

TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG
Council Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2015

The Phillipsburg Town Council conducted its regular meeting on Tuesday, November 16, 2015 at 5:00 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

PLEDGE

by the Assembly

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Council President

Lynn

Council Members

Fey, Piazza, Tersigni,

Council absent

Stettner

TOWN OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Mayor Wyant, Clerk Kleiner,
Attorney Wenner

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of meeting minutes
Were submitted for approval:

Council Meeting 11-05-2015

Motion

Councilman Tersigni moved for approval of the Council Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

VOTE: YEAS: Fey, Tersigni, Lynn,

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Stettner

ABSTAIN: Piazza

APPROVAL OF BILLS

SUMMARY

CURRENT FUND	\$ 994,448.29
STATE & FEDERAL GRANTS	987.77
SEWAGE UTILITY FUND	148,659.04
CAPITAL FUND	43,025.88
PLANNING BOARD TRUST	1,480.00
SECTION 8	1,918.45
GENERAL TRUST FUND	581.18
Total regular bills list November 16, 2015	\$1,191,100.61
SECTION 8 RENT PAYMENTS December 01, 2015	131,879.16
PRE- PAID BILL LIST AS OF November 16, 2015	
CURRENT FUND	\$ 2,500.00
AGENCY FUND	\$ 146,731.39

TOTAL PRE PAID BILL LIST	\$ 149,231.39
GRAND TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS	\$ 1,472,211.16

Motion

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

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Stettner

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Wyant received a petition from the employees, from the public works and the office staff requesting the day off on Christmas Eve., the employees would have to use their own time, if they had no time they would take a zero.

Councilman Tersigni made a motion the employees received a half day off. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Stettner

Mayor Wyant also asked that a credit be given for water that did not go down the sewer and went into the ground. I would like Council to consider credit on this. Councilman Tersigni made a motion to accept the credit. A second was made by Councilman Piazza.

VOTE: YEAS: Piazza, Lynn, Tersigni,

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Stettner

ABSTAIN: Fey

Council Vice President Tersigni said there is a big difference that it did not go down the sewer. Council President Lynn voted differently in the past, depending on if went down the sewer or not.

CHIEF

Chief handed out his stats, 141 hours of community policing, zone 1 reports of people not stopping at the stop sign. zone 2, traffic issues Filmore and Hudson streets, zone 3 parking complaints, zone 4 no complaints down town area.

The Chief stated that the fall festival continued to grow, the bounce house on Jersey Street went well, tonight we have coffee with a cop and we are going into the neighborhoods. Tonight is Heckman house and bingo. The 12th we are going to do it I can't recall where and the 14th is here at the Town Hall.

John Franceschino spoke about the big success of the fall festival, we had about 600-800 people, the hay rides, we had a big showing. The chapel program date and time to meet, we had a good turnout of clergy. Mayor Wyant suggested that we have them sworn in to kick off and show that they are supported by Council and the Mayor.

Chief stated that the County has a faith base level.

Mayor Wyant stated there are not as far as you are here. John Franceschino stated 6-7 Pastors from our area it is a great program. Chief stated NJ has been very successful – police commitment – it will benefit everyone.

Council President Lynn great place to introduce to the community Councilman Piazza questioned the amount of stats and that what is the number of Domestic abuse and alcohol related cases are there.

Chief stated the number is up significantly 70-80%

Councilman Piazza when officer goes it is the most dangerous, are there ever any resolutions to the situations

The Chief stated that there is a restraining order, but the go back to the abuser, there are programs, we do work with DARC center, and the majority of victims turn it down. It is very frustrating

John Franceschino stated that our crime survey is complete DCJI, 2011 Domestic the biggest most frequent call; we have more domestic than any other calls.

Councilman Fey stated that the grants, Marino, Deluca, Stettner this Town is lucky to have something for our kids. Chief stated Georgine is a catalyst and fortunate for educated people.

Council Vice President Tersigni asked if they could put the speed sign at Heckman Street, cars speeding down 70 mph please put the sign by Finnegan's Funeral home. John Franceschino stated he can show the data of the speed machine if he wants to come in and see it. Thanks Chief.

OLD BUSINESS NONE

HABITABILITY HEARNING

Attorney Wenner stated that the liens have been satisfied and that the process for demos is moving forward. But, they are asking for a thirty day (30) extension;

Councilman Tersigni made a motion to give a 30 day extension for the hearing, (December 15, 2015). The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

VOTE: YEAS: Fey, Piazza, Lynn, Tersigni,
 NAYS: None
 ABSENT: Stettner

OPUS PRESENTATION

Joe Baumann spoke as Counsel for OPUS, here is an update so far, and the impact study is complete. The park, playground, and all roadway impacts are done. The GD permit, is completed and the next planning board meeting it will be memorialized. The DEP and DOT are on board. We have a signed agreement with IR and the bank property, to promise to buy the land, extensions payments and closing, the first quarter next year. Lopatcong is similar, no official actions hopefully in December.

