

REGULAR MEETING BADEN BOROUGH COUNCIL AUGUST 17TH, 2022

No Pre-Meeting on August 10th due to lack of quorum

Council President Dave Trzcianka called the Regular Meeting of Council to order at 6:00 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. Bosh, Mr. Jones, Mr. Miller, Mr. Shelkons, Mrs. Singleton, Mr. Stuban and Mr. Trzcianka

NOT PRESENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Judi Montell, Fire Chief & CEO Dennis Baker, and Officer Derek Shipley

AGENDA (Changes and/or Deletions)

- Add sale of property under bids

VISITORS

- Ryan Eichhorn addressed council in regards to his Ehman Avenue property. He went over the hearing he had with the appeals board that gave no resolve. Mr. Eichhorn felt that BIU mislead him and they are giving him the run around. He informed council that a municipality may have more than one building code official and asked if council would bring in a second company that the original inspector, Dan Wilkerson is currently working for since he knows the project.

Mr. Stuban and Mrs. Rakovan commented that they both attended the hearing and were waiting for a response. Mrs. Rakovan stated that the company Dan Wilkerson works for sent an email to council offering his services and she stated that this is councils' decision to determine if we want a second inspector. There is no advisor to go to who knows the code well enough to give guidance so we are left only with what the inspector is saying. Mr. Eichhorn felt that he was running in circles with no resolve.

The issue is that even though the Ehman Avenue and Jefferson Street properties are identical structures, the Jefferson Street property is built into the hillside so it is viewed as a residential structure and falls under the residential code. The Ehman Avenue property is not built into a hillside and therefore falls under the commercial code which has much more strict guidelines.

Further discussion followed regarding the legality of bringing in a second inspector. It was noted that the email from Dan Wilkerson's company did not in anyway address the Eichhorn property. The company is only offering services for council to try on a trial basis until council determines if we want to keep him as an inspector. Discussion took place regarding looking for another building inspection company since we have received many complaints regarding our current inspection company.

Police Chief Report

- **New Full Time Officer** – Chief Christner noted that the new full-time officer is working out great.

- **Fire Arms** – They have secured new fire arms. Looking at a 9mm which is easier to control and the ammo is less expensive. We can trade in each gun for \$250 each or try and sell them on gun broker for around \$350.
- **Training for Traffic Stops and Search and Seizure** – Chief Christner would like to send all three officers at a cost of \$199 for each officer.
- **New Police Car** – Chief Christner stated that he looked into what price he would be able to get for the newest Charger. He secured two Durango SUV's and he would like to purchase one of them and get rid of the Charger that he felt we should be able to get at least \$10,000 for it. By purchasing the new vehicle, it will bring the budget back on track with the rotation of purchasing new vehicles.
- **Expedition** - Only cost \$2300 to repair and inspect. This vehicle will be used for the school.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Mrs. Singleton, second by Mr. Miller, carried unanimously to go into executive session regarding possible litigation matter at 6:36 PM.

MOTION by Mr. Stuban, second by Mr. Jones, carried unanimously to return to session at 6:51 PM.

MINUTES

MOTION by Mr. Stuban, second by Mr. Jones, carried unanimously to approve the minutes of May July 13th and 20th 2022 .

BILLS TO BE PAID

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

RESOLUTIONS – None

ORDINANCE – *Advertised in the Beaver County Times for review*

977 - Adopting the 2018 Edition and/or the tri-annual code editions) of the International Property Maintenance Code, regulating and governing the conditions and maintenance of all property, building and structures.

MOTION by, Mr. Stuban second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to adopt Ordinances 977.

BIDS – *(Advertised in the Beaver County Times) – Bid Opening August 3rd*

Bids were for the Hickory Alley (Tot-Lot) property and the Grant Street Property. We only received one bid for the Grant Street Property.

Terry Rosinsky bid \$16,650 for the property and supplied hand money in the amount of \$1,665.

MOTION by, Mr. Stuban second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously accept the bid of \$16,650 from Terry Rosinsky for the Grant Street Property.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Email from Dan Wilkerson with National Code Inspection Agency LLC (NCIA) offering a full service, independent third-party building inspection service.

Mr. Stuban commented that for the past months we have been looking for a new building inspector because we were dissatisfied with BIU's service. This company is offering their service for a thirty-day trial period.

MOTION by, Mr. Stuban second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously accept the thirty-day trial period with National Code Inspection Agency.

