

TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG  
Council Meeting Minutes  
May 06, 2014

The Phillipsburg Town Council conducted its regular meeting on Tuesday, May 06, 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-05-06-14**  
**Executive Meeting 05-06-14**

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

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

SUMMARY

CURRENT FUND	\$ 128,061.92
STATE & FEDERAL GRANTS	818.75
CAPITAL FUND	4,377.06
SEWAGE UTILITY FUND	5,308.60
SEWAGE CAPITAL FUND	4,454.61
SECTION 8	325.21
<b>Total regular bills list May 6, 2014</b>	<b>\$ 143,346.15</b>

Section 8 Rent Payments \$ 0

PRE- PAID BILL LIST AS OF May 06, 2014

CURRENT FUND	\$ 369,281.29
STATE & FEDERAL GRANTS	42,994.00
CAPITAL FUND	2,742.000.00

**TOTAL PRE PAID BILL LIST** **\$ 3,154,275.29**

**GRAND TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS** **\$ 3,297,621.44**

HABITABILITY HEARING 1116 South Main Street (Ice House Property)

Hearing – was postponed till end of meeting - Kevin Duddy, Inspector for the Town of Phillipsburg was not here, and Mr. Hernandez owner of the property was not here for the hearing.

PROCLAMATION GIVEN TO Nicole Savino and sports award given to Jess Kovatch. Presented by Mayor Wyant & Council President Todd Tersigni

PUBLIC HEARING ON MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Public meeting was opened there were no public comments, Council President Tersigni read the Final Budget Resolution 2014-77A. The meeting was closed to the Public. Councilman Stettner moved for the adoption of the budget. The motion was seconded by Councilman Piazza. Roll call vote was taken.

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

NAYS: None

OLD BUSINESS      NONE

MAYORS REPORT

The DOT grant for phase 6, for 237,000.00 to do Mckeen to Center is not the entire amount, we put money into the capital budget sometime in late summer early fall, next year Center to Saw Mill that will complete South Main Street.

Recently we have done away with the Planning and Zoning boards and combined their duties I have a member as an Alternate member for a one (1) year term if Council appoints. Motion to approve Keith Zwicker as an alternate was made by Councilman Stettner. Councilman Lynn seconded the motion.

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

NAYS:      None

Tonight we have Georgine Trinkle with is and also Chief Faulborn, once a quarter progress report. The reading room has been moved to the housing authority property, we have 11 children Saturday that stay the entire time along with an officer there as well.

The Community Service Project 25,000 youth deterrents community service 25 juveniles that have station house adjustments that deter incarcerations for at risk youth and they teach leadership programs.

We will be doing graffiti removal May 17 from 1 – 4 at Delaware Park, all are invited to give us a hand.

The Chief has done an internal assessment of the Community Policing – he participated in training and crime evaluation it is working

The Chief stated that he had an open house last Saturday and had 75 people show up, He was surprised they toured the HQ and squad room, crime scene van and learned about solving crimes. They met two of the newest officers, Marino, Mecca. We got information for people to know who their community police officer is.

Warren County / Sussex County applied for a vehicle Tactile – we are hoping the Warren County Freeholders would act on it, and they are not acting on it. I am

asking for the Governing Bodies support on it. I addressed the Freeholders and Prosecutor Burke asking for their support.

Councilman Stettner questioned – years ago there was a grant - thank you for all your work

Georgine Trinkle can be fast five (5) years

Councilman Stettner Thanks and please thank your staff

Georgine Trinkle grant due four (4) hours it's a risk for open house to get the residents involved and give the police an opportunity to meet the community.

Councilman Fey looking forward to the Community Policing how much involvement and didn't expect the support and it has taken things to a new level, thank you both for your great efforts.

Chief Faulborn we have had saturation patrols, we are in the assessment phase so see what the problems are, how to solve them, reevaluate them and get out on foot.

Chief Fairborn's monthly stats – handed out to the Mayor and Council

The Chief stated that they are working on additional cameras in various areas down town. We are working to make Delaware park safer, hope to have the dog park by next summer-an improved park to be better utilized

Mayor Wyant stated the Dog Park was approved by green acres, we have to work on the Ordinance and make changes so dogs will be in certain areas of that park fencing must get done and so fourth

Chief Faulborn stated that was all done by Officer Deluca he took that on his own

Mayor Wyant stated he has done a lot of work and should be commended for all the work he has done, he even has model ordinances that he turned to the Town Attorney and I commend him for that. Officer Deluca will watch it, police it and with a competent ACO it is a good thing

Chief Faulborn I look forward to it. I wasn't sure how it was going to work thanks to the Mayor and Council Thanks...

