

TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG
Council Meeting Minutes
April 15, 2014

The Phillipsburg Town Council conducted its regular meeting on Tuesday, April 15, 2014 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 Councilman Lynn.

INVOCATION by Councilman Lynn

PLEDGE by the Assembly

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Council President Tersigni
Council Members: Fey, Lynn, Stettner, Piazza

TOWN OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Wyant, Acting Clerk
Kleiner, Attorney Wenner

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Approval of meeting minutes
Were submitted for approval:

Regular Meeting-04-01-14

No discussion

Motion

Councilman Stettner moved for approval of minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lynn.

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

NAYS: None

HABITABILITY HEARING 1116 South Main Street

Mr. Duddy Inspector and Mr. Hernandez neither one showed up.

Mayor Wyant stated that the roof collapsed during the last snow storm and the inspector went down and the walls are sturdy, but it is a hazard with the roof caved in. We need to know his intention with the building and repair of the structure; we can table it to the next meeting.

A motion was made by Councilman Stettner to table this to the next meeting. Councilman Fey seconded the motion.

OLD BUSINESS None

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor asked the Chief to just hand out his stats sheet; council can review at their leisure.

Chief Faulborn mentioned that the Police Department is having an open house 10:00 – Noon on Saturday the 26th, it will be interactive with demonstrations, I hope Council can come.

Councilman Lynn asked about the dog park status

Stan Schrek – Engineer stated that we had the public hearing and that the DEP needs the minutes from that hearing.

Councilman Lynn I am asking because I am looking forward to using it.

Chief Faulborn stated that there will need to be some changes in the ordinance.

Councilman Fey asked the Chief that since winter is over a hot topic will be the feral cat situation, and we should start addressing those issues.

Chief Faulborn stated he meets with the ACO daily.

Councilman Fey stated that we need to stay on top of the cat problem

Mayor Wyant stated that this has been a problem but also a problem with we can only handle so many cats at a cost of \$300-400 every time we take a cat in, we trap them and take them to the vet to have them fixed and release them it gets costly.

Councilman Fey stated it was a problem with the residents feeding cats

Mayor Wyant and the Chief stated that has been addressed.

Councilman Fey said we should just keep an eye out.

Councilman Piazza stated to the Chief that he was sorry he couldn't attend the open house.

Thanks Chief

Engineer Report:

Stan Schrek stated in the packets you received a change order for the extension of Piping – to save some trees this project is now 100% complete.

Thanks Stan

Mayor Wyant was working on the shared Service agreement with the court and seems they have accepted, Council will go over the contract and then we will sign an agreement it will have to go to the OAC to be reviewed.

I will also need an executive session – contractual with IR property, relative to the Commerce Park Property

PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS None

NEW BUSINESS: Council President Tersigni declares war on the garbage offenders of Phillipsburg. I watched someone throw garbage out their window landing on the sidewalks and laughing about it. I have spoken to the Police Chief and to the Inspectors and we are going to write summons on the spot, we will summons the landlords and they will be held accountable for it up to \$1,000.00 fine. I have the cooperation of the Inspectors, and Chief of Police – Some have been issued already. I have been riding around like a scout and if I lose votes so be it. It has been a problem for some time and I am on a mission it disgusts me. Once someone threw garbage into my yard and I was held accountable. Mayor Wyant's properties are clean and free of garbage, Councilman Stettner and myself are landlords also we are on a mission of quality of life and I want to Thank you three gentlemen for standing behind me. I am not going to stop. Thank you very much.

ORDINANCES

O: 2014-11 (Second and Final Reading)

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS 2014 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, BY AND IN THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING 1,171,100 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,112,545 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWN TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF was introduced for a second reading by Councilman Fey and there being no errors corrections or objections, Councilman Fey moved that the ordinance be adopted according to law. The motion was seconded by Councilman Stettner.

Discussion: None

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

NAYS: None

RESOLUTIONS

R-2014-72

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF ASSIGNMENT OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE 2012-270 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,616.81 was introduced by Councilman Stettner who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Piazza.

