

## City of Phillips' Common Council Meeting

Council Room, Municipal Hall

174 S Eyder Avenue

October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes.
2. Motion to approve the payment of vouchers in the total amount of \$583,577.31.
3. 2026 Budget Discussion:
  - a) BART Bus contribution increase requested
4. Wisconsin DOT TAP application
  - a) Potential Resolution for intent to apply
5. Discussion/Action regarding appointment of Annie Fahrenkrug to the Phillips Library Board.
6. Discussion/Potential Action regarding the overhead road banners time frame for placement.
7. Committee Reports:
  - Ambulance:
  - Library
  - Chamber:
8. Phillips Industrial Development Corp (IDC) Update:
9. 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 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

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, 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, Nick Trimner, Pat Doubst, Thomas LaVenture, Becky Puhl, Shirley Smith, August Meyer and Patty Stephan, Lyn Ludwig.

Public Comment:

### DISCUSSION-ACTION ITEMS:

1. Klimowski/ Clark moved to approve September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes. Carried
2. Elliott/ Brzeskiewicz moved to approve the payment of vouchers in the total amount of \$583,577.31. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – aye, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried
3. 2026 Budget Discussion:
  - a) BART Bus contribution increase requested: Pat Doubst and Nick Trimner were in attendance to give a little update on the BART bus program and the usage. BART (Bay Area Rural Transport has a bunch of different programs for users such as free rides for veterans, expanded routes to get you to Minocqua (which people are using to get to dialysis), and rides for children 6-17 in the summer months. They have seen ridership increase. They see a lot of non-local people utilizing the EV charger as well. Heitkemper noted that people are utilizing this service when they are taken by ambulance up to Park Falls to get back home. Brzeskiewicz noted their increase in ridership as well.

Kosmer updated council with the current budget figures and presented the Fire Departments requested increase and then spoke regarding employee raises and how the council needs to decide what they want to prioritize in the budget to move forward. Heitkemper thinks we need to prioritize incentivizing our employees. Brzeskiewicz agrees. They also wanted to support the BART bus services our residents are utilizing as well.

Stephan/Brzeskiewicz moved to approve the \$2,500 increase. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – aye, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried

Council directed Kosmer that 2<sup>nd</sup> priority is for a raise for the employees as they did not receive one for 2025 and then see about the fire department increase.

4. Wisconsin DOT TAP application: Switchback may not occur this year, but Kosmer wanted to confirm interest in a path to fairgrounds. Klimowski/ Elliott moved to pursue applying for the Wisconsin DOT TAP application for a walking trail to airport road. Roll Call: Clark-aye, Heitkemper – aye, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye. Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried
  - b) Potential Resolution for intent to apply- not needed at this time
5. Discussion/Action regarding appointment of Annie Fahrenkrug to the Phillips Library Board.

Klimowski/ Heitkemper moved to approve the appointment of Annie Fahrenkrug to the Phillips Library Board. Carried

Mark noted that, with her background, she's a public relations person, she would be a good addition to the board.
6. Discussion/Potential Action regarding the overhead road banners time frame for placement. Just understanding nothing from December until May
7. Committee Reports:

Ambulance: Making progress getting organized and working with the two new co-directors. Able to access the billing service. In need of IV techs and working with tech schools to have a class started. Calls are currently up.

Library: Having a book sale this month. Have two job openings right now, have a full-time and a part-time position. Did a start walk in the storefronts and have one on the concrete trail, looking at potentially doing a story walk on the path in the park.

Chamber: Website, enjoy price county is up and running. Christmas Parade is December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6pm, that is a Saturday, getting a tree and a choir down there. On November 26<sup>th</sup> there will be a comedy night at the theater, \$10 a ticket. Looking at getting a meeting with the City to discuss Chamber building updates needed, roof, siding, front and back deck, windows, bulletin board. November 17<sup>th</sup> is the Annual Banquet, Citizen of the Year is Laurie Zondlo, Business of the Year is The Wandering Chef.
8. Phillips Industrial Development Corp (IDC) Update: They still have someone interested in a spot in the Business Park but the business has it on hold right now. The IDC is trying to set up a board meeting, but they want to get a rep from northwest regional planning or Wisconsin economic development be able to attend. Trying to work with the school district. Paul Lauro is interested in being on the board for the new Phillips Area Development Group.
9. Clark moved for adjournment. 6:37pm



Shelby Kosmer  
Clerk/Treasurer