

Apprvd. May 04, 2021

TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, March 02, 2021 AGENDA
via ZOOM
7:00 P.M.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81477231766?pwd=UmpQa1UvTWVXVkVSRWdGQ0toZFN3UT09>

Meeting ID: 814 7723 1766

Passcode: Pburg

One tap mobile

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Dial by your location

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1. **CALL TO ORDER** 7:03 PM
2. **OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT STATEMENT:**

THIS MEETING IS CALLED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW. THIS MEETING OF March 02, 2021 WAS INCLUDED IN A NOTICE SENT TO NEWSPAPERS OF RECORD AND POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND HAS REMAINED CONTINUOUSLY POSTED AS THE REQUIRED NOTICES UNDER THE STATUTE. IN ADDITION, A COPY OF THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AND IS ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL CLERK

3. **INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE**
Council Vice President Fulper
4. **ROLL CALL**
Council President McVey, Council Vice President Fulper, Councilwoman DeGerolamo, Councilman Piazza, Councilman Wyant
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES -** none at this time

6. BILLS LIST -

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Wyant			X			
Councilman Piazza			X			
Councilwoman DeGerolamo		X	X			
Council Vice President Fulper	X		X			
Council President McVey			X			

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 05, 2021 – Ribbon Cutting for Platinum Star Cleaning Service at noon hosted by the Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce (Changed to March 19, 2021)

Budget Meeting – March 20, 2021 @ 8:30 AM

8. OLD BUSINESS

R: 2021-61 (Tabled 02-16-2021) **Remain Tabled 03-02-2021**

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARDED CONTRACT TO YANNUZZI GROUP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$47,000.00 FOR THE DEMOLITION OF 85 LEWIS STREET

9. MAYOR’S AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

None received at this time. Council committees? None

10. PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS

Nicole Timberman – N. Riverview Rd.

Questioned R 2021-70, whether fencing specific area?

CP McVey noted he did not think Rec. Supr. Kophazy was on meeting and answered, Madison Park, adding if something different would have Recreation reach out to her.

11. ORDINANCES — FIRST READING

O: 2021-10 (First Reading 03-02-2021)

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF BODY WORN CAMERAS AND MOBILE VIDEO RECORDERS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, BY AND IN THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (THE “TOWN”); APPROPRIATING \$79,000 THEREFOR

AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$75,050 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWN TO FINANCE PART OF THE COSTS THEREOF

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Wyant	X		X			
Councilman Piazza			X			
Councilwoman DeGerolamo			X			
Council Vice President Fulper		X	X			
Council President McVey			X			

Discussion

Councilwoman DeGerolamo – Page 5 should it be \$79,000 not \$7,900?

CFO Merlo - \$79k is correct, 10%.

DD – Then I am good.

CP McVey noted just to introduced to Public, this has been instituted by Governor for all Police Departments. Questioned CFO Merlo if reimbursements could be forthcoming and would not need to Bond.

CFO Merlo responded there may be reimbursements at the State level. A Grant 20k was announced today. Noted if get those reimbursements, quite possibly will not have to issue any notes again.

CP McVey stated, very much needed to protect our officers going forward and thanked CFO.

12. ORDINANCES – SECOND READING -

O: 2021-09 (First Reading 02-16-2021; Second read 03-02-2021)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 570, TAXATION, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, ARTICLE II, *MEDICAL CANNABIS TRANSFER TAX*, SECTION 13, *ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICAL CANNABIS TRANSFER TAX*, SUBSECTION C, IN ORDER TO CHANGE THE FREQUENCY OF PAYMENT

ROLL CALL

Passed 5-0

Councilmembers	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Wyant			X			
Councilman Piazza			X			
Councilwoman DeGerolamo		X	X			
Council Vice President Fulper	X		X			
Council President McVey			X			

Public Discussion
None

Discussion – Council

Cnclman Wyant – breaking up payments will be beneficial.

13. **RESOLUTIONS - CONSENT AGENDA** *Matters listed on the Consent Agenda Resolution are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion of the Council and one roll call vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member requests an item to be removed for consideration.

