

TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG
Council Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2015

The Phillipsburg Town Council conducted its regular meeting on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building located at 675 Corliss Avenue.

The required Open Public Meeting Act Statement was read by Council Vice President Tersigni.

INVOCATION

by Council Vice President Tersigni

MOMENT OF SILENCE for Francis "Salem" Flynn an icon to the Town of Phillipsburg.

PLEDGE

by the Assembly

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Council President

Lynn

Council Members

Fey, Piazza, Stettner, Lynn

TOWN OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Mayor Wyant, Acting Clerk Kleiner,
Attorney Wenner

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of meeting minutes
Were submitted for approval:

Regular Mtg.-02-03-2015

Executive Mtg. – 01-20-2015

Motion

Councilman Stettner moved for approval of the regular meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tersigni.

VOTE: YEAS: Tersigni, Fey, Lynn, Piazza, Stettner

NAYS: None

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

SUMMARY

CURRENT FUND	\$	921,347.32
STATE & FEDERAL GRANTS		786.15
SEWAGE UTILITY FUND		159,503.13
CAPITAL FUND		11,651.07
SEWAGE CAPITAL FUND		123,298.16
SECTION 8		980.85

Total regular bills list February 17, 2015 **\$1,217,566.68**

SECTION 8 Program Rent Payments 140,266.16

PRE- PAID BILL LIST AS OF FEBRUARY 17, 2015

CURRENT FUND	\$	607.22
STATE & FEDERAL GRANTS		45,900.00
AGENCY FUND-PENSION PAYMENTS		155,990.10

TOTAL PRE PAID BILL LIST **\$ 202,497.32**

GRAND TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS **\$ 1,560,330.16**

Discussion: None

Motion

Councilman Piazza moved for approval of bills list. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tersigni.

VOTE: YEAS: Fey, Piazza, Lynn, Tersigni, Stettner

NAYS: None

OLD BUSINESS

MAYORS REPORT

The Mayor has Georgine Trinkle speak about a new grant, BCJI grant that she and the Chief are applying for. They have spoken to residents and we have a focus group to see what is needed, where the barriers are and we need to work together on every level. The 25 residents we have on the focus groups are from specific neighborhoods, we can help one block to one neighborhood at a time. We should start to see results in a few weeks. We have done data research.

The Chief stated that the data is from records management system that analyzes the types of calls, and data to improve. Ms. Trinkle stated that we are looking at how crimes are addressed, why and the patterns of how frequent to find the methodology of the crime.

Council President Lynn how do you plan on using the data

Chief Faulborn we will employ different strategies to identify issues

Councilman Piazza questioned what neighborhoods; Ms. Trinkle stated that there is a map starts with downtown. Councilman Piazza it is the Police and NORWESCAP not just the police arresting people

Chief Faulborn said we fail when we arrest people; the idea is to drive down the amount of arrests. Ms. Trinkle it should solve issues, the grant money and the research phase will help us get more grants to do more projects with the police. Centenary College are research partners, the residents and business owners.

Ms. Trinkle talked about the read a thon, where the kids read 2015 pages by the first day of spring.

Council President Lynn said that the efforts will help to build a stronger community.

Councilman Tersigni asked do you believe it will give you solutions to drive down crime. We appreciate all your work you are a great grant writer.

Ms. Trinkle thanked the Mayor for the additional resources.

CHIEF REPORT

The Chief hands out the stats to the Councilmen, Community policing is targeting the abandoned vehicles.

Councilman Tersigni stated he had some people ask him about the vehicles and he told them to contact the Police Department.

Thanks Chief

MAYORS REPORT

The 2015 budget has a one cent increase, and is \$228,329.00 less that last year's budget. The problem this year was the 27 pays which occurs every 7-8 years we could have kept it flat. So on average a home that is \$110,000.00 will have a \$14.00 increase. I ask Council to look at the budget; I would like to introduce it on March third. You can still make changes, and still have a budget session but everything is spelled out and I see very little that can be changed. \$10,000 for salt few minor changes in OE. We retired a \$700,000.00 in debt last year which is a benefit to our tax rate.

