

**PRE-MEETING  
BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL  
DECEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2019**

Council Vice-President David 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, Mr. Shelkons, Mrs. Singleton and Mr. Trzcianka  
**Not Present:** Mr. Besong and Mrs. Montell

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mayor Sam Gagliardi, Police Chief Christner

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OTHER RECORDING DEVICES**

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

**VISITORS**

- Jack Spencer from Camilla Street presented to council his findings and ideas to resolve the radio reception issue at Class Academy (Prevention Network). Because of the structure of the building VHF radio band will not work. By using a vehicular repeater and the UHF radio band the radio signals work perfectly. He tested this in various building locations. He recommended mounting the vehicular repeater in the building and to purchase a few UHF radios for the officers working in the building. Chief Christner stated that he spoke with Bearcom regarding Jack Spencer's recommendations and he asked them to give a price on this recommendation. Mr. Spencer felt that the cost should be below \$10,000. Once Chief Christner gets the cost he will let Jeremy Angus from Prevention Network know.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Secretary**

1. **Zoning Hearing for McDonald's**  
Hearing will be Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the community room.
2. **USDA Grant/Loan**  
No update.
3. **Trailer Court**  
No update.
4. **Water Tank Maintenance Schedule**  
Engineer is working on the maintenance schedule and what needs to be contracted out.
5. **Baden Properties to Sell**  
No update
6. **Speed Humps/Traffic Calming**  
See attached information from the engineer regarding speed humps on Virginia Avenue and Wayne Street.

**7. Traffic Camera System (County)**

No update. Solicitation of local business for funding support is to be done by the Mayor and county representatives.

**8. Teamster Pension Grievance**

Closing arguments have been submitted to the arbitrator. No update at this time.

**9. Civil Service Rules and Regulations Update**

Given to Civil Service Board. They will be meeting in January to review them.

**10. Paving Project**

No update

**11. 668 Jefferson Street**

Motion needed next Wednesday to sign the consent order.

**12. Posting of one side parking on North Avenue**

Ordinance Amendment is attached for Council review.

**Public Works**

Not Present.

- **Speed Humps**

Conversation took place regarding the next process in the speed hump request. Mr. Trzcianka stated that he spoke with Economy Borough and they have no issues with plowing in the speed hump areas. Going over the engineer's information there is concern with cars taking other routes in the area causing an increase in traffic flow on those streets as well as the loss of parking spaces where the humps are located. We also need to know the cost for each hump.

**Code Enforcement Officer**

Not Present

**FIRE CHIEF**

Not present, report supplied and reviewed by Mr. Kotula.

**Police Chief**

- **North Avenue Parking**

Chief Christner noted that he spoke with the solicitor regarding the amendment for the no parking locations on North Avenue.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS****Finance (John Shelkons)**

General Fund Balance \$51,835	Expenses \$152,117
Water Fund Balance \$317,577	Expenses \$135,922

**Public Safety (Ted Kotula)**

- **Part Time Police** - Mr. Kotula stated that they interviewed Mr. Villa for a part time police position and at this time his availability does not fit the boroughs need for scheduling.

Chief Christner stated that he did get a call from another officer who is interested in working part time and they have the extra hours to work part time for the borough. Chief Christner was told to move forward with the interview process.

- **Fire Department Tax Credits** – Mr. Kotula stated that he got a copy of the New Brighton Tax Credit Ordinance for their Volunteer Fire Department and he would like to meet with Fire Chief Baker to go over the ordinance, calculate the cost and see if it actually would work for the borough. Mr. Shelkons was in favor of looking into the tax credits. Mr. Trzcianka commented that he felt that this would be selective because not all of the volunteers own a home in Baden. He recommended paying for their life insurance program so that all are benefited by it. Mr. Kotula disagreed with Mr. Trzcianka and stated that the volunteer fire department is interested in the tax credits. It is a benefit that is offered if they can use it. Mr. Trzcianka commented about all the equipment that the fire department has to pay for on their own without the boroughs help. Mr. Shelkons mentioned offering another benefit to choose from. Mr. Trzcianka stated that he is not opposed to it however he felt that an incentive should benefit all and just a few.

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

Nothing to report

**Public Works (Dave Trzcianka)**

Nothing to report

**Municipal (Dave Trzcianka)**

Mr. Trzcianka reported that they are still working on the crushed sewer line on Route 65 and Conway has sent their first check to start the process of connecting to Baden's Sewer system.

Mayor Gagliardi asked about the water connection for the home at the top of Phillips Street. Mrs. Rakovan commented that the engineer submitted the paperwork and all costs associated with the connection will be paid for by the property owner.

**Library (Suzie Furr)**

Mrs. Furr read a thank you note from the Baden Methodist Church to the library thanking them for the book donation.

Mrs. Furr noted that they have two vacancies on the library board. Mrs. Rakovan commented that council will receive a list next week of the opened positions for on all of the boards.

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

**Veteran Banners** – Forms are available in the borough office and they are accepting them until the end of January.

**Santa on Fire Truck** – Mrs. Singleton stated that Santa will be driving around town on a fire truck on December 13<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Singleton also noted that there are two openings on their board for the New Year.

**Administration & Legislation (Bob Besong)**

Not present.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Nothing to report.

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

Mrs. Rakovan stated that they (Mr. Shelkons, Tony Sadaka, and Mike Josapak) met with West View regarding their plans to pave Tevebaugh Road. A motion will be needed next week stating the boroughs support of this project.

Mrs. Rakovan stated that the 2020 Calendar is done noting that the November work session will be on Monday instead of Wednesday because of the Wednesday meeting falling on Veterans Day.

Mr. Kotula asked about being notified about the closing and repair of the Pinney Street Bridge. Mr. Shelkons stated that he has been talking with the PUC and these repairs should have been done two years ago. He was not sure if the railroad said anything to Mike Josapak about closing the bridge. Mr. Kotula was concerned with the weight of the construction vehicles on the bridge. He also felt that the borough should have been notified. Mr. Shelkons stated that he will not close the PUC complaint regarding the bridge until it is completely repaired to his satisfaction.

Mr. Trzcianka addressed council in regards to having penalties associated with not doing a dye test. Mrs. Rakovan explained that there is only an issue with dye test when a property gets new ownership outside of the normal realtor process. The current issue was with a Sherriff sale which does not get a lien letter. The same goes with transfer of ownership from parent to child. Mrs. Rakovan stated that she would talk with the solicitor regarding this matter.

### **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

Not Present.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Mr. Kotula, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,



Elaine K. Rakovan  
Borough Secretary  
January 8<sup>th</sup> 2020