

PRE-MEETING BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 11TH, 2024

**NOTE: The Regular Meeting Scheduled for September 18th was cancelled
Lack of Quorum**

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: Becky Gallagher, Doug Miller, John Shelkons, Dawn Singleton, Michael Stuban and Dave Trzcianka

NOT PRESENT: Joe Bosh, Mayor Judi Montell

ALSO PRESENT: Foreman Rodney Keenan

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OTHER RECORDING DEVICES

AGENDA (Changes and/or Deletions)

VISITORS

Jane Bock representing the Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church addressed council in regards to the church being declared a historical landmark by the Beaver County Historical Society. The historical marker needs to be placed on the property and she was asking where the placement would be permitted and if a permit was required, are setbacks needed and where would the borough like the sign to be placed. Mrs. Bock mentioned the grass area between State Street and side walk where the mailbox was located. The second location would be on the church property on the other side of the sidewalk. She also asked if the borough would be able to assist with the digging the hole for the installation of the historical marker. The church would supply the materials for the installation. They have not heard back from the Beaver County Historical Society regarding when the sign would be delivered. Discussion followed. There is a concern with the sign being hit by vehicles if placed in the grass area. The manager is going to check with the engineer and get back to Mrs. Bock.

Beverly Kotys asked for an update on the purchase memorial park from the school district and the school withdrawing their annual funding to the Baden Memorial Library. Mr. Trzcianka stated that the memorial park is no longer being discussed. The library funding is now a legal issue and may not be discussed with the public at this time.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Manager

1. **Duquesne Light Project**
Stilling taking place. No Update
2. **Phillips Street Sink Hole**
Contractor to start on Monday
3. **PennVest / Paving Project Loans**
Closing was on September 3rd.

4. Ordinances

Street Opening Ordinance – council “Joe Bosh” to review
Solicitation Ordinance – Advertised, can adopt next week
Parking Ordinance – Section 180-3 needs to include the word trailers - given to solicitor to update

5. Keyless Entry and Cameras

M&P gave pricing for updated door locks and cameras. Will present to council at next month’s meeting.

6. Beaver County GIS Data Sharing

The county is offering a GIS Data Distribution Software for the purpose of sharing data for the Beaver County GIS Infrastructure Project. (attached for council review)

7. PennDOT Brake Retarder Route 65

John Shelkons to address

8. Wall – Corner of Lincoln Avenue and Phillips Street

No Update

9. Newsletter

Mailed to residents a couple of weeks ago.

10. Shell Plant Tour

Will be taking a tour of the Shell Plant tomorrow morning.

11. Schiller Street Slide

No Update

12. Storm Damage

Submitted costs to the insurance company. No update at this time.

13. USDA Water Project

Possible requisition for payment next week.

14. Theater

No update

15. Utility Billing Ordinance Update

No Update

Public Works

Foreman, Rodney Keenan, stated that the Phillips Street sinkhole / drain repair will start next week.

FIRE CHIEF – Written Report

Incidents / Training:

29 Incidents (August)
221 Incidents (Year to Date)
104 Training / Staffing Hours / 23 firefighters (August)
984 Training / Staffing Hours (Year to Date)
1 Smoke detector install in August

Grants:

The 2023 FEMA AFG Grant Application Period has closed. We submitted two grant applications for two different projects. One was a microgrant for equipment totaling \$69,497.00. If awarded, the fire department would be required to fund \$3,309.38 towards the project. The second application is for funding to replace our rescue truck, totaling \$1,445,000.00. If awarded, the fire department would be required to fund \$68,809.52 toward the project. **(No Update as of the date of this report)**

The Local Share Account Statewide Program (gaming funds) Update: This grant was submitted on behalf of the borough for funding to replace our Fire Engine (Pumper Truck). Applications are in the review process. I received email confirmation that this application made it through the initial review process and is now in the second step of the review process. The only change to the application was that we submitted the application for the maximum amount of \$1,000,000.00. However, the cost estimate for the Fire Engine came in at \$961,000.00, so they adjusted the figure, stating that they could not provide additional funding based on expected cost increases. **(No Update as of the date of this report)**

Norfolk Southern Grant - The application has been Submitted **(Awarded \$10,000 towards rescue equipment upgrade project)**

We are in the process of obtaining quotes for the addition to the fire station, which will be funded by a grant obtained through Representative Matzie's office. Met with the State on Sept 5th to verify the award process. **(Awarded \$135,000)**

Annual Pump Testing on Engine 47 and Tower 47 will be completed next week.

The Voluntary Rescue Service Recognition (VRSR) recertification Application has been submitted, and we are in the process of scheduling the on-site inspection.

Chief Baker stated that the generator did not kick on during the recent power outage. Rodney Keenan contacted the company to come and repair the generator.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Commercial Fire & Property Maintenance Inspections / Reinspection's: 46 (Year to date)
General Code Issues Addressed: 67 (Year to date)
General Code Issues Abated: 44 (Year to date)

Currently have 4 citations issued on unresolved property issues.

Addressed code issue list provided by Councilman Stuban.

Reminder notices have been sent to commercial property owners who have yet to comply with the inspection. We are starting to receive responses and schedule inspections.

423 Moore Ave - The property was Condemned due to Hoarding / Sanitation and Fire Safety Concerns. The property owners are in the process of cleaning out the building.

Drafting violation notice to address exterior property issues on the Old Theater Building.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance (John Shelkons)

General Fund Balance	\$143,355	Expenses	\$194,427
Water Fund Balance	\$482,851	Expenses	\$260,810

Jake Brake – Mr. Shelkons stated that he will make a motion next week to put up jake brake signs. He commented that he saw a town that had signs along the road that read we would appreciate you limiting the use of jake brakes.

Public Works (Doug Miller)

Nothing to Report

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

Not present. Sent an email to councilmembers.

Administration / Personnel (Becky Gallagher)

America250 - Becky Gallagher stated that she will be attending the meeting next week.

Commissioners Meeting – Mrs. Gallagher stated that she attended the commissioner meeting. The commissioners are looking at purchasing the Beaver County Times building at a cost of \$1.8M. It is being purchased for storage so they will not need to utilize the storage facility at the salt mines. Mrs. Gallagher stated that we as taxpayers and citizens need to be aware of where the money is being spent.

Public Safety (Dawn Singleton)

Nothing to report

Building / Grounds / Equipment (Michael Stuban)

Regional Police – Michale Stuban stated that the next meeting is tomorrow (September 12th) at 6:00 PM in Conway. There is some tension since the last police meeting. Mr. Stuban stated that he has received no response to the emails that he has sent the commissioners regarding the bonus pay for the chief. He stated that he made a request to have the solicitor attend the meetings. He was told by the commission chairman that the money is not budgeted. Mr. Stuban told him that he would pay for the solicitor to attend the meeting. The chief wants to negotiate a new contract and Mr. Stuban told the chairman that the solicitor is knowledgeable and is needed to assist with this matter. Discussion followed. Mr. Stuban handed out the BVRPD agenda and councilmembers are interested in attending the meeting.

MAYORS REPORT

Not Present

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

Elizabeth Trzcianka gave a library report. The librarian is still going to State Street School. There is an open house tomorrow. A fifth grade field trip is scheduled for September 18th. October 26th there will be Trunk or Treat in the borough parking lot. October 12th is the Wine and Cheese Fundraiser.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Mr. Trzcianka spoke about his concerns regarding the regional police department and how the money is being spent. Discussion followed that included the BVRPD cannot be run like a small local police department.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Dawn Singleton, second by Becky Gallagher, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,

Elaine K. Rakovan
Borough Manager
10/9/2024