

City of Phillips
Committee of the Whole Meeting
Municipal Building, Municipal Hall
174 S Eyder Avenue
March 4th, 2025
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 ____.

Public Comment:

DISCUSSION-ACTION ITEMS:

General-Mayor/Clerk

1. Set next month’s meeting date and time: Tuesday April 1st, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.
2. Motion to approve the minutes from the February 4th, 2025, meeting.
3. Mayor updates:
4. Clerk updates:
5. Discussion/Action regarding request to revisit ordinance pertaining to allowing City residents to have Chickens. Waldemar Madsen

Board of Public Works/Recreation –Klimowski/Elliott

6. DPW and Water/Sewer Updates
 - a) Discussion/Action grinder repair at Wastewater Treatment Plant

7. Fifield/Ash Street Reconstruction Updates:
8. Discussion/Action regarding Water project of looping water services in the North Annex.
 - a) Discussion/Potential Action regarding contract with Ayres for services, estimated cost \$149,600.

Public Safety - Heitkemper

9. Fire Department updates:
10. Police Department Updates:

Licensing/Permits – Brzeskiewicz

Personnel/Budget/Finance – Clark

Legal
City Council

11. Discussion/ Potential Action: Review of letter drafted by Price County United Limited requesting support from local businesses.
12. Council Update
13. Adjournment: Time: _____

Committee of the Whole
Meeting Minutes
March 4th, 2025

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

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

Also Present: David Lontcoski, Jody Kozak, Blaine Peterson, Michael Hauschild, Jim Heizler, Joe Perkins, Todd Toelle, Justin Schuemann, Sara Turner, Greg Meskill, Bryan Weisrock, Thomas LaVenture, Waldemar Madsen, Brianna McArthur, John McArthur, Patty Stephan

Public Comment: None

DISCUSSION-ACTION ITEMS:

General-Mayor/Clerk

1. Set next month's meeting date and time: Tuesday April 1st, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.
2. Klimowski/ Elliott moved to approve the minutes from the February 4th, 2025, meeting. Carried
3. Mayor updates: No updates
4. Clerk updates: Just gave the council an update that she is working with Jim Heizler to set up a meeting with the downtown business to get sidewalks back on the radar with the Highway 13 construction project coming up.
5. Discussion/Action regarding request to revisit ordinance pertaining to allowing City residents to have Chickens. Waldemar Madsen

Waldemar Madsen spoke briefly requesting the council to revisit the city ordinance to allow for chickens, as the grocery store is having a shortage of eggs, and they are expensive, and he feels this would help families to either have layers or meat birds. There are a bunch of large cities that already allow chickens, and we are a more rural area. City attorney Bryce Schoenborn gave a brief rundown of the process and the different requirements that can be placed into an ordinance. Mayor Peterson discussed how there is some legislation coming down from the State that they are trying to create a bill to allow for a baseline. Greg Meskill questioned why the City wouldn't be able to just remove the fowl section altogether, the Mayor discussed that we should have some type of regulation.

Klimowski/ Clark moved to have City Attorney draft an ordinance for allowing chickens within the City limits. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – absent, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Carried

Board of Public Works/Recreation –Klimowski/Elliott

6. DPW and Water/Sewer Updates
DPW: Been assisting the Water Department with some freeze ups, did go to the Town of Worcester meeting as we lease this grader, and they did not want to commit to paying a set amount until they get firm numbers on the total cost of the repair and then they could potentially pay half of the repair. On Friday Heizler received a call from McCoy, cost of repair is looking to be around 12-15k for parts and labor and then whatever Kyle Repair has for costs on their end, as soon as they get the parts in they will get the transmission done they will get it back to the City and put back into the machine.

Water/Sewer: Plant is running well. Toelle updated on the council of an EPA violation for reporting Lead and Copper inventory, so customers will be receiving notice of that. They are working to meet the requirements and are trying to get into homes to report the information back to EPA.

a) Discussion/Action grinder repair at Wastewater Treatment Plant: Todd Toelle passed around a photo of their current grinder. Toelle received some quotes for the repair and JWC was the cheapest \$20,599 and this is with shipping, and then we will do the installation ourselves, and it comes with a full 2-year warranty. We do have an SDP fund for something like this happening so the expense would be covered with that fund.

Elliott/ Clark moved recommended to the Common Council to move forward with the purchase of the grinder replacement parts from JWC in the amount of \$20,599.26. Carried

7. Fifield/Ash Street Reconstruction Updates: No updates.

8. Discussion/Action regarding Water project of looping water services in the North Annex.

b) Discussion/Potential Action regarding contract with Ayres for services, estimated cost \$149,600. We submitted an intent to apply for the clean water fund to loop two areas into the north annex, along Cty Rd F and US 13 to get to Princeton valley lane and Fairview. Any admin and construction 53,000 and the remaining would be if the project is pursued. Should find out early next year, it would be 2026 construction.

Clark/ Elliott moved to move forward with the master agreement for professional service with Ayres Associates for the looping of water service in the North Annex. Carried

Public Safety - Heitkemper

9. Fire Department updates:

Hired two new guys, they are both trained already. Burnt the house at 354 S Avon and they melted the siding at the two neighbors' houses, the one neighbor is interested in the lot. They are still going to get to the garage to burn that. Still working on the new truck and they are talking between June and august and just getting a, got the side by side almost fully ready to go. All paid through from fundraising.

10. Police Department Updates:

Calls for Service	2025	2024
Feb	142	130
YTD	308	289

New squad vehicle is up and running, did hire Brandon Heiser as their new full-time officer so he is being training right now.

Licensing/Permits – Brzeskiewicz

Personnel/Budget/Finance – Clark

Legal

City Council

11. Discussion/ Potential Action: Review of letter drafted by Price County United Limited requesting support from local businesses. No one was in attendance. Bryce updated that we sent out the request to bring the draft letter today and got a confirmation from the attorney they received our request but neither Bryce nor Shelby received the letter yet.

12. Council Update:

Brzeskiewicz - IDC is going to have a meeting, and David Wierzba will be in attendance, meeting will be towards the end of the month, he will be helping with some development options to see.

Elliott – asked Kosmer if she is posting the March 6th Price County United Limited meeting at the BW University. Kosmer let the council know it would be posted as a possible quorum.

13. Clark Adjournment: Time: 6:08pm


Shelby Kosmer
Clerk/Treasurer