letting them know that they can be cited and/or if the borough has to do it then their property may have a lien placed upon it.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Mrs. Singleton, second by Mr. Miller, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:35PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,

Borough Manager, Elaine K. Rakovan  
November 9, 2022