Council President Lynn stated we will have the introduction to the budget on March 03, 2015 and on March 10th during the work session have a budget hearing.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS

Joe Meyner, South Main Street, what is the two million dollars for the sewer plant improvements

Council President Lynn stated the NJEIR going through the infrastructure

Joe Meyner, what is it going to buy?

Council President Lynn upgrades – UV keep it current

ORDINANCES

O: 2015-05 (Second and Final Reading)

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS TO WALTER’S PARK POOL, BY AND IN THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$150,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$142,500 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWN TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF PHILLIPSBURG was introduced for a second reading by Councilman Stettner and there being no errors corrections or objections, Councilman Stettner moved that the ordinance be adopted according to law. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tersigni

ROLL CALL

Councilmen	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Stettner	x		x			
Piazza			x			
Tersigni		x	x			
Fey						x
Lynn			x			

13. **RESOLUTIONS**

R: 2015 - 35

RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE FORM AND OTHER DETAILS OF NOT EXCEEDING \$2,077,000 SEWER UTILITY BONDS, SERIES 2015, OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN, NEW JERSEY, AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR SALE TO THE NEW JERSEY ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE TRUST AND THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY PURSUANT TO THE 2014-15 NEW JERSEY ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE TRUST FINANCING PROGRAM was introduced by Councilman Tersigni who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Piazza.

ROLL CALL

Councilmen	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Stettner			x			
Piazza	X		x			
Tersigni		x	x			
Fey						x
Lynn			x			

R: 2015-36

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG IN WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY DECLARING ITS OFFICIAL INTENT TO REIMBURSE EXPENDITURES FOR PROJECT COSTS FROM THE PROCEEDS OF DEBT OBLIGATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH ITS PARTICIPATION IN YEAR 2014-15 NEW JERSEY ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE TRUST FINANCING PROGRAM was introduced by Councilman Tersigni who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Piazza

ROLL CALL

Councilmen	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Stettner			x			
Piazza		x	x			
Tersigni	x		x			
Fey						x
Lynn			x			

R: 2015-37

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF LOAN AGREEMENTS TO BE EXECUTED BY THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN AND EACH OF THE NEW JERSEY ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE TRUST AND THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ACTING BY AND THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN ESCROW AGREEMENT, ALL PURSUANT TO THE 2014-15 NEW JERSEY ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE TRUST FINANCING PROGRAM was introduced by Councilman Piazza who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tersigni.

ROLL CALL

Councilmen	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Stettner			x			
Piazza	X		x			
Tersigni		X	x			
Fey						x
Lynn			x			

R: 2015-38

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING CERTAIN MATTERS IN CONNECTION WITH THE TOWN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE YEAR 2014-15 NEW JERSEY ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE TRUST FINANCING PROGRAM TO FINANCE THE COSTS OF SEWER UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS IN AND FOR THE TOWN PROGRAM was introduced by Councilman Tersigni who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Piazza.

ROLL CALL

Councilmen	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Stettner			x			
Piazza		x	x			
Tersigni	x		x			
Fey						x
Lynn			x			

R: 2015-39

A RESOLUTION AWARDDING PURCHASES UNDER NEW JERSEY STATE CONTRACT was introduced by Councilman Stettner who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Piazza.

VOTE:

Councilmen	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Stettner	X		x			
Piazza			x			
Tersigni		X	x			
Fey						x
Lynn			x			

R: 2015-40

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX OVER PAYMENT DUE TO TAX APPEALS was introduced by Councilman Tersigni who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Piazza.

VOTE:

Councilmen	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Stettner			x			
Piazza	X		x			
Tersigni		X	x			
Fey						x
Lynn			x			

NEW BUSINESS None

PUBLIC PETITIONS

Bill Timmann, 230 South Main Street, question about the snow removal, can a second sign be put on the snow emergency routes, to avoid the hassle of the snow emergency. Also, sidewalk shoveling fines is something being done.