ROLL CALL CONSENT

Passes 5-0

Councilmembers	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Wyant		X	X			
Councilman Piazza			X			
Councilwoman DeGerolamo			X			
Council Vice President Fulper	X		X			
Council President McVey			X			

R: 2021-68
A RESOLUTION AWARDDING PURCHASES UNDER NEW JERSEY STATE CONTRACT

R: 2021-69
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYOUT OF ACCRUED SICK, VACATION AND COMPENSATORY LEAVE FOR LIEUTENANT RALPH REPERT

R- 2021-70
RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF FENCING FOR THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG RECREATION DEPARTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,000.00

14. NEW BUSINESS

VP Fulper – May 8, 2020 – Mr. Newel, 186 Washington Street, sewage back-up. Lot 35 blockage – Town of Phillipsburg. LH Plumbing 1,581.43 receipts to Clerk Kleiner – seems appropriate to reimburse Mr. Newel.

Motion to reimburse

ROLL CALL CONSENT

Passes 5-0

Councilmembers	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Wyant			X			
Councilman Piazza		X	X			
Councilwoman DeGerolamo			X			
Council Vice President Fulper	X		X			
Council President McVey			X			

Discussion

DD – Would like to see invoice, amount reasonable.

CP McVey – if I did miss to send you, apologize for that.

Introduce new meeting Budgetary purposes, motion to have Special Mtg. March 20, 2021 – 8:30 AM., hopefully only need (1) date, but for purpose of saving advertising costs 2nd date March 27, 2021.

Motion

Passes 5-0

Councilmembers	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Wyant			X			
Councilman Piazza		X	X			
Councilwoman DeGerolamo			X			
Council Vice President Fulper			X			
Council President McVey	X		X			

Discussion

None

15. PUBLIC PETITIONS

Joe Meyner – 392 South Main Street

Last meeting – spoke about South Main Street Parking lot – leaves still under snow. Meters – no hours posted-ill spaced. Do not need more Police need Social support for them. Need support for Poor – July 19, 2016 introduced Plan, rudely interrupted “are you done yet.” Sanitary Sewer is TOP’s #1 problem – some attention given, not nearly enough. Building Inspections department understaffed – invites bad landlords, good landlords are backbone of poor community. We keep borrowing to build, this will destroy credit rating-look at Detroit. Years ago, Peron Construction 400 units downriver from Union Square, many more Town goodies, less congestion, Municipal income less than increase school cost increase.

Bob Flynn -JCP&L 30 Elm Morristown, NJ Area Manager introduce self (New Rep to this area)
2 years – Morris County

Look forward to working with all of you.

Theresa Chapman
Association of VP Fulper with Planning Board? Green Acres ?

VP Fulper noted Council appointment to Planning Board, does not run meeting.

CP McVey – Recreation Superintendent, DJ Kophazy – taking Inventory of Green Acres – corralling small parcels, Town owned – Green Acres. Flip to Green Acres – advantageous to TOP.

T.Chapman – developing current Green Acres – 30 million in funding

CP McVey – Town of Phillipsburg wants to find more inventory, building,changing, Planning as a Riverfront Community – Green Acres, Parks/Recreation.

David Morrisette 5 Fairview Hghts.
4th week asking Council to pass Resolution condemning Jan. 6 attack on Capitol
Addressed Mayor Tersigni save the Library – 365k term fee
337 k to Library
Council controls Budget – please verbally commit 765k Library requested

Nicole Timberman 112 N Riverview Rd.
Since closing 03/13/20 – has Library been functioning fully? Do they require full staff, and monies Budgeted for 2020?

CP McVey -asks Mayor Tersigni to respond to this question.

Mayor Tersigni stated doesn't believe open, just as Town Hall closed to Public/Library not open to Public.

Mason Crantz – 17 Kevin Drive, Flanders
Mr. Newel – restaurant on Washington St.?

VP Fulper – responded, no not restaurant, but residence.

Gayle Rodgers – 671 Elder Avenue
Library – not Open, but has stepped up virtual services, audio books, virtual services, curbside pick-ups, newsletter, digital magazines, book club and all these services do serve our Community.