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

NAYS: None

R: 2014-73

RESOLUTION TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING REMOVAL OF MUNICIPAL LIEN FROM THE TAX SALE LIST was introduced by Councilman Fey who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Stettner.

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

NAYS: None

R: 2014-74

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PAYMENT OF SECOND QUARTER 2014 COUNTY TAX AND OPEN SPACE TAX, DUE MAY 15, 2014 was introduced by Councilman Piazza who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

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

NAYS: None

R: 2014-75

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG,
COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
APPROVING ADDITIONAL CHANGE ORDER FOR THE
LOPATCONG CREEK BANK RESTORATION was introduced
by Councilman Piazza who moved for its adoption. The motion
was seconded by Councilman Stettner.

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

NAYS: None

R: 2014-76

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CERTAIN LAND
AND PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE
BY THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A.
40A:12-13(A) ET SEQ. was introduced by Councilman Fey who
moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman
Lynn.

Discussion: Councilman Piazza questioned if this was the Firehouse
Attorney Wenner stated yes

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

NAYS: None

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

SUMMARY

CURRENT FUND	\$ 109,380.82
STATE & FEDERAL GRANTS	1,002.50

Motion

Councilman Fey moved for approval of bills. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lynn.

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

NAYS: None

PUBLIC PETITIONS

Joe Meyner, South Main Street, I am glad that I have your ear, thank you. The data on page two and three regarding the Riverview Pilot legally constitutes NJSA 40A: 20 housing must be needed. Housing read point 40A: 20-3 G (State Regulations) Urban renewal entity, not low and moderate housing. * attached is Mr. Meyner's comment sheets. I would hope you would re look at the bond deal. Mr. Merlo answered questions for me but in a private session, I would hope you would give it a real look.

Thanks Mr. Meyner

Neighbors at 721 & 741 Columbus Avenue, Mr. Scalfaro, stated the alley way by him is really bad and it is starting to break apart my driveway, we have complained about this for a few years and we are not getting any response.

Mayor Wyant stated that in the four years you have never called me, myself and the Engineer and the PW superintendent.

Councilman Fey stated that I know both these gentlemen, they take care and take pride in their properties. Now that the Mayor is aware I am sure he will come out and take a look.

Mayor Wyant stated that the main streets will take priority I can't guarantee the work will be done this year. We had an extremely hard winter and it has taken a toll on the roads of Phillipsburg.

Thank you.

OPENTIME

Councilman Fey stated an important topic to the Town is to have a study done and gather information for a Community Center for the residents of the Town of Phillipsburg. The FYC we have outgrown it. We can co-exist with the FYC, and make sure the landmark stays that way. As I travel to other community centers, I see that this could bring money our own Town. With everyone's blessing I would like to do a feasibility study.

Councilman Stettner agreed, I will be glad to assist you, years ago we spoke about another recreation center and it was about four million dollars and it fell through but we could get that done. Any assistance I will be glad to help

Councilman Fey stated how to fund it, how can it be done

Council President Tersigni supports your study and asked if it will be on the same property as the FYC

Councilman Fey he has lots of ideas going through his head and I want to get the ball rolling on the study.

Council President Tersigni you have the support of Council.

Councilman Fey stated that he will follow up with Councilman Stettner

Councilman Stettner stated when we first talked about it if it was near housing then HUD would take care of some of the cost and that was a big plus

Councilman Piazza stated when Council President Tersigni declared war on the garbage; we do need to get a grasp on this. I do appreciate that, the low income housing – this issue is a sensitive one. The big problem is the I don't care landlords and the I don't care tenants, we have both of these elements together and we can solve this issue but it won't be overnight.

Council President Tersigni, Thanks to those who supported my head shaving for St. Baldwicks for Children's Cancer, thanks to Blaine Fehley for the exchange club video.

Councilmen Fey thanks for promoting the exchange club there were over 200 children, and we must give credit where credit is due.

MOTIONS

R: 2014 - 77

A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR AN EXECUTIVE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG FOR THE PURPOSE OF contractual matters Commerce Park, no action to be taken. Councilman Lynn who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Stettner.

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

NAYS: None

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Lynn moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey. Motion was carried with a 5 – 0 vote.