

City of Phillips
Committee of the Whole Meeting & Public Hearing
Municipal Building, Municipal Hall
174 S Eyder Avenue
November 4th, 2024
5:30 pm

Mayor: Charles Peterson

Committee Members: Jerry Clark, Richard Heitkemper, Mark Brzeskiewicz, Marty Stephan, Bill Elliott, John Klimowski.

City Attorney: Bryce Schoenborn

Department Heads: Public Works Director–Jim Heizler; Water/Wastewater Supervisor-Todd Toelle;

Police Chief-Michael Hauschild; Fire Chief-David Lontcoski; Library Director–Rebecca Puhl;

Clerk/Treasurer- Shelby Kosmer.

This meeting is held in compliance with Wisconsin’s Open Meetings Law, WI § Chapter 19, Subchapter V. As such it is open to the public.

City Council members present may also represent a quorum of any Committee or Board of the City Council listed below and, as such, may proceed to meet and conduct business as listed under that Committee or Board portion of the agenda below, if the full City Council doesn’t have sufficient members present to satisfy quorum requirements to enable it to meet as the Committee of the Whole.

Call to Order (presiding officer) Time: _____

- a. Greeting
- b. Certification of compliance with Open Meetings Law
- c. Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Chuck Peterson ____, Jerry Clark ____, Richard Heitkemper ____, Mark Brzeskiewicz ____, Marty Stephan ____, Bill Elliott ____, John Klimowski ____.

1. Motion to open the Public Hearing for discussion on the 2025 Budget. Time: ____
2. Motion to close the Public Hearing. Time: ____
3. Action regarding the 2025 Budget

Public Comment:

DISCUSSION-ACTION ITEMS:

General-Mayor/Clerk

4. Set next month’s meeting date and time: Tuesday December 3rd, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.
5. Motion to approve the minutes from the October 1st, 2024, meeting.
6. Mayor updates:
7. Clerk updates:
8. Discussion/Action regarding Ordinance No. 24-001 Designation of State Highway Bridge.

Board of Public Works/Recreation –Klimowski/Elliott

9. DPW and Water/Sewer Updates:

10. Fifield/Ash Street Reconstruction Updates:

Public Safety - Heitkemper

11. Fire Department updates:

a) Discussion/Action to approve financing for the purchase of new fire truck

12. Police Department Updates:

Licensing/Permits – Brzeskiewicz

Personnel/Budget/Finance – Clark

13. Discussion/ presentation of health insurance to the Council

Legal
City Council

14. Council Update

15. Adjournment: Time: _____

Committee of the Whole
Meeting Minutes
November 4th, 2024

Mayor Charles Peterson called the meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Jerry Clark, Richard Heitkemper, Mark Brzeskiewicz, Marty Stephan, Bill Elliott, John Klimowski, Bryce Schoenborn and Shelby Kosmer

Also Present: Jim Heizler, Michael Hauschild, Blaine Peterson, Dani Peterson, Don Schmidt, David Lontcoski, Joe Perkins, Becky Puhl, Patty Stephan, Anne Baxter, John Baxter and Kristie Ulrich.

1. Clark/ Heitkemper moved to open the Public Hearing for discussion on the 2025 Budget. Time: 5:31pm. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – aye, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Carried
Kosmer presented the budget, only thing that was not in there correctly was the tax levy amount and the principal and interest on debt because we were waiting on some final amortization schedules to come in. There were no other questions or comments.
2. Klimowski/ Elliott moved to close the Public Hearing. Time: 5:40pm. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – aye, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Carried
3. Action regarding the 2025 Budget: Elliott/ Heitkemper moved to recommend to the Common Council to approve the 2025 Budget with the tax levy, principal and interest debt to be adjusted to actual for the final presentation next week. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – aye, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried

Public Comment: Donald Schmidt was in attendance to let the Council know that the Masonic Lodge would like to donate \$2,000 towards the playground equipment and would like to have a sign placed in memory of Don Meetz. Klimowski informed him that there will be a donor sign and Kosmer confirmed and told him it would be very similar to the splashpad donor sign. He stated he would check that one out and reach back out if he had any questions.

