

**REGULAR MEETING
BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
JANUARY 21, 2015**

Council President Judi Montell called the Regular Meeting of Council to order at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Baden Municipal Building, 149 State Street, to conduct business of general purposes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENT: Mr. Kotula, Mr. Stuban, Mr. Trzcianka, Mrs. Vilella and Mrs. Montell (Not Present: Mr. Besong, Mrs. Michaels)

ALSO PRESENT: Solicitor James Amato, Chief Christner

Acknowledgement of Recordings

Proclamation for Alan Hazelwood

Mayor Gagliardi read and presented Alan Hazelwood with a proclamation for serving on the Baden Parks and Recreation Board.

VISITORS

Tom Turney from 336 State Street asked Council for an update regarding 330 State Street. He asked for the name of the demolition company and the cost. He was told C&W at the cost of \$7,500. Mr. Turney knows that asbestos testing was being done but wanted to know of a time table for completion. Mrs. Rakovan stated weeks for the testing followed by demolition. Mr. Turney addressed his concern for mitigation regarding dust or black mold. He also asked if a permit was needed. He was told that a permit is needed and will be done as well as the concerns of dust and mold will be addressed with the contractor. The building will be demolished to the foundation. The cement slab will remain. He asked about the intent of the property after demolition. Mr. Kotula commented that some discussion has taken place regarding making the property into a park, putting up a pavilion; a place where people can gather. Mrs. Vilella mentioned a town clock. Mr. Turney asked if selling the property was still on the table. Some councilmembers said no and other said yes. Mr. Stuban commenting that the property is still on the table for discussion. Mr. Turney commented that the letter that he submitted to Council regarding the smaller undeveloped portion of property is still of interest to him. Mr. Turney then asked for an update of the Deczkowski property. Mrs. Rakovan stated that the Building Inspector looked at the property and is having conversation with the attorney regarding contacting the property owner or whoever is in charge to address the issues involving the property.

Mr. Turney commented on the possible liability issue of Harvey storing vehicles along State Route 65. His concern is safety and he had nothing against the property owner. Discussion followed and the police chief will be asked to look into this matter.

Chief Christner stated that he would look into this matter but he also commented that Harvey has told him in the past that because PennDot took some of his property to widen Route 65 he has some special exceptions regarding certain things.

John Shelkons, 785 Athelia Street asked Council about the two items on the correspondence. The first being the PUC requiring that the bridge be inspected. He had a question regarding a piece of the bridge falling onto Route 65. Chief Christner stated that the railroad was notified about a piece of the bridge falling onto Route 65. Second he asked if the agreement with West View Water that was on the agenda was in regards to the river access. He was told no and that the agreement involved right of ways.

MINUTES

MOTION by Mr. Kotula, second by Mr. Trzcianka, carried unanimously to approve the minutes of November 17th, 19th, December 17th 2014 and January 7th 2015.

BILLS TO BE PAID

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

RESOLUTIONS

None

ORDINANCES

None

BIDS

None

CORRESPONDENCE

1. December letter from Damian Amato & Start with attached West View Water Agreement. Upon review by the solicitor and engineer it is recommended that the agreement be reviewed and approved by Baden Borough Council.

MOTION by Mr. Stuban, second by Mr. Trzcianka, carried unanimously to sign the agreement.

2. January letter from Damian Amato & Start with attached correspondence from the PUC regarding the Pinney Street Bridge and the order of court which directs Norfolk Southern Railway Company to comply with their directions which includes inspecting the bridge.
3. Ambridge Chamber of Commerce is having their annual Wine & Chocolate Walk on February 14th from 2:00pm to 5:00pm followed by happy hour from 5:30 -6:30 at Old Economy Visitors Center. \$20 per ticket or two for \$35.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration & Finance - (Michael Stuban)

- Finance Report –

General Fund Balance	\$70,563.51
Water Fund Balance	\$14,755.69
Fire Truck Fund Balance	\$82,524.38
Liquid Fuels Balance	\$129,190.47

Building, Property & Grounds (Bob Besong/Ted Kotula)

Mr. Kotula noted that two lights still need to be replaced on the walkway.