Thanks Chief

Council President Tersigni asked how many cameras are you going to be adding

Chief stated six I believe

Mayor stated on Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am we are having an auction with Maxx Spann – for the Chamber Street Property hopefully it sells we have had renewed interest.

On April 23 we had 296 properties for tax sale, and collected \$346,100.00 we held 10 certificates that didn't sell, so we may have to start foreclosure on them.

Thanks Mayor

#### PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

#### ENGINEER'S REPORT

Stan Schrek stated Sitgreaves Street needs mill/overlay

We are still pending on the gas/sewer for 62-64 Sitgreaves street. We will be going out to bid on Marshal Street soon

Thanks

#### HABITABILITY HEARING

Attorney Wenner stated that notification was sent on 04-17-14 signed acknowledgement receipt; we called and were told he would be here.

Mr. Duddy to report on the status of the property and water tower, since the water tower has been removed last fall there has been damage to some structures due to the weather in late February the snow load made the roof collapse.

Mr. Hernandez received information about the unsafe structure on February 24 and again on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, he had till May 16<sup>th</sup> to demo the roofs . He was notified of the building being an unsafe structure of he does not comply by May 16, 2014, he will be fined \$500.00 / week. Summons every week to Municipal Court.

Attorney Wenner stated that's about 10 days from now to comply.  
We will have an update at the May 20 th meeting. If not show Mr. Duddy will enforce and the Council will determine the next step

Council President Tersigni this is the last chance to address Council, In my opinion, I believe it should be demolished.

Mr. Duddy the building is unfit ordinance has worked well

Councilman Piazza made a motion for Attorney Wenner to re - notice Mr. Hernandez. The motion was seconded by Councilman Stettner.

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

NAYS: None

### PUBLIC PETITIONS

Mr. Meyner, South Main Street, continuing the petition for Riverview project. Mr. Meyner read his paper. \*See attached

Attorney Wenner stated this are not low income – urban renewal, meets 1<sup>st</sup> redevelopment plan “2013” Perone is an urban renewal entity meets the statute requirements

Mr. Meyner stated that The word “or” and “which” grammar

Attorney Wenner stated that the State issued certificate to Perone, redevelopment or Low or Mid or New Housing. It is not a housing project

Thanks Mr. Meyner

Mr. Timman 230 South Main do you know if there was any luck in changing the channels with Service Electric

Councilman Lynn stated he has no control over that

Mr. Timman asked about the cross walks at market and South Main Street, where they closed the street, was there a crosswalk traffic study

Attorney Wenner stated that something that has to go to the Planning Board

Mr. Timman stated he spoke to Bill Duffy and that there was no plans and no application yet.

Attorney Wenner stated that there is required notice

Mr. Timman transfer of property – Perone

Attorney Wenner stated that Town Council – is permitted to transfer project to another contractor if they meet the criteria, Council can approve but won't extent the term of abatement

Mr. Timman what about the school children 135 / Rutgers study

Council President Tersigni we have authorized Municipal Tax to offset that. How many Students out of high school into college that are not a part of this.

Mr. Timman the Car show I had to park on the sidewalk, Mercer and Joes Steak the church lot and shutting down the street

Chief Faulborn stated the Fire police can open the Street for emergency vehicles

Attorney Wenner stated that they are doing what required

Adam Kita 356 Firth Street, I have been on the squad, I coached recreation for Firthtown, Steele Hill, Pal, I was on the Planning board and I believe in giving back to the Town and not the Town getting taken advantage of.

I understand the spirit of the PILOT to help industry out and good paying job, I travel 120 miles a day to Kearny, I know that the Rutgers study may not be accurate. Phillipsburg has affordable housing, beautiful high school, I see parents



looking to move into our Town. But sometimes the Candy coating is sweet on the outside and you get a sour ball on the inside, I am sure the tax payers will pay the price somewhere. But I wanted to bring my point forward I am very confident you all will make the right choice. Thanks for your time.

Cathy Hall 75 Jefferson Street, as for the Delaware River Project I think it's bad to take a six million dollar bond on behalf of Mr. Perrucci

Attorney Wenner stated that the Bond is not the Town's – no recourse on the Bonds

Cathy Hall – oh I just didn't understand

Attorney Wenner stated it is a contract with the State no obligation of the Town

Cathy Hall but we will pay the school tax, housing projects over the next 30 years.