Lyn Ludwig spoke on behalf of Price County United Limited stating that they paid the back taxes on the Lionite property and would be requesting that the back taxes paid could be given/ put back to use towards the property and they will be sending a letter to the County and the City to request that. Ludwig also stated she has a meeting with EPA Water Technical Assistance team next Thursday.

DISCUSSION-ACTION ITEMS:

General-Mayor/Clerk

4. Set next month's meeting date and time: Tuesday December 3rd, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.
5. Motion to approve the minutes from the October 1st, 2024, meeting.
6. Mayor updates: Peterson received confirmation of the City filing the intent to apply for the looping of the water in the north annex. He also updated the council that he sent something out for recognition of a gentleman who was from the area and played basketball in Minnesota who was being inducted into a Czech recognition memorial.
7. Clerk updates: Currently working on a submission of baseline data for the Green Tier legacy program.
8. Discussion/Action regarding Ordinance No. 24-001 Designation of State Highway Bridge. An amended version of ordinance 24-001 was presented with some requested changes to some verbiage in the document as well as a line about the County passing a similar ordinance to meet the needs being requested by the state. This will be sent to a public hearing in December.

Board of Public Works/Recreation –Klimowski/Elliott

9. DPW and Water/Sewer Updates:

Water/Sewer: no updates

DPW: Winterized the campground so the fee is now reduced to \$15 per night. Waiting on parts for the street sweeper as it needs to be repaired. A heater has gone out in the shop and so they are purchasing a new heater and the DPW crew will be installing it.

10. Fifield/Ash Street Reconstruction Updates: No updates

Public Safety - Heitkemper

11. Fire Department updates: Waiting on some truck repairs, the backup truck as a tank leak and they are getting a quote for that. Got the fuel line repairs on the rescue truck and other than that, just getting ready for winter.

- a) Discussion/Action to approve financing for the purchase of new fire truck. Kosmer updated the council of the financing option for the new truck. The best route was a 10-year lease financing program with a 5.24% interest rate.

Klimowski/ Clark moved to recommend to the Common Council to approve the financing for the purchase of the new fire truck with a 10-year loan with a 5.24% interest rate. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – aye, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Carried

12. Police Department Updates:

Calls for Service:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Oct	129	163
YTD	1552	1595

The old expedition has been stripped down and sold on the surplus auction site for \$5,000. Still waiting on the new squad truck, the current build date is November 6th. Trick-or-Treating went well. Property at 234 Shaw Street has been purchased and is closing soon and then the building will be torn down. An update on 354 S Avon is the closing documents are being made and we have a signed purchase agreement for the City to take the property back. Looking at potential burning the building with approval from neighboring properties instead of demolishing due to the high cost. The Tony's Implement building is still being worked on for that to be demolished before winter.

Licensing/Permits – Brzeskiewicz

Personnel/Budget/Finance – Clark

13. Discussion/ presentation of health insurance to the Council. Kristie Ulrich from Hedlund was in attendance to discuss the new health insurance rates and potential options to the Council. There was an option to go to a higher deduction plan that would decrease the monthly premium and then there was also discussion about having Taylored Health as an option, but we are only allowed \$500 per month and if the City were to go over that then the City would need to pay the difference each month. Council wanted to have the City employees be the ones to decide if they would want to go to a higher deductible. The employee meeting is set up for November 25th.

Legal

City Council

14. Council Update: Mark Brzeskiewicz gave a brief update of the IDC annexation, member positions and that they are trying to market the 10 acres new Princeton valley lane and they are working on updating their website.

15. Clark moved for adjournment: Time: 6:34pm


Shelby Kosmer
Clerk/Treasurer