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**PRE-MEETING  
BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL  
JULY 16, 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:** Mrs. Furr, Mr. Shelkons, Mrs. Singleton, Mr. Trzcianka and Mrs. Montell  
(Not Present: Mr. Besong, Mr. Kotula)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mayor Sam Gagliardi, Police Chief David Christner, Assistant Fire Chief Pat McFarland

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OTHER RECORDING DEVICES**

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

**VISITORS**

None

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Secretary**

**Wooden Map File**

Mr. Trzcianka placed the file on Municibid.

**Junk Dealer Ordinance**

Advertised and motion to adopt will be needed on Wednesday.

**Landslides**

Forest and Athalia – From last month's meeting, Geotechnical Engineers did core boring. Recommendation is to build a wall. The engineer estimated this to roughly cost \$50,000. The insurance company stated that the slide was not caused by the borough (act of God) so therefore it is not a liability issue with the trailer court. They (the trailer owner) should have their own insurance to cover anything resulting from this matter. If they want a letter regarding this, then they need to file a claim with our insurance which would result in a denial letter for them to take to their insurance.

**Culvert under Milton Street**

During last month's meeting the engineer noted that the one side of the tin pipe has collapsed and the embankment did fall into the ravine area. This is something that will need to be addressed at some point.

**Jefferson Street House**

Ambridge School District approved and signed all documentation required by the county. Checks need to be written out and taken to the county for purchase. Mr. Shelkons is working on this. Demolition quote from Sipes was \$8,200 to tear it down and haul it away. Matt Cook gave a quote of \$6,700. Motion to tear down the building should wait until we officially own the property.

**North Avenue Repair**

Two months ago council was given the costs options for the North Avenue drainage repair. Council needs to select an option and a motion made on Wednesday so that the paver can properly schedule the time to complete the paving project with the add-on.

**GPS for vehicles and Time Clocks**

Mr. Trzcianka is reviewing the options. He is also looking into time clocks.

**Lease Renewal for T-Mobile**

The lease agreement for T-Mobile has been given to the solicitor for review.

**Ambridge Fireworks**

Check was sent to Ambridge Fireworks committee for this year's event.

**Borough Roof**

There were three bids for the roof. The lowest bid came in at \$101,789 (G&W Roofing).

**No Smoking On Borough Property**

Last month meeting this was tabled for council to think of locations to designate for smoking or to prohibit it on all borough property. If council wishes to designate "No Smoking" in a certain area or on borough property there are two ways of doing so. (1) Make it a policy (resolution) or (2) If you want fines for smoking on borough property then an ordinance would need to be written.

**Penn Energy**

Penn Energy sent a lease agreement for the borough property by the Kellinger water tanks. Sent it off to the solicitor for review.

**Speedway Credit Card**

Public works is requesting to get speedway credit cards so that they could price shop for fuel. If council agrees a motion will be needed on Wednesday.

**Sidewalk**

Asked the engineer to give us ideas for fixing the walkway with cost estimate.

**Newsletter**

If you want to have a fall newsletter then articles will need to be turned into the secretary (via typed electronic file) no later than August 31<sup>st</sup>.

**DWELR**

Every month the Chlorine readings are entered onto the DEP website. They are becoming more stringent with the monitoring so we are now receiving warnings if the reading is too low. Anything less than 0.2 mg/L will flag a warning which the DEP will be watching. In order to maintain levels above 0.2 mg/L and below 4 mg/L the water system will need to be chlorinated and flushed on a regular basis.

**Audit**

The Auditor is unable to attend this month's meeting. Asked her to schedule us for next month.

**Water Tanks**

Received an email regarding water tank inspections. Same company that did them over five years ago. They do an internal and external inspection. With the age of the tanks we may want to have the inspection done so that we may get an idea as to what repairs need done or replacement of the tanks. Cost estimate is \$8,000 for all five tanks.

**Pickup Truck**

The 2005 pickup truck had the floor rust through. Josapak was asked to get pricing on a new truck. Through COSTAR the price with a plow will be approximately \$35,000. Waiting for more details from the dealer.

Mrs. Montell suggested that we repair the pickup truck and save it as a backup vehicle.

**Executive Sessions**

The Executive Sessions held on June 27<sup>th</sup> and July 9<sup>th</sup> were held for the purpose of personnel and negotiations.

**1052 Franklin Avenue**

Wrote a letter and sent pictures on behalf of the CEO to the lending company advising them to cut the grass, drain the pool and treat it mosquitos.

**Public Works**

Mr. Trzcianka made a comment about the part time help hitting and breaking a head stone in the Logan Cemetery while cutting grass. It needs repaired. Public works was told about the incident.

Mr. Trzcianka reviewed the GPS options. He felt that this is something that would be great for safety and liability issues. The system can confirm speeds of the vehicles as well as location. He noted that we would be able to give access to the public for snow plows during the winter months. Needs to talk with the solicitor prior to moving forward.

