

## **City of Phillips' Common Council Meeting**

Council Room, Municipal Hall

174 S Eyder Avenue

October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

5:30 p.m.

Mayor, Charles Peterson

Council Members: Wards 1 & 2 (District 1) –Richard Heitkemper, Ward 3 (District 2) - Mark Brzeskiewicz; Ward 4 (District 3)– Bill Elliott

At Large – Jerry Clark, Marty Stephan, and John Klimowski

Public Works – Jim Heizler; Water-Sewer - Todd Toelle Police – Michael Hauschild;

Library – 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.

Call to Order (presiding officer)

Greeting

Certification of compliance with Open Meetings Law

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Charles Peterson \_\_\_\_, Jerry Clark\_\_\_\_, Richard Heitkemper \_\_\_\_, Mark Brzeskiewicz, \_\_\_\_ Marty Stephan\_\_\_\_, Bill Elliott \_\_\_\_, John Klimowski\_\_\_\_

Public Comment:

### **DISCUSSION-ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Motion to approve September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Council Meeting Minutes.
2. Motion to approve the payment of vouchers in the total amount of \$225,158.28
3. Discussion/Action regarding Recycling/Garbage Service bids. Provide Council with bids received.
4. Motion to approve the Joint Powers Agreement with the Price County Sheriff's Office as recommended by the Committee of the Whole.
5. Motion to approve Pay request #4 for Hass Sons, Inc for Fifield & Ash Street Reconstruction in the amount of \$ 277,861.68 as recommended by the Committee of the Whole
6. Discussion/Action EPA Community Clean Up grant update:

7. Discussion/Action EPA Community Change Grant:
  - a. Discussion/ Potential Action regarding EPA Technical Assistance program for Price County United Limited to look at assistance with their owned properties, Phillips Lionite location, Well 4&5 Property, 680 County Rd H and 720 County Rd H for purposes of development
  - b. Discussion/Potential Action regarding a Pre-Disaster Flood Resilience Grant through Wisconsin Emergency Management for a project included in the Community Change Grant
8. Discussion/Action regarding offering a dental/vision insurance plan for City employees.
9. 2025 Budget Discussion
10. Committee Reports:
  - Ambulance
  - Library
  - Chamber
11. Adjournment

## **COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

.....of the Common Council of the City of Phillips at a meeting held in the Council Room of Municipal Hall on October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Peterson at 5:30 p.m. Those present included:

Mayor Peterson

At Large Aldermen: Jerry Clark, Marty Stephan, and John Klimowski

1st Aldermanic District: Richard Heitkemper

2nd Aldermanic District: Mark Brzeskiewicz

3rd Aldermanic District: Bill Elliott

Clerk/Treasurer: Shelby Kosmer

Also present: Michael Hauschild, Marcie Bogdanovic, Joe Perkins, David Lontcoski, Randy Ott, Chad Metzger, Shirley Smith, Becky Puhl, Patty Stephan, Lyn Ludwig, and Barb Alm.

Public Comment: None

### **DISCUSSION-ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Klimowski/ Elliott moved to approve September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Council Meeting Minutes. Carried
2. Stephan/ Brzeskiewicz moved to approve the payment of vouchers in the total amount of \$225,158.28. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – aye, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried
3. Discussion/Action regarding Recycling/Garbage Service bids. Provide Council with bids received. Discussion amongst the council regarding the rates for garbage and recycling. Howard Disposal had a lower trash cost for the residents by roughly \$9 per month; but the lowest cost for the recycling cost, which is the City's responsibility, was Waste Management. The council discussed not wanting the higher trash costs; however, there was a lot of discussion on the City not being able to pay an extra \$5k per month just because the trash cost was lower. Brzeskiewicz expressed concerns about a recent hydraulic arm leak one of the collection trucks had and questions Waste Management's maintenance of vehicles and their impact on our roadways/ water with the recent incident.  
Clark/Klimowski moved to proceed with the Recycling/Garbage Contract with Waste Management for a 5-year contract. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – aye, Brzeskiewicz – opposed, Stephan – opposed, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried 4-2
4. Heitkemper/ Klimowski moved to approve the Joint Powers Agreement with the Price County Sheriff's Office as recommended by the Committee of the Whole. Carried
5. Elliott/ Klimowski moved to approve Pay request #4 for Hass Sons, Inc for Fifield & Ash Street Reconstruction in the amount of \$ 277,861.68 as recommended by the

Committee of the Whole. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – aye, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried

6. Discussion/Action EPA Community Clean Up grant update: Brief discussion with Lyn Ludwig regarding some information on the [www.pricecountyunited.org](http://www.pricecountyunited.org) website regarding a presentation and slides with more information.
7. Discussion/Action EPA Community Change Grant:
  - a. Discussion/ Potential Action regarding EPA Technical Assistance program for Price County United Limited to look at assistance with their owned properties, Phillips Lionite location, Well 4&5 Property, 680 County Rd H and 720 County Rd H for purposes of development.  
Heitkemper/ Elliott moved to allow Ludwig/Price County United Limited to pursue this assistance program on properties under their control. Carried
  - b. Discussion/Potential Action regarding a Pre-Disaster Flood Resilience Grant through Wisconsin Emergency Management for a project included in the Community Change Grant. Council directed Clerk Kosmer to reach out to the County regarding involvement in their hazard mitigation program, which is one of the requirements of the grant Ludwig presented. Currently the City is not eligible under the requirements under the grant program so we likely would not be able to help with this grant.
8. Discussion/Action regarding offering a dental/vision insurance plan for City employees. Kosmer presented some dental/vision insurance plan figures for the Council. For the city to offer this insurance to employees, they would have to have a minimum number of participants. Also, the City would have to decide if it would be fully funded by the City or if they would have employees pay with a slight percentage covered by the employer. Puhl spoke regarding the current health insurance rates and how if the City is responsible for full premiums that budget figures are already tight.
9. 2025 Budget Discussion. Kosmer presented the current budget to the Council. She explained some of the major changes like the transportation aid decrease and the large increase for health insurance rates. Kosmer also discussed some short-term financing figures that were not yet included as part of the tax levy. She will continue to run numbers to help improve the budget and limit cutting expenses.
10. Committee Reports:

Ambulance: This are going good, Prentice did pay their outstanding invoice for the runs to Prentice. There is going to be a meeting with 3 members each from Price County Central Ambulance service and Prentice Ambulance service to try to work out some issues. They received a generous 50k donation to be used for a purchase of their next ambulance. They do currently have a new ambulance on order, perhaps taking delivery in July of 2025.

Library: Working with County regarding budget figures and programing participation numbers are up.

Chamber: Wanted to extend a "thank you" to all the City departments for the help for Fall Fest, the event went very well, as did the September golf outing. They did recently hire a new director, but it is not completely finalized yet, and they are currently working on Winterfest.

11. Clark moved for adjournment. 7.05 pm

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shelby Kosmer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Shelby Kosmer  
Clerk/Treasurer