

**PRE-MEETING  
BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MARCH 19, 2018**

Council President Judi Montell 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:** Mr. Besong, Mr. Kotula, Mr. Shelkons, Mrs. Singleton, Mr. Trzcianka and Mrs. Montell (Not Present: Mrs. Furr)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mayor Sam Gagliardi, Police Chief David Christher, Fire Chief Baker

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OTHER RECORDING DEVICES**

**AGENDA (Changes and/or Deletions)**

**VISITORS**

Mark Koliakowski addressed council in regards to not receiving a phone call as well as other neighbors about the water conservation and boil alert. Mrs. Montell stated that she did not either. Mr. Kotula and Mr. Trzcianka commented that residents need to sign up with the 911 Center to be put on the call list for emergencies.

Michael Stuban from 44 Anthony Wayne Terrace addressed council in regards to things that he has noticed now that he is on the other side and not on council. First he commented that (even though no longer on council) he gets phone calls from residents. Two phone calls regarded street lights that are not working around town. He asked the mayor to have the police drive around town again and get a list of the lights that are not working and he also commented that this should be made a normal procedure. The second item he addressed was councils past discussions and motion about putting tracking devices on the police and public works vehicles. He also provided pricing for council to review. Lastly Mr. Stuban stated that he was going to pick on a department. He noted that when he was on council in November and December there was discussion about the public works department and some of their lack of work ethics. He noted that this is still happening. Some of them are just driving around. Dead animals are on the street and they just drive by it. The other day the mayor was walking downstairs there were a lot of lights out so since the mayor was going downstairs Mr. Stuban walked to the office and to let them know about the burnt out lights. The acting foreman commented who is he, who is Stuban; he doesn't have the right to say anything. Mr. Stuban stated that he is a citizen and he has every right. He also noted that the other day the office was being painted and public works was asked to help move furniture and they just walked away. Mr. Besong commented on the plowing of streets with a single path being made down the center of the roads. Mr. Stuban commented that they do the same when plowing the parking lot and they don't shovel the walkways upstairs and downstairs to the building as well as not plowing the parking lots including the fire department lot. Mr. Besong commented that he came to the office last month and there was nothing but a narrow 10 inch path on the walkway so he had the secretary call the foreman to tell them to clean up the walkway. Mrs. Montell asked Mr. Trzcianka if he'd like to meet with the public works department. He commented that he would like an outside agency to come in and evaluate the department. Mr. Trzcianka stated that he'd like his committee to get together to compile a list of what needs to get done (plow the streets, plow the parking lots, shovel the walkways, pick up the dead animals....) Mr. Stuban made an additional comment about having a lousy assistant foreman because his attitude stinks. He stated that council should have another employee be the assistant foreman. Mr. Stuban lastly asked when was Baden officially

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notified about the water break in Ambridge. Mrs. Rakovan stated that she found out from Mr. Kotula on Sunday morning, but official notification from Ambridge Water Authority never happened. Mr. Stuban stated that something needs to be told to Ambridge Water Authority.

Fred Strecker 1144 Harmony Road commented that having an outside company come in to evaluate the efficiency is the worse thing that council could do.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### **Secretary**

Mrs. Rakovan commented that with all the water issues she does not have her report ready so she will hand it out on Wednesday. She stated that the DEP came to the office earlier in the day to speak with her and Mr. Josapak. They asked about the water pressure and testing within the borough. Our water pressure never got low enough to put us into the warning area however the DEP wanted to be on the conservative end and they wanted the boil advisory to be placed on Baden. Mrs. Rakovan stated that Mr. Josapak told the DEP that the water is tested weekly at the intake and then at the furthest point in Baden and all of those test as of Monday were fine. She also noted that Mr. Josapak spoke up to the DEP about not being notified by the Ambridge Water Authority and the possible problem that could have occurred if the intake pump ran dry for a long period of time.

Mrs. Rakovan noted that invitations from the American Legion have been given to council and mayor for the Memorial Day Parade.

Mrs. Rakovan stated that there are two applicants for the Emergency Management Coordinator.

Mayor Gagliardi asked what was found in our water that is harmful. Mrs. Rakovan explained that nothing harmful has been found in our water. All of our tests so far have been fine. Everything is precautionary and this why we have a boil advisory and not a boil water alert.

### **Public Works**

Not Present

### **CEO**

Not Present

### **Police Department**

Chief Christner addressed council in regards to Baden Academy showing an interest in police service for their school. He stated that they were interested in a breakdown of the cost. Mrs. Rakovan said that she gave them the current cost that is being charged to Prevention Network. Chief Christner stated that if council decides to do this then they should look into hiring someone specifically for this job (school resource officer). He stated that as soon as he hears back from the Academy he would let the mayor and Mr. Kotula know. Chief Christner stated that he felt having Baden police presence in the schools is a good thing.