2. Letter from PennDOT announcing the Beaver County Community Outreach Meeting on Thursday, August 25th from 9AM – 11 AM at the Conway Fire Hall.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

MANAGER

1. **Invoice Cloud** – Mr. Bosh, Mr. Miller, Mr. Shelkons and the borough manager had a zoom demonstration of the software and what they have to offer regarding online utility bill payments. They are highly recommended by our utility billing software company. A breakdown of services and costs was presented to council in their take home packets.
2. **FirstNet** – The Police have not been able to utilize their MACH Software since T-Mobile took over Sprint. This prompted a search for a new phone/cell service provider. Officer Stitt took the lead on contacting the representatives. We met with FirstNet today which is a government only phone service.
3. **Tevebaugh Road** - A resident on Tevebaugh Road is claiming that the property along the road belongs to him and we can't grade the property in this area. We need to have the engineer survey and mark the area of our right of way.

Council felt that we just need to grade the road like we always have.

4. **Borough Building Lights** – Weber Electric has been doing light repairs within our building. He has ordered four new fixtures for the restrooms because the current fixtures are over 20 years old and are not working at full power.
5. **408 Dettmar** – After the two waterline breaks on Dettmar this property at the dead end of our waterline was having dirty water for almost three weeks. Public works flushed the lines multiple times. The engineer did look at this matter. We need to add this waterline to future project.

Discussion took place regarding getting a list of all the problems within the borough for council to review and have updated each month.

6. **PSAB Conference** – PSAB Conference is October 14-16 in Gettysburg.
7. **2023 Pension MMO** – The budgeting for the 2023 Pension Municipal Obligation will be reported under Finance.
8. **Speed Humps/Traffic Calming**
After last month's meeting where a resident asked about an update on the speed humps on Virginia Avenue there was no clear direction from council regarding whether to install the speed hump.

9. Theater

No update.

10. Water Ordinance Update

Once we determine if we are going to get an online service for collections we can go over the utility billing ordinance (water ordinance) which actually is for water, garbage and sewage.

11. Cameras for Water Tanks

No update.

12. Library project

Engineer is addressing the contractor regarding this matter.

13. SPC Regional Traffic Signal Grant

No update at this time.

14. Beaver County ARPA Municipal Infrastructure Grants

Engineer is working on the spec for the inlets (storm sewers)

15. 2021 Audit

The audit was handed out in the council packets and will be addressed under the Finance Report.

16. Harmony Road Storm Sewer Repair

Rodney is making arrangements to have the excavator and sewer basin delivered. They need three guys to work on this project. Harmony Road will need to be closed so we will contact Economy Borough when a date is confirmed.

PUBLIC WORKS

Not present

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Written report distributed to Council

Incidents / Training:

27 Incidents for July

172 Total Incidents year to date

Class, Training, and Staffing Hours for July: 21 Firefighters 310 hours

2 newer firefighters have registered for their entry-level firefighting program.

Apparatus:

Rescue, Engine, and Tower all had state inspection completed, with no major issues. Tech Rescue Truck is currently out for inspection.

The new Pickup truck should be in within the next month or two, then it will go to Keystone Fire Apparatus for upfit.

Grants:

FEMA AFG Grant, FEMA has requested verification of the grant writer agreement and proof of payment. This is a good sign

FEMA SAFER Grant, no update

W-9 was requested and sent to commissioners' office radios through the county radio program.

Consolidation Study Baden / Harmony:

Deputy Chief Floyd Wise from Harrisburg is actively working on our study through the DCED, Study should be complete next month.

CEO

94 Code Issues have been addressed since March

50 of those have been abated

44 are still in progress

2 Citations were issued, one on State and one on Camilla

2 properties on 1st street are starting to become an issue, finally got a good address for the property owner, and resent letters to him this week.

1010 4th Street. Some neighbors stated that she is back and are concerned. I believe the police were up there at one point within the past few weeks.

533 Ehman. Court Hearing August 24th at 1:30 pm

755 Schiller. Mortgage Company PA Housing Finance Agency, has Safeguard Properties taking care of securing and preservation of the property. Going to take some time, due to the amount of work and costs involved. They will be in contact with me for any issues, or concerns and to provide updates.

Regarding the cats on the same property, volunteers have started trapping the cats and taking them to get treated, and finding places for them. As of last week, they trapped about 13 and figure there are still about 25-30 they are working to get.

The tree has been removed from in front of 420 State Street. The letter of the agreement was signed by the property owner.

Letter sent to the property owner of 48 State Street. Offering to waive all fees associated with demolishing existing buildings. I have not heard anything from him yet, once the 120 days pass I will move further if no action on his part is taken.

Once the ordinance is adopted for the 2018 IPMC, in addition to the copies that should be on file at the borough office, I would like to ask the council to purchase a copy of the 2018 IPMC for my use.

Would like the council to consider authorizing more time for Code Enforcement.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance (John Shelkons)

General Fund Account Balance	\$250,848	Expenses	\$97,210
Water Fund Account Balance	\$326,090	Expenses	\$215,986

USDA LOAN

MOTION by, Mr. Shelkons second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to approve the payments of Requisition # 11 for \$22,800 under the USDA Loan for the final design phase for engineering services.

