

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

Council Room, Municipal Hall

174 S Eyder Avenue

November 12<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

Following the open session of the meeting the Common Council will convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. Section 19.85(1)(d) considering specific applications of probation, extended supervision or parole, or considering strategy for crime detection or prevention- Review and determination of a formal policy/procedure for employee personnel complaints received

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 October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Council Meeting Minutes.
2. Motion to approve the payment of vouchers in the total amount of \$661,256.63.
3. Motion to approve the 2025 Budget as recommended by the Committee of the Whole.
4. Motion to approve the financing for the purchase of the new fire truck with a 10-year loan with a 5.24% interest rate as recommended by the Committee of the Whole.
5. Discussion/Potential action regarding Petitions for Detachment of land requested by Troy Makovsky, Michael Hlavacek and Penny Marmitt.

6. Presentation and action executing petition for amendment of previous annexation and completion of new annexation of City-owned, Phillips IDC-owned, and Brian/Kristine Ernst parcels in and adjacent to North Business Park generally between State Highway 13 and Hillcrest Road.
7. Discussion/Action regarding pursuing having a silent sports trail system or “complete street concept” across City properties, specifically including a trail through the City cemetery, as recommended by the Phillips Recreation Committee. Requested by Lyn Ludwig/ PCUL (Price County United Limited)
8. Discussion/Action EPA Community Clean Up and EPA Community Change Grant updates:
  - a. Discussion/Action regarding request for a letter of support for an application for the WEM (Wisconsin Emergency Management) 2024 Pre-Disaster Flood Resilience Grant being submitted by Price County United Limited
9. Committee Reports:  
Ambulance  
Library  
Chamber
10. Convene into closed session. Authority: Pursuant to Wis. Stat. Section 19.85(1)(d) considering specific applications of probation, extended supervision or parole, or considering strategy for crime detection or prevention – Review and determination of a formal policy/procedure for employee personnel complaints received  
Jerry Clark\_\_\_ Richard Heitkemper \_\_\_ Mark Brzeskiewicz \_\_\_ Marty Stephan \_\_\_ Bill Elliott \_\_\_ John Klimowski \_\_\_. Time\_\_\_\_\_
11. Reconvene into open session. Authority: Wisconsin §19.85(2). Jerry Clark\_\_\_ Richard Heitkemper \_\_\_ Mark Brzeskiewicz \_\_\_ Marty Stephan \_\_\_ Bill Elliott \_\_\_ John Klimowski \_\_\_. Time: \_\_\_\_
12. Motion on the subject of the closed session.
13. Adjournment

## **COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

.....of the Common Council of the City of Phillips at a meeting held in the Council Room of Municipal Hall on November 12<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: David Lontcoski, Joe Perkins, Michael Hauschild, Jim Heizler, Bruce Marshall, Becky Puhl, Thomas LaVenture, Justin Schunemann, and Lyn Ludwig

Public Comment: Troy Makovsky spoke regarding agenda item 5 and asked the council to put themselves in their position and how he would like to detach mainly to be able to legally hunt his property.

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

1. Klimowski/ Elliott moved to approve October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Council Meeting Minutes.  
Carried
2. Elliott/ Clark moved to approve the payment of vouchers in the total amount of \$661,256.63. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – aye, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried
3. Heitkemper/ Klimowski moved to approve the 2025 Budget as recommended by the Committee of the Whole. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – aye, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried
4. Klimowski/ Heitkemper moved to approve the financing for the purchase of the new fire truck with a 10-year loan with a 5.24% interest rate as recommended by the Committee of the Whole. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – aye, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried
5. Discussion/Potential action regarding Petitions for Detachment of land requested by Troy Makovsky, Michael Hlavacek and Penny Marmitt. These properties have a roughly \$239k assessed value.  
Elliott/ Heitkemper moved to proceed with a public hearing for an ordinance for detachment for the properties with petitions for detachment of land requested by Troy Makovsky, Michael Hlavacek and Penny Marmitt. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – aye, Brzeskiewicz – opposed, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried 5-1

6. Bruce Marshall was in attendance to discuss the petition for annexation for the property. Marshall is working with the Department of Administration to get everything signed and approved and then it will come back to the city.  
Klimowski/ Elliott moved to approve the petition of annexation and sending it to a public hearing once the Department of Administration has signed off. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – aye, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye.  
Motion Carried
7. Ludwig proposed a silent sports trail system that would run through the city cemetery and a few other properties presented and would like to pursue exploring adding this trail. Heitkemper had received approximately a dozen phone calls regarding this proposed trail system and all were in opposition due to the proximity to the cemetery and to respect of future funeral services and other visiting loved ones. The council was also sent an email expressing items of concern and asking the council to vote down the trail. Ludwig explained that the trail would be approximately 10-15 feet below the top of the cemetery and would likely not interfere as anyone in the cemetery would not be able to see the trail or anyone on it as there is quite a drop with the hill. Heitkemper and Klimowski expressed they would prefer the trail to run along County Rd H instead of the lakeside when going through these properties. Brzeskiewicz agreed with utilizing the North side of H until you got by the White goods building towards the very end of the cemetery. The council discussed just pursuing the trails and having a final trail system brought back to the Council for a final approval.  
Elliott/ Brzeskiewicz moved to approve Ludwig/Price County United Limited to pursue the potential properties for a potential trail system. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – aye, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – opposed, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried 5-1
8. Discussion/Action EPA Community Clean Up and EPA Community Change Grant updates:
  - a. Ludwig presented a letter of support for applying for the grant. Within the letter, there was a section regarding the City funding the project initially, the application is due November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The council discussed supporting the grant application; however, not supporting the section where the City would have any sort of financial liability. Due to the time constraint, council would not have another meeting to approve a new letter but the Mayor, Clerk and Attorney could approve something that falls within those guidelines.  
Elliott/ Heitkemper moved to direct the Mayor, Clerk and City attorney to approve a letter of support for the 2024 Pre-Disaster Flood Resilience Grant removing the financial liability for the City of Phillips. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – aye, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye.
9. Committee Reports:  
Ambulance- The service acquired an additional driver and currently have 2 members out for medical reasons.

Library- County approved the library budget, currently have 4K stuffed animals having a sleepover at the library. Recently the foods class had a cupcake contest they were able to judge.

Chamber- New director is getting up to speed, they have two new board members and working on the enjoy price County initiative. November 18<sup>th</sup> is the Annual dinner and the citizen of the year is Jeff & Heather Heikkinen and the Business of the year is Forward Bank.

10. Brzeskiewicz/ Elliott moved to convene into closed session. Authority: Pursuant to Wis. Stat. Section 19.85(1)(d) considering specific applications of probation, extended supervision or parole, or considering strategy for crime detection or prevention – Review and determination of a formal policy/procedure for employee personnel complaints received  
Jerry Clark – aye, Richard Heitkemper - aye, Mark Brzeskiewicz – aye, Marty Stephan – aye, Bill Elliott – aye, John Klimowski – aye. Time 6:36pm
11. Clark/Elliott moved to reconvene into open session. Authority: Wisconsin §19.85(2).  
Jerry Clark – aye, Richard Heitkemper - aye, Mark Brzeskiewicz – aye, Marty Stephan – aye, Bill Elliott – aye, John Klimowski – aye. Time 6:47pm
12. Brzeskiewicz/ Clark moved to proceed with adopting a policy for complaints against City personnel. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – aye, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried
13. Elliott moved for adjournment. 6:48pm



Shelby Kosmer  
Clerk/Treasurer