The next step is the financial agreement, PILOT competing with Pennsylvania rates. 3.75-5.50 per sq ft. 4.50 sq ft. taxes vs PA (Pennsylvania), paying .10/tx vs .45 tx. Makes us competitive. Consider the PILOT 1.2 million in tax once built out. The land taxes gets shared with the school and county. Agreement by Ordinance, special assessment ordinance, 2.5 million dollars as in bonds we hold, ratify the

sale by an Ordinance. December 15th authorize to issue redevelopment bonds. 4.5 cents to RAB (redevelopment area bonds) what with need and difference, and Non-recourse to the Town of Phillipsburg. The local finance boards (LFB) bless the resolution, PILOT go up every year and goes up by 2% and a 2% cap keeps pace with expenses. We have a detailed application, that Attorney Wenner, Tony Panella (Special Bond Counsel), share and advise you. Discuss with your professionals in the next two weeks.

Council President Lynn that is a lot to be taken in, the next two weeks, next meeting can we have paper so we can review.

Joe Baumann yes of course

Council President Lynn the quicker we get that the quicker we can review Councilman Fey the competing state – and a draw to NJ is a credit to the Mayor and Council to learn from their successors and do things in a pace that is successful Council Vice President Tersigni 2.5 million bond ordinance isn't it in place Joe Baumann stated it is debt equity and RAB, 2.5 million, 30 years, part money comes from the County share.

Mayor Wyant we have been through this a couple of meetings, Tony I would like you to come into executive session with us.

R: 2015-178

A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR AN EXECUTIVE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING contractual financial agreement with OPUS

Council Vice President Tersigni made motion to enter into executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Stettner

Council Vice President Tersigni made a motion to reconvene. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Stettner

PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS None

ORDINANCES

O: 2015-20 (first reading)

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING 2016 SALARIES FOR UNCLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES was introduced for a first reading by Councilman Tersigni who moved that the ordinance be properly advertised. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey for discussion.

ROLL CALL

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

O: 2015 - 21

A CAPITAL ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR A FULLY FUNDED GENERAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR THE WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT, BY, IN AND FOR THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; AND APPROPRIATING \$400,000.00 FROM THE SEWER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND TO PAY FOR THE COST THEREOF was introduced for a first reading by Councilman Piazza who moved that the ordinance be properly advertised. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey for discussion.

ROLL CALL

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

RESOLUTIONS

R: 2015-179

RESOLUTION APPOINTING RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT was introduced by Councilman Fey who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tersigni.

VOTE: YEAS: Lynn, Fey, Tersigni, Piazza

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Stettner

R: 2015-180

RESOLUTION APPOINTING FUND COMMISSIONER was introduced by Councilman Tersigni who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

VOTE: YEAS: Lynn, Fey, Tersigni, Piazza

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Stettner

R: 2015-181

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPOINTING LORRAINE LOUDENBERRY AS DEPUTY MUNICIPAL CLERK was introduced by Councilman Tersigni who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

Discussion: Council Vice President Tersigni – stated Congratulations. Council President Lynn stated worthy of the position and she does a great job.

VOTE: YEAS: Lynn, Fey, Tersigni, Piazza

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Stettner

R: 2015-182

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

VOTE: YEAS: Lynn, Fey, Tersigni, Piazza

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Stettner

R: 2015-183

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG GRANTING A CURB AND SIDEWALK WAIVER FOR PROPERTY LOCATE AT BLOCK 2614, LOT 4 was introduced by Councilman Tersigni who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

Discussion: Council President Lynn asked why? Attorney Wenner stated that the clerk received a letter from the Engineer stating the grade was too steep, making a sidewalk dangerous.

VOTE: YEAS: Lynn, Fey, Tersigni, Piazza

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Stettner

R: 2015- 184

A RESOLUTION APPROVING 2015-2016 LIQUOR LICENSES

WITHIN TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG was introduced by Councilman Tersigni who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

VOTE: YEAS: Lynn, Fey, Tersigni, Piazza

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Stettner

NEW BUSINESS None

PUBLIC PETITIONS None

OPEN TIME

Council Vice President Tersigni stated that we will continue to move the administration and keep moving forward.

Councilman Fey Congrats to the SH bidy football we have good sports programs in town.

Council President Lynn congrats to the little liners as they move forward to a championship game.

MOTIONS

Approval for Raffle License No. RL: 1231 issued to The Steele Hill Youth Club for a 50/50 off premise raffle to be conducted on December 20, 2015 at Firth Youth Center at 2:00 PM a motion was made by Councilman Tersigni. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fey.

VOTE: YEAS: Lynn, Fey, Tersigni, Piazza

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Stettner

EXECUTIVE MEETING

NONE

ADJOURNMENT

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

VOTE: YEAS: Fey, Lynn, Tersigni, Piazza

 NAYS: None

 ABSENT: Stettner