

PRE-MEETING BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 10TH, 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

ALSO PRESENT: Manager Elaine Rakovan

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OTHER RECORDING DEVICES

AGENDA (Changes and/or Deletions)

VISITORS

No Visitors

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Manager

1. PennVest Waterline Project Loans

Final PennVest meeting was held this morning. Went over documents and financials that still need to be uploaded before the closing that will take place on September 24th at 2:00 PM via video meeting and electronic signing. There is an issue with the short term WesBanco loan documents. Per PennVest, the loan term can't exceed 60 months. Our loan is for 60 months and 1 day. Attorney Salopek is working with WesBanco and the DCED to resolve this matter. A motion will be needed next week to approve any documents needed to meet this PennVest requirement. Pre-construction meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 30th at 9:00 AM.

2. Non-Uniform Union Contract

The most recent agreement outline is included in the council information packet for review and approval at next week's meeting.

3. Resolution

There will be a resolution next week (included in the council information packet) regarding a not to discriminate policy. This is mandated by the USDA for our loan.

4. 2025/2026 Road Salt

Through COSTAR the bulk salt price for Beaver County is with Cargill and the price is \$89.59 per ton. This is approximately a \$4.25/ton increase from last year.

5. 2025 Pension

State Aid will be direct deposited around the 24th of September. The adjusted unit value has increased so Baden's final police pension out of pocket has decreased by \$2,000. Once the state aid has been received, we have 30 days to deposit the funds into the pension funds.

6. No Parking Sign Ordinance Update

No update at this time. Once the PennVest closing is complete the manager will work with the engineer and solicitor to update the ordinance.

7. Building/Parking Lot Lights Replacement/ Repairs

Choice Contracting has ordered the parts for replacement and repair of the lights.

8. Sinkhole In Parking Lot (old Shiela's)

Attorney Amato has sent a letter to the property owner informing them that the sinkhole is not Baden's responsibility to repair.

9. Back Door Replacement

The door has been ordered. We will be notified when they have an installation date.

10. Harmony Storage Tank (old water tank)

A resident who lives by the water tank is asking when the storage tank is going to be painted. He also complained about low water pressure. The foreman stated that the pressure issue is due to his house being so close to the water tank.

Michael Stuban commented that at this time the borough does not have the money for painting the storage tank.

11. Library Wine & Cheese

Friends of the Library is requesting a donation from council/mayor for their wine and cheese event. Currently the flower fund has \$160.

Michael Stuban commented that council gave \$250 last year.

Dave Trzcianka stated to keep his next pay to so that the \$250 will be covered.

12. Bucket Truck

The bucket truck controls not working. It is in the shop where they are trying to find and repair the problem.

Discussion took place regarding taking the bucket truck to another repair shop. Michael Stuban stated that maybe the recycling grant would assist with purchasing a new bucket truck.

13. Keyless Entry and Cameras

M&P Solutions is a COSTAR company. Reaching out to them for current pricing and options available.

14. Wall – Corner of Lincoln Avenue and Phillips Street

Our zoning attorney is communicating with PennDOT's and the property owner's attorney.

15. Grant Avenue

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

16. Street Opening Ordinance

Open item. Needs updated.

17. Ambridge Water Authority Rate Increase

Reached out to AWA asking them to update the contract and give calculations for our charges.

Public Works - Not Present

Code Enforcement - Not Present

Michael Stuban stated that the code enforcement officer has started to cite residents. This include the property on Tevebaugh Road and old theater on State Street.

Fire Chief - Not Present.

Michael Stuban stated that the fire chief is asking council for permission to pursue a fire truck grant. Michael Stuban supports applying for this grant because due to the cost of a new fire truck, a 15% match by council would be worth pursuing.

Dave Trzcianka state that he is in support of the application as long as council gets to review the grant application prior to submission.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance (John Shelkons)

General Fund Balance	\$169,402	Expenses \$263,541
Water Fund Balance	\$236,633	Expenses \$257,300

Public Works (Doug Miller)

Nothing to discuss.

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

Library

Joe Bosh stated that the library meeting was rescheduled.

Harvest Festival is this Saturday from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Technology

Joe Bosh reported that the Baden video (updated version) has been posted to website and social media.

Internet Provider

Joe Bosh stated that he and manager, Elaine Rakovan met with DQE, a fiber optic internet provide. They were both under the impression that it was for supplying internet availability to the entire town, but it was only for service to the borough buildings. DQE did have some solutions that may assist with better connectivity for the RAFA system and unifying the internet providers. Depending on the factors involved there is a

possibility that it could save us money. This is not a high priority, but we will supply information so that we may get a cost.

SharePoint

Joe Bosh stated he did make some adjustments to SharePoint per input from the code enforcement officer.

Public Safety (Dawn Singleton)

BVPRD

Dawn Singleton stated that BVPRD Commission met with Pulaski Township. There is a 50% or better that Pulaski will join the region.

Administration / Personnel (Becky Gallagher)

America 250

The next Baden America 250 meeting is Tuesday, September 16th at 6:00.

Building / Grounds / Equipment (Michael Stuban)

Non-Uniform Contract

Michael Stuban stated that a copy of the proposed contract has been given to each council member. He will make a motion at next week's meeting to accept the contract changes and continue with preparing with the new 2026-2029 contract.

BVPRD Budget

Michael Stuban stated that he went to the BVPRD 2026 budget meeting. The proposed budget as of now will be less money than this year's. This will show a savings for the four municipalities. Michael Stuban noted that after review of this year's budget in regards to the pension costs, Baden Borough (all of the borough's) are being over charged. The total expense budget for the pension did not take out the state aid and municipal balance that Baden and Conway are obligated to pay. As the BVPRD 2025 budget stands right now, they are charging all four municipalities to cover the Baden and Conway pension obligation which results in Baden overpaying by \$54,000. Conway overpaid by \$43,000. Rochester Township overpaid by \$46,000. (NOTE: These are rounded figures.) Michael Stuban stated that he asked the regional commission president, Scott Levenson about this matter and Scott Levenson disagreed saying he was going to ask the pension representatives which he did not do during the pension meeting. When asked a second time, Scott Levenson stated that he was going to ask the regional solicitor.

Discussion followed, then Michael Stuban stated that if not correct he will make a motion that the \$54,000 overpayment be deducted from the December invoice.

House Bill 1204

Michael Stuban asked if everyone had the opportunity to review House Bill 1204 so that we may move forward to send letters to our legislators asking them to support the Bill.

MAYORS REPORT

Not Present

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

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Dave Trzcianka stated that the county had their emergency management meeting last night. Baden's Emergency Management Plan should be updated every two years. The tablet, radios and Baden documents will be given back to the 911 Center or borough office by the previous coordinator, Matt Loftus. Dave Trzcianka stated that he will work on updating the plan which now needs to include evacuation points. He reported that the county is working on updating their mitigation plan and it will focus on failing culverts. Dave hopes that this may lead to mitigation funding for areas like the Milton Street culvert. He also learned from the meeting that in the event of a disaster, the borough would need to have \$700,000 in uninsured damages before FEMA steps in to assist with damage costs.

The nuclear power station is switching to a mobile notification system and they will be giving away their sirens. Dave Trzcianka asked that Baden ask for a siren for the purpose of evacuations. It could be attached to the old siren pole.

On June 9th of next year, the nuclear power plant will have a hostile action drill. The last one was done 15 years ago.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Dawn Singleton, second by Becky Gallagher, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting 6:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,

Elaine K. Rakovan
Borough Manager