

City of Phillips' Common Council Meeting

Council Room, Municipal Hall

174 S Eyder Avenue

January 13th, 2026

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)(e) Competitive or Bargaining Reasons. Deliberating of or negotiation for purchase of public properties, investment of public funds, or conduct of other specific public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session: Price County United Limited (PCUL) Lease Proposal received for Elk Lake Park parking lot, and Wis. Stat. Section 19.85(1)(g) Conferring with Counsel who either orally or in writing will advise governmental body on strategy to be adopted with respect to current or likely litigation: Price County United Limited (PCUL) Lease Proposal received for Elk Lake Park parking lot.

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 December 9th, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes.
2. Motion to approve the payment of vouchers in the total amount of \$721,964.11.
3. Presentation from Kansas State University (KSU) Introduction for the Technical Assistance to Brownfields Program: Assistance to the City of Phillips
4. Committee Reports:
Ambulance:
Library
Chamber:
5. Phillips Industrial Development Corp (IDC) Update:

6. Convene into closed session. Authority: Pursuant to Wis. Stat. Section 19.85(1)(e) Competitive or Bargaining Reasons and Wis. Stat. Section 19.85(1)(g) Conferring with Counsel for Price County United Limited (PCUL) Lease Proposal received for Elk Lake Park parking lot.
Jerry Clark ___ Richard Heitkemper ___ Mark Brzeskiewicz ___ Marty Stephan ___ Bill Elliott ___ John Klimowski ___. Time _____
7. Reconvene into open session. Authority: Wisconsin 19.85(2). Jerry Clark ___ Richard Heitkemper ___ Mark Brzeskiewicz ___ Marty Stephan ___ Bill Elliott ___ John Klimowski ___. Time: _____
8. Motion on the subject of the closed session
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 January 13th, 2026.

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 (arrived 5:39pm)

1st Aldermanic District: Richard Heitkemper

2nd Aldermanic District: Mark Brzeskiewicz

3rd Aldermanic District: Bill Elliott

Clerk/Treasurer: Shelby Kosmer

Also present: Roxanne Anderson, Scott Nightingale, Jeana Clark, David Holmes, Ann Patros, Thomas Lochner, Lyn Ludwig, Blake Pluemer, Cheryl Moore, Jim Branter.

Public Comment: None

DISCUSSION-ACTION ITEMS:

1. Stephan/Elliott moved to approve December 9th, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes.
Carried
2. Elliott/Clark moved to approve the payment of vouchers in the total amount of \$721,964.11. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – aye, Brzeskiewicz – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – absent. Motion Carried
3. In a presentation from Kansas State University (KSU), Roxanne Anderson introduced the Technical Assistance to Brownfields Program, funded by the EPA. The program aims to assist the City of Phillips with brownfield sites—areas that are contaminated or perceived as such, which limits their use and redevelopment potential. Anderson explained that KSU provides resources and tools, including vision plans, grant identification, and feasibility studies, to help move community projects forward. Their assistance focuses on enhancing underutilized properties, particularly in downtown revitalization efforts. The program collaborates with municipalities and supports entities awarded EPA grants, without time constraints on assistance. While direct support cannot be provided to private entities, KSU can facilitate help for them through municipal channels. The goal is to create resource roadmaps to effectively leverage available funds for redevelopment initiatives in the community.
4. Committee Reports:
 - Ambulance: Been busy, one rig is being repaired from the ambulance deer crash last month. Getting things reorganized, working on how to get people to join and trying to find funding to help interested people to get involved. Had an incident with the ice in a driveway and the driveway was not wide enough, Heitkemper emphasized for homeowners to please prep your sidewalks and driveways with sand and be prepared for emergency services to respond if necessary.
 - Library: The 2 new employees are working well. Thank the council for the building improvement account, that will be very helpful

Chamber: Had an executive meeting with Park Falls to discuss the recurring merging/ not merging conversation. County wants to keep their \$30k contribution to stay with one entity, Park Falls wants some of the funding as well. Visitor guide is coming along. Winterfest is January 25-26-27. Spoke about the various Winterfest activities. Ruthann is working on snow sculptures. Enjoy price county website is up and doing well.

5. Phillips Industrial Development Corp (IDC) Update: Rudy Suchy is working on making a for-sale sign for the property north of town owned by the IDC and looking to get it potentially light. New IDC website is now linked to the city website.

6. Elliott/ Heitkemper moved to convene into closed session. Authority: Pursuant to Wis. Stat. Section 19.85(1)(e) Competitive or Bargaining Reasons and Wis. Stat. Section 19.85(1)(g) Conferring with Counsel for Price County United Limited (PCUL) Lease Proposal received for Elk Lake Park parking lot.

Jerry Clark – aye, Richard Heitkemper – aye, Mark Brzeskiewicz – aye, Marty Stephan – aye, Bill Elliott – aye, John Klimowski – aye. Time 5:49pm

7. Klimowski/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 7:18pm

8. Motion on the subject of the closed session

Elliott/ Clark moved to proceed with the agreed upon wording for a lease agreement as discussed in the closed session. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – aye, Brzeskiewicz - aye, Stephan – opposed, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried 5-1

9. Elliott moved for adjournment. 7:19pm



Shelby Kosmer
Clerk/Treasurer