Council Vice President Tersigni stated he has been in contact with the inspections department and the ordinance states 24 hours after the snow stops. They are not putting stickers on the doors now, they will be going out directly in the mail and the fines are over \$100

Bill Timmann do you have someone shoveling? Absentee landlords?

Council Vice President Tersigni asks who do you suggest.

Council President Lynn stated that Councilman Stettner is looking to make a absentee landlord ordinance

Mayor Wyant stated the plows are on a large dump truck, smaller trucks do side streets, but also used for salting

Bill Timmann stated they have used garbage trucks

Council President Lynn stated that it isn't wise it would take out the parking meters. Bill Timmann suggested that it would give an opportunity to get curb to curb.

Council President Lynn stated that every storm is different, and they rely on the DPW to see what they can do.

Joe Meyner, South Main Street, speaks to the Council about the procedural suggestions he believes should be implemented. He stated that the answers or lack of answers, the rules of order are not followed.

Council President Lynn stated we will talk about it.

Blaine Fehley 237 Bowhay Avenue, What is happening with 99 Sitgreaves Street?

Mayor Wyant stated that we will be issuing a contract shortly

Blaine Fehley and who pays for that

Mayor Wyant stated the Town of Phillipsburg
Blaine Fehley questioned the channel
Council President Lynn stated that the file server isn't communicating, so he has talked with service electric and they assured him they would get it up and running
Blaine Fehley said for 50 years they haven't cleaned the snow at the cemetery and the kids walk on the street.
Councilman Tersigni stated it was done last year
Blaine Fehley mentioned it to Denny
Blaine Fehley asked about IR property, what will be there
Mayor Wyant stated you will see when it comes before the Council
Blain Fehley asked about the Judge Baptista, if we pay him
Attorney Wenner stated we can't talk about that personal issue
Blain Fehley questioned the Web site, what \$12,000.00 of work
Council President Lynn stated he spoke to Jeff Kelly on December 20 about the Video
Blaine Fehley asked if we have looked at the Del Val Channel

OPEN TIME

Councilman Tersigni wishes Councilman Fey a speedy recovery from his two surgeries we wish him well.

MOTIONS

Approval for Raffle License No. RL: 1205 issued to St Philip & St James for Quarter Basket Raffle Game on March 13, 2015 Councilman Tersigni moved to adopt the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Stettner.

VOTE: YEAS: Piazza, Tersigni, Lynn, Stettner

 NAYS: NONE

 ABSENT: Fey

Approval for Raffle License No. RL: 1206 issued to St Philip & St James for Carnival Games on:

April 29, 2015 6-11PM

April 30, 2015 6-11PM

May 01, 2015 6-11PM

May 02, 2015 Noon to 11PM

May 03, 2015 Noon to 6 PM

Councilman Piazza moved to adopt the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tersigni.

VOTE: YEAS: Piazza, Tersigni, Lynn, Stettner

 NAYS: NONE

 ABSENT: Fey

Approval for Raffle License No. RL: 1207 issued to St Philip & St James for 50/50 Off Premise Raffle Games on May 03, 2015 @ 4:00pm Councilman Piazza moved to adopt the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lynn.

VOTE: YEAS: Piazza, Tersigni, Lynn, Stettner

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Fey

Approval for Raffle License No. RL: 1208 issued to St Philip & St James for 50/50 Off Premise Raffle Games on May 29, 2015 @ 4:00pm Councilman Stettner moved to adopt the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tersigni.

VOTE: YEAS: Piazza, Tersigni, Lynn, Stettner

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Fey

EXECUTIVE MEETING

R: 2015-41

A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR AN EXECUTIVE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING litigation with Sewer Utility, action will be taken. Councilman Tersigni moved to adopt the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Stettner.

VOTE: YEAS: Piazza, Tersigni, Lynn, Stettner

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Fey

R: 2015 - 42

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL CONFLICT COUNSEL was introduced by Councilman Tersigni who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Piazza.

VOTE: YEAS: Piazza, Tersigni, Lynn, Stettner

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Fey

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Tersigni moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Stettner.

VOTE: YEAS: Fey, Lynn, Piazza, Tersigni, Stettner

NAYS: None