

PRE-MEETING BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL JUNE 19, 2017

Council vice-president Mr. Trzcianka called the Pre-Meeting of Council to order at 6:30 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: Mrs. Furr, Mr. Kotula, Mrs. Montell, Mr. Shelkons, Mr. Stuban, and Mr. Trzcianka (Not Present: Mr. Besong)

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Sam Gagliardi, Street Foreman Michael Josapak, Code Enforcement Officer Bob Weber, Chief Christner and Sgt. Alvarez

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OTHER RECORDING DEVICES

AGENDA (Changes and/or Deletions)

VISITORS

Mr. Kolakowski addressed a property across the street from his home that is rat infested and needs condemned. Council informed Mr. Kolakowski that the house in question is on the active list of properties that the borough is going after. Mr. Kolakowski also stated that the borough needs to do something along the lines of assisting the elderly in town who can no longer tend to maintain their properties.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Secretary

Correspondence

1. Letter from the Veterans Service Center thanking Council for the 2017 budgeted allocation of \$525.
2. Letter from the Ambridge Fireworks Committee asking for friends, neighbors and businesses to make a donation to support this year's Fireworks
3. Letters from Amato, Start & Associates regarding
 - Search Warrants for Properties Suspected of Code Violation
 - Sale of Municipal Real Estate
 - Water Connections – Business Properties
 - Mercantile Licenses and Taxes
4. Letter from resident Megan Pugh asking for penalty forgiveness on her 2017 borough taxes. She has always paid her taxes at discount through her mortgage company. They paid off their mortgage in December and notified the tax collector Donna Michaels to correct the address on their tax bills. They never received their 2017 borough tax, but did receive a late notice.

Roof

Burns and Scalo supplied pricing for the roofs at the borough building, fire department and library. It is noted that the library roof is in the worst in need of replacement and the Borough building and Fire Station does not need replaced soon. Costs are as follows:

- Fire Department \$89,615
- Library \$65,770
- Borough Building \$85,910

Welcome To Baden Signs

Jason's Custom Woodworking is working on the signs

Jail Community Service Program

Contacted the person in charge of the Jail Community Service Program. Turnaround time is average of 4 weeks. You submit a summary of the work you want done and where. The request is submitted to the jail and then they see if they can fit you into their schedule.

CCR Report for 2016 Water

Contacted the engineer to assist with the calculations for this annual report. It should be ready to be placed on the borough website by the 26th of June.

Right To Know

One request was received and turned over to the solicitor for assistance. Requestor asked to see Mr. Weber's (Code Enforcement Officers) monthly report for this year. Under the RTK law it states that records that may be used for non-criminal legal use are not public records. Requestor filed a complaint with the State RTK so the attorney is now handling this matter.

CGAS Agreement for Paving Project

The agreement has been signed. Columbia Gas agrees to pay \$117,952 towards the paving project.

Library

The brick work has been completed at the library. Total balance owed to the contractor is \$1,551. Public Works did inspect the work and stated it looks good.

Mr. Trzcianka noted that he has another contractor coming in to give a bid on the roofs, including a pitched roof.

Code Enforcement Officer Phone/Camera

An iPhone would cost approximately \$88 per month. A Wi-Fi camera may be purchased at a cost between \$150 and \$300 depending on how powerful a lens you want. Currently his cell phone bill is around \$30.

Short Term Disability (STD) Insurance for Non-Uniform

Per our discussion at last month's pre-meeting the paperwork and final figures for the STD insurance will be available for Wednesday approval.

Ordinances Tabled November 2015

941 Amending the Code striking Chapter 170
942 Establishing the licensing and inspection of all rental units

Public Works

Prospect Generator – Mr. Josapak stated that the generator is complete. Waiting for a startup date and training on the generator.

Library ramp – Mr. Trzcianka stated that the both the brick and railing contractor said that the reason why the brick came apart was because the railing went down into the concrete. Mr. Trzcianka asked Mr. Josapak to saw cut what left of the post and fill (patch) holes because the new posts are going onto the outside of the brick. The contractor had new brackets made.

Sweeper – The street sweeper is being delivered this week.

Library carpet – Discussion took place regarding ripping the carpet and what would need to be done with the concrete under the rug such as grinding off the glue.

CEO

Mr. Weber stated that he looked at 32 yards, 17 letters sent, 4 citations for open storage, 3 citations for weeds. He commented that the end of Schiller Street needs cut by the borough crew as well as parts of Harmony Road. Mr. Weber commented that the

house next to Mr. Trzcianka's house is a mess as well as the vacant lot next to the water tank on Prospect Street. Mr. Weber asked for a camera so he could take pictures for the magistrate.

Police Department

Sgt. Alvarez addressed Council in regards to recognition of our past Chief Colaizzi as well as Sam McKee. He felt that some sort of plaque as recognition for the Police Department would be perfect. He asked that council consider his request.

New Vehicle – The new police car will not be available until early fall. We will be getting a 2018 vehicle at the 2017 price.

Old police vehicle – Sgt. Alvarez stated that the vehicle is on Muncibid. Their target is \$7,500 and currently the highest bid is at \$6,200. If they do not get their asking price of \$7,500 there is a police department in New York interested in it for \$7,000.

Part Time Officers – Chief Christner stated that he is in need of part time officers. He would like to start with at least 2 experienced officers that do not require training and possibly one from the academy. Mr. Stuban asked that the resumes be given to the public safety committee so that they can interview and get them hired quickly. Chief Christner asked that we wait about one week so that he may get additional applicants.

