

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 20, 2012

The Phillipsburg Town Council conducted its regular meeting on Tuesday, March 20, 2012 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 Fey.

INVOCATION

By Councilman Fey

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Boy Scout Troop from Grace Lutheran Church

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Councilmembers:

Fey, Lynn, Stettner, Tersigni

President:

Piazza

ABSENT:

None

TOWN OFFICIALS PRESENT

Mayor Wyant, Clerk/Administrator Broubalow, Attorney Wenner and Engineer Schrek

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The following meeting minutes were submitted for approval:

Regular Meeting – March 6, 2012
Work Session – March 13, 2012

Amendment

Councilman Tersigni referred to March 13 minutes under Secondhand Goods Ordinance and indicated minutes should reflect that “Mayor Wyant suggested the time frame as a compromise, which he supports.

Motion

Councilman Tersigni moved for approval of minutes, as amended. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lynn, which carried by a 5-0 vote.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

The following bills were submitted for payment approval:

SUMMARY

CURRENT FUND	177,287.91
STATE & FEDERAL GRANTS	14,171.94
PLANNING BOARD TRUST FUND	2,302.00
SECTION 8	2,832.12
CAPITAL FUND	21,256.84
BERNARDS TOWNSHIP RCA	17,566.00
SEWAGE UTILITY FUND	227,185.68

Section 8 Rent Payments for 2012

SECTION 8 PROGRAM 137,551.00

Pre-Paid Bill List as of March 20, 2012

CURRENT FUND 721,050.00

Motion

Councilman Stettner moved for approval of bills. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tersigni, which carried by a 5-0 vote.

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

Mayor and Town Council presented 'Certificate of Recognition' to:

Brandon Hull
Dave Post

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business

MAYOR'S REPORT

Surveillance Camera System

Mayor stated that he, Councilman Tersigni, Captain Stettner and Town Engineer visited Hazelton, Pennsylvania to view their camera system, which was installed for security on their main streets within business areas. He stated he was very impressed and feels it is something needed by the Town to stay ahead of the curve therefore; he is requesting Council to insert \$35,000 into the 2012 Capital Budget for purchase of security camera system.

Mayor noted in Hazelton, merchants purchased cameras and the municipality did infrastructure and monitoring of system as well as, data retention.

Further, Mayor indicated they would continue to look at other systems but believe it is imperative to place funds into budget for this calendar year.

Access Committee

Mayor addressed channel and equipment and fact that when trying to upload a meeting video onto channel, the system crashed. He noted it has been reported cost for upgrade of system and camera equipment would be approximately \$6,000. He requested Council not to include funds in the 2012 budget but to negotiate with Service Electric once negotiations commence on franchise agreement that expires next year.

Mayor referred to poll to be conducted by the School District to determine exactly how many people are interested in watching on access channel. In addition, he continued they are looking at possibility of uploading meetings onto Town website.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Main Street Phase 4

Engineer reported pre-construction meeting held last week and project will commence in April. Further, he advised same contractor as Phase 2 and 3 although; new electrical subcontractor.

Main Street Phase 5

Engineer reported design work commencing.

Armory Minor Subdivision

Engineer reported subdivision would be brought before Planning Board at Thursday's meeting.

Lopatcong Creek

Engineer reported status of erosion along Lopatcong Creek. He noted additional information has been submitted to FEMA for their review and consideration.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS

No Public Discussion

ORDINANCE (First Reading)

O:2012-05

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO ADD CHAPTER 426 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG TO REGULATE DEALERS OF SECONDHAND GOODS WITHIN THE TOWN was introduced for first reading by Councilman Tersigni who moved that the ordinance be properly advertised. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

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

NAYS: None

NEW BUSINESS

2012 Capital Budget

Motion

Councilman Tersigni moved for the insertion of \$35,000 for security camera system into 2012 Capital Budget. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lynn.

Discussion

Councilman Stettner questioned whether system works on fiber optic.

Mayor replied system was all wireless but he is not sure that is the way the Town would want to go. He indicated it certainly works in Hazelton and noted perhaps wireless with a repeater might work.

Councilman Stettner noted wireless would result in more upfront cost. He questioned whether camera is susceptible to updating.

Mayor replied camera is day/night camera – color during day and black/white during night. Further, he indicated updates can be done remotely regardless of system.

Councilman Stettner questioned whether it was server based or DMR based.

Mayor replied server based.

Councilman Tersigni thanked Mayor, Engineer and Police Captain for allowing him to visit Hazelton with them and especially thanked Hazelton Mayor Joe Yanozzi. He noted program was implemented about a year ago on a trial basis and now there seems to be a consensus to move forward.

Councilman Tersigni stated the allocation of these funds shines a bright light and thanked Mayor and this Council for being concerned about the security of our citizens and business alike. Further, he stated this is a great day for the Town of Phillipsburg and it will be money well spent.

Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Municipal Pool

Councilman Tersigni announced the donation of \$10,000 towards operation cost from St. Luke's. He expressed a thank you, on behalf of Mayor and Council, to Bob Martin, Senior VP and Mr. Anderson, CEO for donation.

