

Apprvd. 03.22.2022

**TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 01, 2022
via ZOOM
7:00 P.M.**

(subject to change pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-8(d)-this agenda is tentative to the extent known at time of posting”

(Virtual Zoom Code to Join: Meeting ID: 842 4134 9087 – instructions located on Town Website)

Lorraine Loudenberry is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Time:

Every week on Tue, until Mar 22, 2022, 3 occurrence(s)

Mar 1, 2022 07:00 PM

Mar 8, 2022 07:00 PM

Mar 22, 2022 07:00 PM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZAvC-irqjIqEtOisrFrkU8wxpES5J-HDNxb/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGsrD8rGdCcsBGARpwIAI-gd-nwiFhfj7dylQz3JTJYV1vhLvJnAedVXfD0>

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84241349087?pwd=YmNKcU1LemdIRXhDbyt0eXhQR1dhdz09>

Meeting ID: 842 4134 9087

Passcode: 344020

1. CALL TO ORDER - 7:01 PM

Cnclman Marino asked CP Wyant for a Moment of Silence for the Ukrainian People

2. OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT STATEMENT: - Read by Cnclman Piazza

THIS MEETING IS CALLED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW. THIS MEETING OF MARCH 01, 2022 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** - led by Cnclman Piazza

4. **ROLL CALL** – Wyant, Clark, Kennedy, Marino, Piazza

Also present – Attorney Moscaguiri and Acting Clerk Loudenberry

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - TC Meeting - February 15, 2022
(Received late – moved to next mtg. 03.08.22)

6. **BILLS LIST** –

ROLL CALL

Passed 5-0

Councilmembers	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Kennedy			X			
Councilman Marino	X		X			
Councilman Piazza			X			
Council VP Clark		X	X			
Council President Wyant			X			

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** -

VP Clark attended an Event – Paint Drip Lounge/Studio. Well received Event, former Councilwoman DeGerolamo present. Noted Black History Month – February.

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

PHA Appointment

MOTION

VP Clark moved to appoint Derick Lewis. The motion was seconded by Councilman Kennedy.

Discussion

Cnclman Piazza noted Mr. Lewis submitted an impressive Resume’, added another female voice would have been a good choice too. Regarding mention of conflict, Political Action Director – accepted a contribution.

VP Clark stated Mr. Lewis highly qualified, most qualified. Added diversity important, person of color, noting when he served, as far as he knew, was first person of color on the Commission. Continued Mr. Lewis works in Human Resoure, best equipped for this position. Added has a BA, teaches Political Science, served on Planning Board and active within Community. Noted

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not treasurer since 2019. Stating making a Contribution is being pro-active. Asked colleagues to support Mr. Lewis, feels would do a lot of good and be a positive force. He thanked Cnclman Piazza for his part in the discussion.

CP Wyant noted, glad so many qualified applicants – hard to pick just one. Asked for any other comments. Thanked all who sent in letters of interest/Resumes.

ROLL CALL

Passed 3-1-1

Councilmembers	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Kennedy			X			
Councilman Marino	X				X	
Councilman Piazza				X		
Council VP Clark		X	X			
Council President Wyant			X			

9. Mayor’s Report

Senior Center received donation of 5k from Mcwane Ductile.
Budget Complete
Phillipsburg Police Dept – kudos regarding drug bust/firearms confiscated
Road resurfacing continues
Wish Best of Luck to PHS Wrestling team in AC next Thursday
Named #1 Public School in State of NJ – most wins since 1998

Administrative Report

Councilman Piazza regarding the Phillipsburg Senior Center donation from McWane-Ductile of 5k very thankful. Continued among those in attendance included Mayor Tersigni, CP Wyant, Keith – McWane Ductile, Jim Shelly, Bill Spencer.

10. PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

11. ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

O2022-06

TABLED 5-0

BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER 2019-07 FINALLY ADOPTED ON MAY 7, 2019, AS FURTHER AMENDED BY BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER

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2021-05 FINALLY ADOPTED ON FEBRUARY 16, 2021, IN ORDER TO REVISE THE DESCRIPTION OF IMPROVEMENTS AUTHORIZED THEREIN

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Kennedy			X			
Councilman Marino	X		X			
Councilman Piazza		X	X			
Council VP Clark			X			
Council President Wyant			X			

Discussion

Cnclman Piazza noted need more information and assessment from RT Environmental before making any decisions.

