

City of Phillips' Common Council Meeting

Council Room, Municipal Hall

174 S Eyder Avenue

November 11th, 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 October 14th, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes.
2. Motion to approve the payment of vouchers in the total amount of \$480,057.19.
3. Discussion with the Fire Ad Hoc Committee regarding billing of fire calls and City of Phillips fire calls.
4. Motion to approve the 2026 Budget as recommended by the Committee of the Whole.
5. Motion to approve Pay Request #2 to Pavement Consulting Services, LLC in the amount of \$161,352.30 for the downtown sidewalks project as recommended by the Committee of the Whole.
6. Motion to approve Resolution 1245: Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Establishing Parameters for the Sale of Not to Exceed \$2,050,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes as recommended by the Committee of the Whole
7. Discussion/Action regarding parcel owned by Price County United Limited (PCUL) in the Elk Lake Park parking lot: Authorization of next step to send appraisal to PCUL for their review.

8. Committee Reports:

Ambulance:

Library

Chamber:

9. Phillips Industrial Development Corp (IDC) Update:

10. 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 11th, 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:

2nd Aldermanic District: Mark Brzeskiewicz

3rd Aldermanic District: Bill Elliott

Clerk/Treasurer: Shelby Kosmer

Also present: Blaine Peterson, Jim Heizler, Travis Abraham, Aimee Heizler, Cheryl Moore, Paula Houdek, Becky Puhl, David Lontcoski, August Meyer, Johnathan McArthur, Brianna McArthur, Thomas LaVenture, Lyn Ludwig, Patty Stephan, Tom Frane, Dale Houdek, Jeremy Pesko, and Jody Kozak.

Public Comment: Lyn Ludwig and Cheryl Moore from PCUL provided several handouts outlining their collaboration with the City, notably their efforts at Elk Lake Park, where Lyn painted a warming house showing her community involvement. They shared updates on grants they have applied for, including future projects for boathouse and dock infrastructure that will require city participation to receive a Phase 2 assessment. Additionally, there is an upcoming multi-purpose grant application being written by David Holmes that aims to benefit the entire community. They also presented a lease proposal for the Lionite parking lot and highlighted significant developments at Lionite, including the sale of equipment from 38 out of 41 buildings, at the October 2nd auction. They will be having a community walk and talk event on October 10th at 10am starting at the North gate.

DISCUSSION-ACTION ITEMS:

1. Clark/ Stephan moved to approve October 14th, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes. Carried
2. Klimowski/ Elliott moved to approve the payment of vouchers in the total amount of \$480,057.19. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – absent, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried
3. Discussion with the Fire Ad Hoc Committee regarding billing of fire calls and City of Phillips fire calls.

Tom Frane from the Town of Elk raised concerns about the billing practices for fire department services, noting that while the towns pay a contract fee and everyone shares a fair portion of the entire budget, structure fires in the City of Phillips are not billed to City residents; however, brush fires and accidents are equally billed across the board. Frane understands the billing of the calls and budgeting as he has made motions to increase the budget to remain complaint with equipment requirements but does believe calls should be billed the same to every member. The mayor acknowledged that this issue has been brought up multiple times over the years. Frane ultimately called for equal billing practices for all fire services to ensure fairness for all entities. Kosmer discussed the billing practices and how the budget is created to update all the council members.

This will be discussed at the December meeting.

4. Elliott/Clark moved to approve the 2026 Budget as recommended by the Committee of the Whole as corrected with the debt service. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – absent, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried
5. Klimowski/ Clark moved to approve Pay Request #2 to Pavement Consulting Services, LLC in the amount of \$161,352.30 for the downtown sidewalks project as recommended by the Committee of the Whole. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – absent, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried
6. Elliott/ Brzeskiewicz moved to approve Resolution 1245: Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Establishing Parameters for the Sale of Not to Exceed \$2,050,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes as recommended by the Committee of the Whole. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – absent, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried
7. Discussion/Action regarding parcel owned by Price County United Limited (PCUL) in the Elk Lake Park parking lot: Authorization of next step to send appraisal to PCUL for their review. Mayor noted that they just received a new lease proposal during the public comment section and we will discuss the lease proposal now as well. Klimowski/Stephan moved to authorize the City attorney to proceed with sending the appraisal to PCUL for their review. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – absent, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried Ludwig protested the motion and urged the city to hold off on this process.
8. Committee Reports:
Ambulance: Still working on getting the new directors up to speed.
Library: Book sales are over and the city has been great with helping dispose of the books, and interviews are going for their full-time and part time position.
Chamber: Working on the visitor guide, November 17th is the annual dinner at south fork, Christmas parade is Saturday December 6th, at 6pm.
9. Phillips Industrial Development Corp (IDC) Update: Have a meeting at noon at Forward Bank 11/17. Will be discussing the housing need specifically regarding the BW subdivision. Hoping David Wierzba from the WEDC will be able to attend that meeting. Stephan asked if the IDC works in both industrial parks and Brzeskiewicz stated they do work in both parks and the industrial park does currently have one lot that is for sale, but right now they are concentrating on the business park as they did purchase two lots that they are working on marketing.
10. Elliott moved for adjournment. 6:13pm



Shelby Kosmer
Clerk/Treasurer