2021 Audit

MOTION by, Mr. Shelkons second by Mr. Stuban, carried unanimously to accept the 2021 Audit.

2023 PENSION MMO's

MOTION by, Mr. Shelkons second by Mr. Stuban, carried unanimously to budget \$53,470 for the 2023 Police Pension Minimal Municipal Obligation.

MOTION by, Mr. Shelkons second by Mr. Stuban, carried unanimously to budget \$92,646 for the 2023 Non-Uniform Minimal Municipal Obligation.

RIVERFRONT PROPERTY

MOTION by, Mr. Shelkons second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to have the engineer start the permitting process for the river front property project

Public Works, Sanitation & Municipal Authority (John Jones)

Concrete Cutter and Ductile Saw

MOTION by Mr. Jones, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to purchase the saw for \$2,500.

Technology, Social Media, Library & Community Relations (Joe Bosh)

ONLINE BILL PAYING

Mr. Bosh went over the online bill paying software. There are certain charges and fees for the service and discussion took place amongst council regarding the percentages and fees that the resident will pay and what the borough will pay. The installation fee of \$5000 is waived by the company since they already do business with our current utility software company.

He presented the cost options:

	Option A	Option B
Borough monthly access fee:	\$295	\$425
Customer % cost of total:	3.25%	2.95%
Minimum Fee	\$2	\$2

Discussion took place regarding the percentages. Mr. Stuban felt that the customer should pay the percentage for using the service and not the borough. There are options for each resident (online with costs, mail with postage cost or pay cash in person).

Mr. Bosh noted that this online platform is not limited to bill payments. Any resident can go online and view their bill and billing history.

MOTION by, Mr. Bosh second by Mr. Stuban, carried unanimously to enter into agreement with InvoiceCloud under Option A.

LIBRARY – The steps and concrete still need repaired. They reported a leak in the ceiling tile. Mrs. Rakovan stated that she told public works to check the area, mark where the staining is at and look above the tiles and take pictures.

Administration & Legislation (Doug Miller)

Nothing to report

General Government, Building Property/Grounds, Parks & Rec (Dawn Singleton)

Harvest Festival – Vendor applications are coming in.

Community Yard Sale – Working on the advertisements for the map which will be September 17th

Mr. Eichhorn asked to speak and made two comments. First he recommended putting Cure and Seal down on all concrete projects. It will put a protective barrier down. Secondly he would like to possibly work with the recreation board to make a donation to put a wet park in down near Jefferson.

Public Safety (Michael Stuban)

Police Officer Training

MOTION by Mr. Stuban, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to send three officers to training at a cost of \$199 per officer.

MOTION by Mr. Stuban, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to purchase the four firearms per the police request and sell the old firearms.

MOTION by Mr. Stuban, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously purchase computers for the police cars.

MOTION by Mr. Stuban, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously switch to FirstNet Cellular.

MOTION by Mr. Stuban, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously purchase a Durango for the police department and trade in or sell one of the other older vehicles.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Nothing to Report

ENGINEER'S REPORT

1. **USDA - Water System Improvements** - WEI is working to complete the final plans and specifications for the project.

2. **State Street Waterline Replacement (North to Virginia)** - WEI will prepare plans and specifications for the project so that we can bid concurrently with the USDA project.
3. **Fire Department Roof** – The construction is under way.
4. **Zoning Map Update** - A draft zoning map has been prepared for review by the Borough.
5. **Storm Inlet Replacements - ARPA Grant** – We obtained a quote from Tri State Maintenance to clean selected inlets (along State Street and a few others from the replacement list that require cleaning). Estimated cost is 8 hours x \$235/hr. for jet truck and crew = \$1,880.00.
Televising at the intersection of Bauman Avenue and State Street (including the segment of line going to the intersection of Harmony Road and State Street) is also needed. Estimated cost is 8 hours x \$235/hr. for CCTV camera truck and crew = \$1,880.00. Cleaning required to support the televising operation might also be needed. Estimated cost is 8 hours x \$235/hr. for jet truck and crew = \$1,880.00. Total budgetary cost for the above work is \$5,640. WEI will survey the inlets after the cleaning is complete.
6. **Baden Library** - Contractor to perform concrete repair.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Montell asked council for a Flower Fund contribution be made for the neutering of the cats are being captured from the Schiller Street abandoned house. They agreed to donate \$250 on behalf of council and the mayor.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Non-Uniform Negotiations – Mr. Trzcianka asked for councilmembers who were available during the day. Mr. Jones stated he was available on Wednesdays. Mr. Stuban and Mrs. Singleton volunteered. Mr. Shelkons will be the backup.

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

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Jones, second by Mrs. Singleton, carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted for approval,

Borough Manager, Elaine K. Rakovan
September 14, 2022