Intent to table – awaiting Proposal from RT Environmental regarding current conditions at former Municipal Bldg. located at 675 Corliss Avenue.

O2022-07

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 105 *POLICE DEPARTMENT*, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG TO A NEW SECTION 105-1.1, *APPOINTING AUTHORITY*, OF THE CODE

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Kennedy			X			
Councilman Marino			X			
Councilman Piazza	X		X			
Council VP Clark		X	X			
Council President Wyant			X			

Public Discussion – None

Council Discussion - None

12. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

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O2022-04 - Amended

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 67, *VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC*, SECTION 28, *PARKING LOTS*, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG TO CLARIFY THE HOURS OF THE LOTS AND THE HOURS SUBJECT TO PAID PARKING

ROLL CALL

Passed 3-2

Councilmembers	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Kennedy		X	X			
Councilman Marino				X		
Councilman Piazza				X		
Council VP Clark	X		X			
Council President Wyant			X			

O2022-09

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY RENAMING THE PHILLIPSBURG SENIOR CENTER TO BE KNOWN AS “GLORIA A. DECKER SENIOR CENTER”

ROLL CALL

Passed 5-0

Councilmembers	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Kennedy			X			
Councilman Marino	X		X			
Councilman Piazza		X	X			
Council VP Clark			X			
Council President Wyant			X			

O2022-10

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE SALARY RANGE FOR CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG

ROLL CALL

Passed 5-0

Councilmembers	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Kennedy			X			
Councilman Marino		X	X			
Councilman Piazza	X		X			
Council VP Clark			X			
Council President Wyant			X			

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 AGENDA

Passed 5-0

Councilmembers	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Kennedy			X			
Councilman Piazza	X		X			
Councilman Marino		X	X		*X	
Council Vice Clark			X			
Council President Wyant			X			

Discussion

*Cnelman Marino abstained from R2022-64 PHA appointment only.

R:2022-55

A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING HANDICAP PARKING SPACES WITHIN THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG

R2022-56

AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR TOWN PUBLIC DEFENDER

R2022-57

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS FOR THE PHILLIPSBURG FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

R: 2022-58

A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR RENEWAL OF LIMOUSINE OPERATOR'S LICENSE FOR AKAB, INC.

R2022-59

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG AND THE PHILLIPSBURG HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR THE USE OF FACILITIES AT THE PHILLIPSBURG HOUSING AUTHORITY

R: 2022-60

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION TO ISSUE REFUNDS WITHOUT COUNCIL APPROVAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50.00 OR LESS

R2022-61

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT TO W. DOWD EXCAVATING, LLC AND SARTINI PLUMBING HEATING & COOLING, LLC FOR WORK PERFORMED ON AN EMERGENCY BASIS FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 24 STULL ALLEY

R2022-62

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE AND CONVEYANCE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 88 SPRUCE ALLEY

R2022-63

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE CONTRIBUTION FROM ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL AND DIRECTING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT REGARDING SAME

R2022-64

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR AN APPOINTMENT TO THE PHILLIPSBURG HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

14. NEW BUSINESS

Cnclman Piazza stated Phillipsburg Senior Center's ceiling in need of repair. Quite high/vaulted. Continued, may need Professional Services of Stan Schrek, Engineer. Quotes for work needed. Noted a Town Building maybe a Capital expense – quite a bit to deal with.

Mayor Tersigni noted – did ask Executive Director Bill Spencer to obtain Quotes, adding Engineer could check out and asked BA Bengivenga to make note.

CP Wyant stated, would like to work with Senior Center – get specs for dropped ceiling, continued should not be too big of job, don't feel need of Engineer for dropped ceiling.

Cnclman Piazza noted Mr. Spencer brought up something about Range Hood.

CP Wyant responded not in Main Room; which is 14' high and could benefit from ceiling being dropped and new lighting, save on costs to heat/cool. Asked Attorney Moscaquiri if need to go out to Bid? Or something Senior Center can do?

Attorney M. – noted could be something Senior Center could do on own, but wanted to run by Attorney Wenner before giving green light.

BA Bengivenga stated as long as Public Funds are not expended.