Fire Department

Not present

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration & Finance (John Shelkons)

General Fund Balance \$64,573

Water Fund Balance \$253,152

Expenses \$125,585

Expenses \$121,920

Buildings, Property & Grounds (Ted Kotula)

Welcome to Baden signs - Mr. Kotula stated that signs are being worked on.

Electric in the park – Mr. Kotula stated that he spoke with Terry Barnik regarding getting the electrical work done in the park and he should be able to do the work.

Public Safety (Ted Kotula)

Nothing to report

Community Relations (Michael Stuban)

Insurance - Mr. Stuban commented that the secretary is waiting to hear from a company in regards to a bid for the borough insurance. Time is running close as our insurance coverage policy ends at the end of the month, so if nothing is received by Wednesday he will make the motion to renew with our current carrier PIRMA.

Purchase of Property – Mr. Stuban commented that although we are looking at getting rid of property and documenting what streets and alleys (including paper streets/alley) the borough owns he feels that the property next to the water tank on Prospect Street may be of use to the borough for possible water tank. Currently the property is on the repository list and current due is \$9,572. He feels we may be interested in purchasing it and asked that council consider the purchase of this property.

Speakman property – This property is also on the repository list but the amount is over \$21,000. Mr. Stuban stated that he needs to look further into this property to see what makes up the \$21,000.

Street paving additions – Mr. Stuban stated that the list was given to the engineer to price out. To do Lincoln, Chestnut, Milton, Jefferson and Market will be about \$56,000. To do Franklin, Collins, Third and Forth to the dead-end would be an additional \$56,000

however he recommends to hold off on these streets because we need to add North Avenue to the list. We applied for grant funding to do in front of Mount Gallitzin and the Villa St. Joseph and once the work is completed by West View Water Tevebaugh Road will need to be addressed. We have \$64,000 put aside for Tevebaugh Road.

Public Works (Dave Trzcianka)

Fire Hydrants – Mr. Trzcianka asked Mr. Josapak if any fire hydrants are done. Mr. Josapak stated that he has the hydrants and he is waiting for the weather to clear to put them in. The two that he will be replacing are at the corner of Bauman and Camilla. The second one is on the corner of Wolf Street.

Library (Suzie Furr)

Audit - Mrs. Furr stated that the 2015 library financial audit was given to the secretary who will be making copies for Wednesday's council meeting. The library also keeps track of the number of visitors that the library has every month.

Recreation & Communications (Suzie Furr)

Mrs. Furr stated that Community Day was fun but attendance was low. The 50/50 raffle was won by Marie Buck and the grill was won by Donna Michaels. A financial state will be forthcoming once all bills have been paid. Mrs. Furr thanked everyone for helping.

Memorial Day Parade – Mrs. Furr stated that the parade seemed to have gone well. Mr. Kotula asked why council was not asked to participate in the parade. He stated in past years the mayor and council were present and introduced. Mrs. Montell stated that she heard that the Legion wants to keep it for the veterans and not have any politics involved. Discussion followed and Mr. Kotula felt that at least the Mayor should have been present. Mrs. Montell stated that both the Mayor and Mr. Besong are veterans and they should have been present.

Sanitation, Recycling & Municipal Authority (Judi Montell)

Fire Works – Mrs. Montell stated that on Wednesday she would like to make a motion to donate \$200 to the Ambridge Fireworks Committee from the Council/Mayor flower fund.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Gagliardi asked about the purchasing of the property off of Jefferson Street. Mr. Stuban stated the cost to purchase that property and the cost to tear it down is not worth the while for council. Discussion followed regarding options and what council could do to get rid of this eyesore. Mr. Stuban stated that the borough could get the property free and clear then the borough could try to sale it.

President's Report

Nothing to report

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Trzcianka stated that a few times when she went into the restroom down stairs the water was running and the lights were on. Mr. Stuban stated that he forgot to bring up looking into getting sensor lighting and faucets for the rest rooms.

Karen Molinaro from 512 Phillips Street addressed council in regards to speeding on 989 (Phillips Street). Two dogs have gotten struck by vehicles and a few years ago a child died. She asked that there be more police coverage and/or a reduction in the speed limit on that portion of the road. Mr. Trzcianka stated that it is a state road so the speed limit is set by the state. Chief Christner noted that the one dog was running lose and not chained up. They do have police sit and monitor this area however he will put some extra lines on the street. The issue is finding an area where a police vehicle can sit where traffic cannot see them. Second Mrs. Molinaro addressed her neighbor Patsy

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Borriello and the grass area that is not being cut. She stated that this area is not her property however Patsy measured and stated that is was their (Molinaro's) property. She is worried about being fined.

Chief Christner addressed council in regards to a three year boy that was found at the bottom of a swimming pool on Murphy Avenue. Tim Firch was on his way home from shopping so he was able to arrive at the home very quickly. The family had already gotten child out of the pool and started CPR until Tim took over. Part time officer Jake Weston also assisted. The child was life flighted and is ok. The fire department did a fantastic job.

Mr. Kotula mentioned that during community days the water pipe from the police garage was leaking like a sieve. He asked Mr. Josapak to repair the pipe.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Stuban, second by Mr. Kotula, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,



Elaine K. Rakovan
Borough Secretary
July 17, 2017