Cathy Hall I want to address a problem with little, problems downtown smokers anti-litter law encourages Council and the Mayor to bring awareness to clean up their area. Thank you

Blaine Fehley 230 Bowhay Ave., When are you going to look into getting a speaker system in here

Council President Tersigni stated he will look into it.

Mr. Fehley stated last meeting you mentioned trash violators, even if it means losing votes, I want to know who

Attorney Wenner, Council President Tersigni, both stated not your business.

Council President Tersigni asked Mr. Fehley to pack his stuff and leave, also asking the Chief to escort him off the property

NEW BUSINESS NONE

O: 2014-12 (First Reading)

SEWER UTILITY CAPITAL ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF A PICK UP TRUCK AND RELATED EQUIPMENT, BY, IN AND FOR THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; AND APPROPRIATING \$23,200 FROM THE SEWER UTILITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND TO PAY FOR THE COST THEREOF was introduced for a first reading by Councilman Stettner who moved that the ordinance be properly advertised. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

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

NAYS: None

O: 2014-13 (First Reading)

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, CHAPTER 625, ENTITLED ZONING, TO ADD THREE NEW ZONES, TO AMEND EXISTING ZONE REQUIREMENTS AND TO ADD ADDITIONAL ZONE REQUIREMENTS was introduced for a first reading by Councilman Piazza who moved that the ordinance be properly advertised. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

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

NAYS: None

15. RESOLUTIONS

R: 2014-78

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG PLANNING BOARD was introduced by Councilman Lynn who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

Councilman Piazza thanked those who are serving on the Board

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

NAYS: None

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R: 2014-79

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CLOSING OF STREETS was introduced by Councilman Lynn who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

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

NAYS: None

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R: 2014-80

A RESOLUTION APPROVING JUNK DEALER'S LICENSE FOR YEAR 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

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R: 2014-81

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION OF THE ANNUAL AUDIT was introduced by Councilman Lynn who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

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

NAYS: None

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R: 2014-82

A RESOLUTION AWARDDING PURCHASES UNDER NEW JERSEY STATE CONTRACT FOR FIREFIGHTING BOOTS 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

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R: 2014-83

A RESOLUTION AWARDDING PURCHASES UNDER NEW JERSEY STATE CONTRACT BATTERY COVERS HEADS UP S.C.B.A UNITS was introduced by Councilman Lynn who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

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

NAYS: None

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R: 2014-84

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT FOR SCBA GRANT WRITING SERVICES 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

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R: 2014-85

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CLOSING OF STREETS AND A MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT FOR BOB AMEY MEMORIAL RIDE 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

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R: 2014-86

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR A CHANCE IN MONETARY AMOUNT FOR A PETTY CASH FUND was introduced by Councilman Fey who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Stettner.

Discussion: Councilman Lynn questioned why the increase  
The Mayor responded that it is to control the funds with the pool and refreshments

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

NAYS: None

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R: 2014- 87

Supporting the *Click It or Ticket* Mobilization of  
May 19 – June 1, 2014 was introduced by Councilman Fey who  
moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman  
Piazza.

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

NAYS: None

### OPENTIME

Council President Tersigni stated that he received a letter from Ted Vegh about the exempt Fire parade and the 150 hear anniversary on Saturday August 09, 2014 starting at 9:00AM, I would like Council to be a part of that.

Also, I spoke to Scott Woolf from St. Lukes Warren Hospital they are donating another \$10, 000.00 this will make it \$30,000.00 total, for the Walters Park Pool.  
I want to thank Scott Woolf, Bob Martin, Rich Anderson

Mayor Wyant commended Council President Tersigni on reaching out to St Lukes Warren Hospital

Mayor Wyant stated this is the second year in a row that the audit came back with no recommendations I would like to thank our new CFO Robert Merlo – it's something to be proud of

Councilman Lynn asked if Council would consider putting stop signs on Sayer and Wilbur.

Councilman Fey stated that the Delaware Heights Baseball team will be unveiling a plaque on Monday the 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm

### MOTIONS

Approval for Raffle License No. RL: 1189 issued to The Purple Posse for a basket raffle to be conducted on May 17, 2014 at the Relay for Life with all proceeds to benefit the American Cancer Society Councilman Fey moved to adopt the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lynn.

VOTE: YEAS: Piazza, Fey, Tersigni, Lynn

NAYS: None

### EXECUTIVE MEETING

R: 2014 - 88

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 & Litigation, no action to be taken.

Councilman Stettner who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

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.