CP Wyant felt should hold off discussion until Attorney Wenner's return and advice on how to proceed. Continued the funds/donation received from McWane Ductile not Public Funds and could be used.

15. PUBLIC PETITIONS

Bobby Fulper 941 Mill Street

Spoke to Phillipsburg Housing Authority Appointment – stating a set-up. Referred to secret swearing in of new Council Members in January. Election Law Enforcement – April 2021, Kent Corcoran – right to sign checks, PHA Administrator, Tom McGuire. Stated Harry should be ashamed to call self a Republican. Continued supporting Mr. Lewis wrong choice.

Joe Meyner 392 South Main Street

Spoke to Mr. Fulper's comments tonight regarding PHA appt. – previous meeting call VP Clark liar. Continued he doesn't care for mud-slinging. Governing body should put residents first and Politics 2nd always. Addressed CP Wyant, adding peaceful movement, order like this a delicate balance and keep up the good work.

David Morrisette 5 Fairview Heights

Commended Council for holding dignified/well run meeting. Added wholeheartedly agreed with Joe Meyner.

Derick Lewis 298 Morris Street

Thanked Council for appointment to PHA. Hoping for a smooth transition. Happy to spend his time serving the Town of Phillipsburg.

Meliss Paulus 26A Glen Avenue

Noted unfortunate people believe misconceptions – can't handle the Truth. State Harry Wyant has turned his back on the Republican party just as Mayor Tersigni. Continued, Stephanie Lilly, viable candidate for PHA appointment and CP Wyant did not even bring up her name.

BA Bengivenga stated up to Council to approve person for the appointment.

16. DISCUSSION

SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT APPLICATION – Frolic in the Park

Phillipsburg Youth Soccer Club

Phillipsburg Pirates and the LV Men's Senior Baseball League with TOP

Councilman Marino asked about the Pirates playing at the Delaware Hgts field and the extent of their maintaining the field? Or just the Pitcher's mound?

CP Wyant noted that's what the agreement says and asked for clarification.

Mayor Tersigni stated, thought it was infield. Grass cutting would be DPW.

PM – asked if any Youth leagues would be using that field?

Mayor Tersigni did not think so. Noting the Renegades were using field to the left of this field.

17. COUNCIL OPEN TIME

Cnclman Piazza – thanked McWane-Ductile for their donation to the Phillipsburg Senior Center. Adding every Town/Organization needs help. Need to turn optics off – adding if you don't know how it works – State and DEP have nothing to do with TOP. Should not stoop to fear mongering. Adding sad and hoped Senior Center would do good with donation.

Cnclman Marino – stated nice gesture on their part, McWane-Ductile, adding any help for our Seniors a positive.

Cnclman Kennedy – noted congratulations to PHS wrestlers, State Championship Trophy #1 Public School in New Jersey. Congratulated Coach Gensel, staff and wrestlers. Thoughts with the courageous Ukraine people as they defend their Country.

VP Clark – added acknowledgement – March 1 positive influences in our Town as March Women's month. Thanked mother and all women today and all month. Fitting to rename Phillipsburg Senior Center to Gloria Decker Senior Center. Stated as a new councilmember looks to those with experience, thanked CP Wyant for his leadership.

Mayor Tersigni thanked CP Wyant, noted received Application regarding interest in an Event to show support for Ukraine. More information to follow, will supply to Council and Public.

CP Wyant – State feels for the people of Ukraine. Picked the shirt he was wearing as colors of their flag – show support. Pray outcome of Peace. Need Executive Session during tonight's meeting. Work Session scheduled for March 8 – subject for discussion Rent Control requested by Councilman Piazza. Noted, reached out to Stateliner United in hopes of an in person

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Meeting in near future. Has yet to receive a response. If does not hear from them may cancel the WS of March 22, 2022.

18. MOTIONS

Councilman Piazza moved to go into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Council VP Clark.

ROLL CALL Executive Session

Passed 5-0

Councilmembers	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Kennedy			X			
Councilman Piazza	X		X			
Councilman Marino			X			
Council Vice Clark		X	X			
Council President Wyant			X			

19. EXECUTIVE SESSION -

R: 2022- 65

A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR AN EXECUTIVE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING Client/Attorney privilege.

20. ADJOURNMENT - 8:07 PM

Councilman Piazza moved for adjournment. The motion was seconded by Councilman Kennedy.

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