Bill McKeen 215 (Powderhorn Rd. unable to understand)
Noted TOP has a Marijuana Dispensary and asked why did the warehouse not end up in Phillipsburg. Noted Warehouse in his community of Boonton and there have been over 300 odor complaints/ 2 violations/fines. Any studies – don't agree with TOP making profits.

Cnelman Piazza responded, Princeton as well, he visited site a few times. Noted we (TOP) can't control where, any product sold here, it is processed. Whether that be China or our own State or other State. Suggested he petition to your Town Council if having issues with production end of it.

BMcKeen – Couldn't they find space TOP to grow/process/stink up your Town, not mine.

VP Fulper noted 3 minutes were up, suggested Mr. McKeen contact TC President by phone and discuss.

Dan Stires/Sires? 520 Kneedler Avenue
Library – open until told non-essential -shutdown. Then all Virtual except scheduled time on Computers. Only few people allowed in building at a time. Staff worked from home – very few staff – curbside pickup – working.

16. DISCUSSION

DJ Kophazy – Recreation

Spoke about Contest for Logo/team name for our Youth Sports

Did not receive name, but fantastic logo – artist is Mason Sykes, aspiring Graphic Designer.

Matt Scerbo suggested former Middle School mascot name of The Bobcats.

VP Fulper – confirmation, great art work

Mason Sykes – responded, enjoyed Project, out of comfort zone.

VP Fulper – wanted to recognize Mason with Proclamation/Plaque, letter of recognition.

CP McVey noted he was a Bobcat. Wanted to officially announce tonight, continued Mason should be honored for achievement, noting this could be around for years to come.

VP Fulper asked Mason shirt size – responded Large.

Cnclman Piazza – kickball team – sign up, put in team or individually and assigned to a team.

DJ responded register individually or as a team

Mayor Tersigni thanked Mason also, stated 1973 name of Bobcats came to be. Noted Proclamation is well deserved and thanked him .

DJ Kophazy – Thanked Council for their time.

17. COUNCIL OPEN TIME

Cnclman Wyant – Good

Cnclwmn DeG – Good

Cnclman Piazza – wished a Happy 60th B-day to Bill Wright, congratulated for well deserved Proclamations- Swick, Hulse and Marino. Main Street Initiative – wanted to thank Mary Jo Harris, DJ Kophazy and all those working behind the scenes toward improvement of quality of life her in TOP.

VP Fulper – noted misinformation on Social Media is causing division in TOP. He noted about to create citizen advisory panel along with NAACP when Covid put hold. Had meeting with Mr. Warren, diversity staying positive. Hoping residents will look toward inclusion, spend energy on beneficial statements.

CP McVey – thanked Tim O’Brien and Angela Knowles who work on Stan Shreck, Engineering team, great team responds to CP’s questions promptly. Thanked Deputy Clerk Loudenberg for supporting Clerk Kleiner. Thanked VP Fulper for his work brokering with stakeholders of the TOP. Added very excited about the citizen advisory panel, creating receptive feel for diversity in our Community and Council as a whole providing to the Community.

Looking forward to the Budget process, has meeting scheduled for March 20th hopefully, 1 meeting, but advertised 2nd if needed.

Looking in to having outdoor TC Meeting on July 7, 2021.

18. MOTIONS

19. EXECUTIVE SESSION - R2021-71

A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR AN EXECUTIVE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING
Litigation & Contractual matters, action may be taken

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Wyant			X			
Councilman Piazza			X			
Councilwoman DeGerolamo		X	X			
Council Vice President Fulper	X		X			
Council President McVey			X			

ROLL CALL RECONVENE

Councilmembers	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Wyant		X	X			
Councilman Piazza			X			
Councilwoman DeGerolamo			X			
Council Vice President Fulper	X		X			
Council President McVey			X			

R: 2021-64 **No action taken on 03-02-2021**
 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN AND AFSCME COUNCIL NO. 73

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Wyant						
Councilman Piazza						
Councilwoman DeGerolamo						
Council Vice President Fulper						
Council President McVey						

20.
ADJOURNMENT

At 9:10 PM

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent

Apprvd. May 04, 2021

Councilman Wyant		x	x			
Councilman Piazza			x			
Councilwoman DeGerolamo			x			
Council Vice President Fulper	x		x			
Council President McVey			x			

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