Chief Christner also noted that the police chiefs within the Ambridge Area School District had a meeting with the superintendent to take proactive steps to prevent acts of violence within the school.

Mr. Shelkons asked if we're going to get two part time officers to do the school patrol. Chief Christner stated that he has his opinion for a permanent officer, but it is council to decide.

### **Fire Department**

Chief Baker stated that last month there were 18 calls for service (11 in town, 7 out of town). Billing paperwork is ready to go, they are waiting for the passing of the amended ordinance. There are two certifications that are due in July and the paperwork is being

completed. They applied for another grant from the Fire House Public Safety Foundation in the amount of \$13,948 to replace AEDs and oxygenator. There is a Beaver Valley Power Station Federal Emergency Exercise planned in June. Baden at this point has nothing to do with this exercise. Chief Christner spoke with Steve Stuban from Anthony Wayne Terrace regarding water problems at the terrace. He asked the solicitor to speak with the owner of the Second St. Apartments and Pine Cone Village regarding the Knox Box ordinance because they said that they were not going to comply with the ordinance. The solicitor got them to state that they would come into compliance. There is also a fire drill and safety meeting that they are going to do at Green Diamond Place.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Finance (John Shelkons)**

Nothing to report.

### **Public Safety (Ted Kotula)**

Mr. Kotula addressed the water break in Ambridge. He stated that Randy Dobich called him on Sunday around 10:00 AM and at that time no one really knew what was going at the time. When our public works department went to check on the pumps, they were running dry. They called down to Ambridge who thought that Baden was still getting a water feed from the bypass so they were very surprised that Baden was not receiving water. Through texting and phone calls and then an emergency meeting of himself, Mr. Trzcianka, Fire Chief Baker, Randy Dobich and Michael Josapak to discuss what needed to be done for Baden. The Chief had lined up water buffalos if needed and both Dobich and Josapak have their water certifications that if needed they could sanitize the water buffalos.

Things that they want taken back to Ambridge Water Authority are the notification of the foreman when any situation like this would happen. Another item was the notification of the media and residents via phone. The borough prompted this action. Chief Baker supplied the web link and text information to get signed up with the counties 911 emergency phone notification. Mr. Kotula also addressed the need for a data plan for a phone. Mr. Trzcianka commented that a notebook or tablet with a cell plan would work better because the person on call can have the tablet and monitor the tanks. He also commented that he found out that the county was trying to call the previous EMA coordinator. Mr. Trzcianka stated that the secretary needs to call the 911 Center to make sure they have his phone number down there as the deputy until they get things straightened out. Lastly, Mr. Kotula stated that if we lose water service from Ambridge at anytime we may want to look into getting water service, in case of a fire from West View Water or Beaver Falls. Further discussion took place regarding where and how they would connect to another service provider.

### **Building, Property & Grounds (Ted Kotula)**

Mr. Kotula stated that the electric in the park should be finished by April.

### **Public Works (Dave Trzcianka)**

Mr. Trzcianka reported that public works met with two vendors on the water leak detection. The one that they actually like is the cheaper of the two. The cost is \$25,704. There are still electrical problems on the one truck. He recommended taking the truck to Georges Auto Electric in New Castle.

### **Municipal (Dave Trzcianka)**

Mr. Trzcianka stated that they applied for a grant.

### **Library (Suzie Furr)**

Not present.

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**Community Relations & Recreation (Dawn Singleton)**

Mrs. Singleton presented the Parks and Recreation Report. The snow flake lights were purchased. 300 large plastic eggs were purchased for the Easter Egg Hung. They are checking to see if Holman's Candy would donate 4 chocolate eggs. The American Legion was asked if they could use their parking lot for the community yard sale on Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Letters were sent to Heritage Valley, Sheetz and Speedway to see if they were interested in sponsoring this year's Applefest. Mr. Trzcianka recommended contacting UPMC and Allegheny Health Network. Mr. Shelkons is checking with R&S regarding signs. Mrs. Singleton also stated that the Recreation Board is looking into getting sponsors for Christmas Banners.

**Administration & Legislation (Bob Besong)**

Mr. Besong had nothing to report.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Gagliardi stated that council chambers are looking great and he asked that council consider upgrading the sound system.

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

March 29<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 PM is the new hearing date for Pasty Borriello.

Mr. Trzcianka asked that council review the fire department ordinance for Wednesday's meeting.

Mr. Kotula wanted Council to know that at least 15 firemen came down during the emergency

**PRESIDENTS REPORT**

Nothing to report.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Mrs. Singleton, second by Mr. Trzcianka, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,



Elaine K. Rakovan  
Borough Secretary  
April 16, 2018