Councilman Tersigni stated St. Luke's is reaching out to the community and our children.

President Piazza expressed interest in establishing committee to oversee operations.

RESOLUTIONS

R:2012-50

A RESOLUTION AWARDDING CONTRACT FOR PURCHASE / INSTALLATION OF PRE-ENGINEERED BUILDING was introduced by Councilman Tersigni who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

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

NAYS: None

R:2012-52

A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR RENEWAL OF TAXI OPERATOR'S LICENSE FOR AKAB, INC. was introduced by Councilman Tersigni who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Stettner.

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

NAYS: None

R:2012-53

A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR RENEWAL OF LIMOUSINE OPERATOR'S LICENSE FOR AKAB, INC. was introduced by Councilman Fey who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Stettner.

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

NAYS: None

R:2012-54

A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR RENEWAL OF LIMOUSINE OPERATOR'S LICENSE FOR PHILLIP LIMO

SERVICE was introduced by Councilman Tersigni who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

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

NAYS: None

R:2012-55

A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR RENEWAL OF LIMOUSINE OPERATOR'S LICENSE FOR VITAL SPIRIT, LLC was introduced by Councilman Fey who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Stettner.

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

NAYS: None

R:2012-56

A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR RENEWAL OF TAXI OPERATOR'S LICENSE FOR VITAL SPIRIT, LLC. was introduced by Councilman Tersigni who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

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

NAYS: None

R:2012-57

A RESOLUTION APPROVING ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PERMIT FOR SOCIAL AFFAIR TO ST PHILIP & ST JAMES SCHOOL was introduced by Councilman Fey who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Stettner.

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

NAYS: None

R:2012-58

A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION OF EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR 2012 IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 was introduced by Councilman Tersigni who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lynn.

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

NAYS: None

R:2012-59

A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION OF EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR 2012 IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 was introduced by Councilman Fey who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tersigni.

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

NAYS: None

R:2012-60

A RESOLUTION AWARDED PURCHASE UNDER NEW JERSEY STATE CONTRACT was introduced by Councilman Tersigni who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

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

NAYS: None

PUBLIC PETITIONS

Thomas Bush, Columbus Avenue, requested status on Ingersoll property and April 21 closing.

Attorney advised tentative closing date has been changed to May 21.

Mr. Bush questioned reason.

Attorney replied negotiation took longer than anticipated.

Attorney advised 'Contract for Sale' was approximately 18 pages long.

Mr. Bush questioned status of police contract.

Attorney replied meeting held last Thursday with Superior Officers, which was productive with most issues having been resolved.

Mr. Bush questioned increase budgeted.

Attorney replied prefer not to disclose since negotiations are on-going.

Mr. Bush questioned whether Christmas party and League of Municipalities is included in budget.

President Piazza replied yes; it is up to Council if they wish to remove.

Mr. Bush referred to last meeting when Council expressed agreement with budget, which would introduce as presented.

Mr. Bush questioned whether pool would be ADA compliant.

Clerk/Administrator replied yes.

Mr. Bush questioned camera systems within New Jersey.

Councilman Stettner replied Newark; Camden; Jersey City; and, Bayonne.

Mr. Bush questioned whether it is being stated that crime in Phillipsburg is the same as that in those municipalities.

President Piazza replied drugs can be found in any municipality.

Mr. Bush stated this started as a result of a murder therefore; questioned whether they are anticipating more murders.

President Piazza replied no.

Mr. Bush addressed possible fourth amendment violation. He noted government is already big enough.

President Piazza noted everything would be taken into consideration making sure no rights are violated.

Mr. Bush questioned who would monitor cameras and what purpose for cameras.

Blaine Fehley, 237 Bowhay Alley, referred to requirement regarding volunteers and committee members and questioned status of Rick Vegh.

Attorney replied ordinance applies to all volunteer firefighters.

Mr. Fehley questioned what he is doing at the firehouse.

Attorney replied he believes he has resigned and noted this has nothing to do with the ordinance.

Mr. Fehley questioned what oversight does council have over employees.

President Piazza replied none.

Mr. Fehley requested Stettner update.

Attorney replied personnel matter.

Mr. Fehley questioned whether 193 Lewis Street is on Blighted Property List.

Attorney replied no.

Mr. Fehley questioned whether Town could purchase new microphone system so the people can hear.

President Piazza stated a fund raising event could be started to purchase new equipment. In fact, he continued he is presenting Town with \$50.00 check towards that equipment.

OPEN TIME

No Open Time

EXECUTIVE MEETING

R:2012-62

A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR AN EXECUTIVE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING CONTRACTUAL ISSUE RELATIVE TO ATLANTIC STATES was introduced by Councilman Stettner who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

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

NAYS: None

President Piazza recessed meeting at 7:40 p.m. for the purpose of conducting Executive Meeting.

Motion

Councilman Stettner moved at 7:50 p.m. for Council to return to public session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey, which carried by a 5-0 vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Stettner moved for adjournment at 7:50 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY

MICHELE D. BROUBALOW
Clerk/Administrator

APPROVED

RANDY S. PIAZZA, SR.
Council President