

REGULAR MEETING BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

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

NOT PRESENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Judi Montell, Engineer Tony Sadaka, Manager Elaine Rakovan

This meeting is being electronically recorded by the Borough Manager.

AGENDA (Changes and/or Deletions)

ORDINANCES - None

VISITORS

Loretta Thompson, 603 Bauman Avenue addressed council in regards to the painting of the yellow lines on Bauman Avenue and Harmony Road. She made the request to council in May. At that time council made the motion to paint the lines. Since then a resident called the office and residents expressed to the public work employees that the lines are not needed, as well as a letter/petition was submitted to council. This resulted in council making a motion to not put the lines on Bauman Avenue or Harmony Road. When she called to inquire about the lines, the borough manager told her that the lines were not being done. In accordance with PennDOT guidelines, to property mark lines on a road an engineering study would need to be done. Council did not authorize the engineer to do a study. Ms. Thompson asked for a copy of the petition and was instructed to put a Right To Know request in to the borough office. She stated that she spoke to PennDOT and the guidelines state an engineer's judgement or study is needed. Additionally, she expressed her safety concerns of speeding and cars passing on Bauman Avenue. Loretta Thompson again asked that council put yellow lines on Bauman Avenue and Harmony Road. Councilman Miller lives on Harmony Road and he expressed that he did not see the yellow lines necessary and as a resident did not want the lines painted. Further discussion took place regarding how long ago the original lines were painted, cost and law enforceability with having the lines. She asked if the yellow line could be painted in front of her house. Joe Bosh expressed his concerns regarding the manpower, cost of supplies and engineering costs. Ms. Thompson complained about the public work summer help being lazy and not doing a good job. She expressed that a time study should be done on the summer help and how much work they get done. Elaine Rakovan informed council that Bauman Avenue is on the list of roads that need to be looked at for one side parking and signage. Joe Bosh stated that until he has reason to believe that a line will make the road safer he did not see the need at this time. The engineer commented that he is not familiar with this matter. Michael Stuban made a motion to paint the yellow line. There was no second. Motion failed.

MINUTES

MOTION by Michael Stuban, second by Doug Miller, carried unanimously to approve the minutes of August 13th and 20th, 2025.

BILLS TO BE PAID

MOTION by Dawn Singleton, second by Doug Miller, carried unanimously to pay all bills with two signatures.

RESOLUTIONS

25-05 Stating that it is Baden Boroughs policy not to discriminate on the basis of disability and has adopted an internal grievance procedure.

MOTION by Michael Stuban, second by Dawn Singleton, carried unanimously adopt Resolution 25-05.

ORDINANCES – None

BIDS – None

CORRESPONDENCE

Complaint received from a resident on Straube Avenue regarding dumping of concrete on the edge of the road for erosion control. The concrete went over the curb and onto their property. They want the concreter removed within 2 weeks.

Elaine Rakovan explained that the road was washing away and public works put the concrete there to prevent further erosion. When looking at pictures, you can see where concrete was put down years ago by the previous foreman for the same reason. Discussion took place regarding the borough right of way and having the engineer look into this matter. The other option was to close Straube Avenue .

MOTION by Michael Stuban, second by Dawn Singleton, carried unanimously to authorize the engineer to look into Straube Avenue erosion control. He noted that this will not be completed in two weeks.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance (John Shelkons)

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

WesBanco Loan Date Amendment

MOTION by John Shelkons, second by Joe Bosh, carried unanimously to approve the Amendment to Loan Documents regarding the Borough of Baden, Series A of 2024 (Waterline Project) and Series B of 2024 (Streetscape Project) with WesBanco Bank changing the Maturity Dates from September 4, 2029 to September 3, 2029.

PUBLIC WORKS (Doug Miller)

Bucket Truck

Doug Miller reported that the bucket truck part that needs to be repaired has been identified and ordered.

TECHNOLOGY / PUBLIC RELATIONS / LIAISON (Joe Bosh)

Library

The library is applying for an accessibility grant. They are participating in the Economy Borough community event this coming weekend. For Day of Caring they have volunteers to fill out the envelopes. The Wine & Cheese event will be on October 11th at the Conway Fire Hall.

ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL (Becky Gallagher)

Reforging Ambridge Initiative Meeting

Becky Gallagher attended the meeting. They received \$500,000 for a study and there is \$750,000 for development. They are looking into rerouting the truck route that goes up 989 to the end of Ambridge by Logans Lane. They are also looking at redeveloping the fly ash landfill and brownfields in downtown. The bike trails were talked about but it did not seem to be a big interest. The Ambridge School District superintendent was present and he spoke about turning some land into more ball fields for various sports. Additional information will be shared as she receives it.

Beaver County America 250

Becky Gallaher and Michael Stuban attended the meeting. The Liberty Tree planting will be in October at Fort McIntosh.

Non-Uniform Contract

MOTION by Becky Gallagher, second by Dawn Singleton to accept the agreed upon non-uniform contract changes and continue with preparing the new 2026-2029 contract.

Pension Rate

MOTION by Becky Gallagher, second by Joe Bosh to authorize the attorney to write an ordinance and advertise the pension rates as directed by the pension audit.

PUBLIC SAFETY (Dawn Singleton)

Fire Truck Grant

MOTION by Dawn Singleton, second by Michael Stuban to authorizing the fire department to apply for a fire truck grant (15% match) with submission not being done until the grant application is reviewed by council.

BUILDING / GROUNDS / EQUIPMENT (Michael Stuban)

Nothing to Report

ENGINEER'S REPORT

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. Storm Sewer Rehabilitation on Phillips Street and Grant Application

WEI has reviewed the storm sewer inspection report and videos and is working on opinions of probable cost and recommendations for the rehabilitation or replacement of the individual storm sewer lines. The grant application is due November 30, 2025.

3. PennVEST – Waterline Replacements

With the signing of the temporary financing amendment tonight, we should be on track to close the loan on schedule. Below is our planned timeline (subject to revision going forward as necessary).

Milestone Date

PennVest Closing (Settlement) 9/24/2025

Preconstruction meeting with Contractor at Borough Office 9/30/2025

Estimated Construction Start Second Week of October

MAYOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Council Flower Fund

Dave Trzcianka stated that he is forfeiting his council pay for the balance of the year and to have it placed in the Flower Fund in hope to build it up.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Joe Bosh, second by Dawn Singleton, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 PM.

Respectfully Submitted for Approval,

Elaine K. Rakovan
Borough Manager