Community Relations – (Ted Kotula)

Mr. Kotula stated that saw Representative Matzie last week who gave him information regarding grant funding.

Library – (Kimberly Vilella)

Mrs. Vilella gave an overview of the Library Programs for the month. December was a very busy month with over 200 participants in various monthly activities. Instead of collecting fines for the month the Library had food for fines where fines could be paid with canned food. This brought 220 canned food items for the local food bank. The library has also started a volunteer program. Currently there are three regular volunteers. Lunch with Santa

brought in over \$107 in donations and 50 children enjoyed lunch with Santa. There were 12 new library card sign ups and 110 new items added to the collection.

Mr. Kotula commented that he put on the borough Facebook page congratulations to Phillip Tkatch for achieving the high honor of Eagle Scout. I felt it was a good idea to recognize people like this and it would be a good idea to bring individuals to council meeting just to recognize their achievements. He asked if we could set something up and asked that people let him know if someone needs to be recognized.

Public Safety – (Kimberly Villella)

Discussion took place regarding the terms of the Prevention Network Agreement and authorization for the police to start working at there. Mr. Stuban explained that the motion made last month did make such authorization however the officers are working so nothing can be changed at this time but for the record the motion was for the solicitor and public safety committee to meet along with the Chief to discuss the terms of an agreement. Council would never agree to something without having it in writing.

MOTION by Mrs. Villella, second by Mr. Trzcianka carried unanimously to sign the Prevention Network Service Agreement.

Mrs. Rakovan asked Council what their wishes were in regards to billing (i.e. monthly, quarterly...) Council asked that they be billed monthly.

Public Works – (Dave Trzcianka)

Mr. Trzcianka stated that Mr. Sadaka told him that income surveys need to be completed for the CDBG funding project paperwork. Mrs. Rakovan commented that she will send letters out with the surveys.

MOTION by Mr. Trzcianka, second by Mrs. Villella carried unanimously to send Rick Sedlacek and Randy Dobich to the water class in Mercer County.

Mr. Trzcianka asked Chief Christner to have the officer's check the street lights noting that there are at least 6 out between Pinney Street to Punks.

Mr. Trzcianka addressed the number of cars that Harvey has to keep due to police investigation. This led to a conversation regarding the police department impounding a vehicle under the direction of the DA. During a plea agreement the charges were lessened to a lower offense. Although there was a court order that said that car had to be released Harvey had charges for holding the vehicle which the vehicle owner refused to pay. Mr. Amato stated that there is an answer regarding this matter however he does not know what it is. Research is needed which would include the possible options of using confiscated drug money to pay the fines. Mr. Amato told the Chief to check with the FOP attorney to address this question for resolve of any future situations like this. Further discussion followed.

Recreation & Communications - (Donna Michaels)

Not present.

Sanitation, Recycling & Municipal Authority - (Donna Michaels)

Not present.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Amato had nothing at this time.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Not present.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Chief Christner addressed the Prevention Network Agreement. He understood that Council asked the solicitor if we could retroactive the contract starting in January. This is what he thought was said so that is what he did. He further stated that he would never overstep his boundaries. He asked if council had any questions for him.

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

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Nothing to report.

- **Open Board Positions**
 - Zoning – John Dodaro 3 year term

MOTION by Mr. Stuban, second by Mr. Trzcianka carried unanimously to reappoint John Dodaro.

- Zoning – Alternate
- Library – 5 year term
- Educational Services – 3 year term

Discussion took place regarding the need for Educational Services and hiring a crossing guard. Comments were made regarding the putting advertisement on Facebook and finding someone to fill the position.

VISITOR COMMENTS

Chief Christner asked for permission to take some drug account money to pay Harvey at least for the tow. Mr. Amato commented that he should first check with the FOB attorney to see if such action is permitted.

AJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Trzcianka, second by Mr. Kotula carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 PM

Respectfully Submitted by,



Elaine K. Rakovan
Secretary
February 16, 2015