Mr. Trzcianka felt that we should move the roof replacement back and rebid for next year.

**CEO**

Bob Weber stated that since the rain slowed down there are 38 residents that have cut their grass. The property on Franklin Avenue is being addressed. Even though the property owner is still alive the family doesn't want anything to do with the property. The mortgage company said that they would work with Mr. Weber to get this resolved. The property on State Street was an assisted living home is also being cleaned up. Mr. Weber stated that the hedges along the paper alley next to the borough building belong to the borough. The previous property owner would cut the hedges. Discussion took place regarding the hedges. Council commented to pull the hedges out.

Mr. Weber addressed people complaining about getting parking tickets for parking on yellow lines and near stop signs. Chief Christner explained that residents are complaining about the illegally parked cars and this is what prompts the police to give out the tickets.

Mr. Weber also addressed council in regards residents parking cars and trucks in their front yards. He felt that there should be an ordinance preventing the parking of vehicles (trucks and trailers) in front yards.

Mrs. Singleton asked what could be done about a resident who is complaining about a neighbor's property (back yard) growing over and sliding onto their property. Mr. Weber will look into it however he noted that a property owner can cut anything that is hanging onto their property.

**POLICE CHIEF**

Chief Christner stated that they are down to crunch time on getting school resource officers for the school. He stated that on behalf of the school he was able to write a letter of support for a school resource officer for the school. Chief Christner stated that we need to hire an officer now in order to get them prepared for the school. He stated that he has one officer interested in the position. He would like to get the officer that is hired to attend SRO (School Resource Officer) training.

Chief Christner also addressed needing a couple more part time officers. He state he got one application in the mail. Mrs. Rakovan handed him a copy of the resume's that council had received and noted that there is also a copy in his mailbox. Chief noted that they have been running a lot of traffic details and giving out tickets for speeding, stop signs and parking.

Mr. Shelkons asked if the crosswalk signs are new. Mr. Trzcianka noted that they were put up a few years ago. Chief Christner stated that the signs that sit in the middle of the road are seen more. Mr. Trzcianka asked the Chief to get a price for new signs for the poles and the free standing ones for the middle of the street.

#### **FIRE**

Council had a copy of the Fire Department report.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

Genera Fund Balance \$276,540	Expenses \$156,807
Water Fund Balance \$175,445	Expenses \$47,278

#### **Public Safety (Dave Trzcianka)**

Nothing to further report.

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

Not Present

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

Nothing further to report regarding public works, but he felt that more money should be put away for a future fire trucks and other vehicles.

Mr. Stuban commented that the equipment fund is for public works vehicles. The fire truck fund was depleted last year because of the purchase of the recent fire truck. Mr. Trzcianka noted that that is still \$500,000 less that what is needed. Mr. Trzcianka felt that we should not be leasing vehicles but we should be buying them. Discussion followed regarding budgeting for future vehicles however, who was going to make the motion to raise taxes to meet the new budget.

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

Mr. Trzcianka stated that the Municipal Authority has hired a part time worker to assist at the plant. He also noted that they may need to raise rates.

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

Nothing to report.

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

Mrs. Singleton stated that the playgrounds around town are being used. They discussed using pea gravel instead of rubber mulch at play grounds as well as purchase new swings and seesaws. There were questions regarding pea gravel. Mrs. Rakovan explained that there are guidelines for pea gravel and play grounds. If the highest point a fall is five feet the pea gravel would have to be 9 inches deep. If the height is over that then the pea gravel has to be a foot deep. Discussion took place repairing some of the current playground equipment after it was noted that the merry-go-round wasn't working properly. Mrs. Rakovan noted that we need to make sure that the equipment is not a liability issue.

Mrs. Singleton stated that they also discussed getting baskets for a chinese auction for the car cruise. They also are thinking of writing an article for the fall newsletter regarding the banners for town.

Mrs. Montell stated that there is a giant oak tree along side the library that needs trimmed or cut down. It is too big for public works to trim.

**Administration & Legislation (Bob Besong)**

Not present.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Gagliardi asked about putting a metal roof on the borough building. It was noted that the roof would have to be redesigned and it would not hold the trusses. There is an air conditioning unit on the roof too so that would need to be moved.

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

Mrs. Trzcianka addressed council in regards to putting a sign on the Virginia Ave. and First Street that states on coming traffic does not stop. She has almost got hit numerous times there. Chief Christner stated that he would look into this.

**PRESIDENTS REPORT**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION** by Mr. Trzcianka, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to go into executive session at 7:41 PM regarding personnel.

**MOTION** by Mr. Trzcianka, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to return into session at 8:32 PM.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Mrs. Singleton, second by Mrs. Furr, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,



Elaine K. Rakovan  
Borough Secretary  
August 13, 2018