

Approved 06.07.2022

**AGENDA**

**TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2022  
7:00 P.M.**

**(Town Council Meeting to be held in person at PHA Community Bldg., 535 Fisher Ave., Phillipsburg, NJ 08865)**

**(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”**

- 1. **CALL TO ORDER** - 7:01PM
- 2. **OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT STATEMENT:** - read by Councilman Kennedy

**THIS MEETING IS CALLED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW. THIS MEETING OF MAY 17, 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 Councilman Piazza
- 4. **ROLL CALL** - PRESENT: Clark, Kennedy, Piazza, Marino  
ABSENT: Wyant
- 5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - Town Council Meeting 04.19.2022  
Town Council Meeting 05.03.2022

Both sets of Minutes Approved 4-0-1.

**ROLL CALL**

**Passed 4-0-1**

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

6. BILLS LIST –

ROLL CALL

Passed 4-0-1

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

Discussion

None

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

None

8. OLD BUSINESS

**O2022-06 – TBLD March 1, 2022 Awaiting Results of RT Environmental Report**

**O2022-06**

BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER 2019-07 FINALLY ADOPTED ON MAY 7, 2019, AS FURTHER AMENDED BY BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER 2021-05 FINALLY ADOPTED ON FEBRUARY 16, 2021, IN ORDER TO REVISE THE DESCRIPTION OF IMPROVEMENTS AUTHORIZED THEREIN

VP Clark asked if there was any progress regarding the Ordinance/RT Environmental.

BA Bengivenga noted RT Environmental was scheduled to go through 675 Corliss Bldg. tomorrow, May 18 and Thursday, May 19. Usually only requires (1) day, but (2) were scheduled.

9. Mayor’s and Administrative Officers

Mayor Tersigni stated spoke with Congressman Malinowski regarding Grant for Sewer Rehabilitation in excess of 33 million Grant. Will likely pass the House. Thanked Councilman Kennedy and VP Clark for their support in this endeavor. Thanked Van Cleef Engineering.

Noted, will view Peron Project in Burlington. Also, shared Bond Rate – stable outlook, llc. S & P – positive operation, appreciated hardwork of CFO Merlo, BA Bengivenga to make it happen.

Memorial Day Parade/Ceremony – May 30<sup>th</sup> at Shappell Park. Beginning at 10AM at Abbott Street to Shappell Park, then on to Free Bridge, dropping of Wreath with Mayor Panto.

**10. PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Joe Meyner 392 South Main Street

Noted O2022-20, information missing in Whereas, at last Council action regarding the former Elks Bldg. – too few parking spaces. Is there a variance? Keep code in place, rather build fewer apartments. O2022-20 – District 2 Union Square.

VP Clark – asked if any other comments. There being none, closed Public Discussion on Agenda items.

**11. ORDINANCES – SECOND READING - None**

**12. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING**

**O2022-20**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, COUNTY OF WARREN, NEW JERSEY ADOPTING THE DISTRICT 2 (UNION SQUARE), SUB-AREA 3 (MAIN STREET) AMENDMENT - RIVERFRONT REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

**ROLL CALL**

**Passed 4-0-1**

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

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*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**

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

**R: 2022-114**

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX OVER PAYMENT

**R2022-115**

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING A REFUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100.00 TO Billy Holiday

**R2022-116**

Resolution Supporting the *Click It or Ticket* Mobilization of May 23 – June 5, 2022

**R: 2022-117**

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE BUDGET OF ANY COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY PURSUANT TO N.J.S. 40A:4-87 (CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948)

**14. NEW BUSINESS**

Cnclman Piazza stated June 21<sup>st</sup> Senior Center. Asked could we have an update regarding Library Referendum.

BA Bengivenga stated Attorney Wenner drafting now, aware of time sensitivity.

Cnclman Piazza brought up subject of Rent Control when it was discussed at Work Session-noted Public Comment was not allowed. Asked if could have Public Comment at maybe another Work Session or perhaps a Town Hall Meeting.

Cnclman Marino stated important Subject, effecting many residents, give Public opportunity to talk.

VP Clark state would rather discuss with full board, wait for CP Wyant.

Cnclman Piazza noted a diverse group of people are Renters – large rental community – getting their perspective is important.

VP Clark – thanked all for in put.

## **15. PUBLIC PETITIONS**

Joe Meyner – 392 South Main Street

Sent to Council – alteration to Peron’s presentation regarding redevelopment Union Square. Also shared with Council via email – Rental Alternative – not Rental Control. Can’t deliver in 3 minutes. Email to Mayor, Council and all those requesting, just share email address.

David Morrisette 5 Fairview Hghts.

Congratulated Mayor, Council, CP Wyant – well run meetings – Mayor and Council have been civil and productive. Congratulated Mayor and Councilmembers on Grant of over 3 million Sewer System well done.

Questioned Attorney Moscaguiri regarding lawsuits being assigned to Florio, Perrucci and Steinhardt – how chosen/decided.

Attrny Moscaguiri stated assigned by carrier – law firm usually has no say – come off of a Roster. Added, when there is a continuum of players – familiarity of people – best fit for suit.

DM asked if we have changed Insurance Companies.

JM – Don’t know – JIF – underwritten life carrier.

BA Bengivenga noted Statewide – underwrites carrier.

JM – any number of law firms qualify – Insurance Company deems fit. I’ve been assigned to same Township several times. If similar situation and happy with results that have been obtained – familiarity allows come up to speed faster.

VP Clark – CLOSED PUBLIC PETITIONS

## **16. COUNCIL OPEN TIME**

Cnclman Marino – asked Mayor Tersigni when will hire a Recreation Director for TOP. Asked are you searching?

Mayor Tersigni noted Steele Hill offering sports, Firth Youth Center and PFPL. Former employee took 2/3rds of Summer off last year and able to offer Summer Programs.

Cnclman Marino spoke to Rent Control – very important subject – many people looking for apartments.

Cnclman Piazza thanked youth organization, Steele Hill sports, FYC are non-Town Organizations. Feels Town of Phillipsburg needs to step up and provide youth programs through their Recreation Department.

Cnclman Kennedy stated South Main Street traffic up past Black Bridge. Noted Officer to direct traffic in Union Square – paid through DRJTBC, but this is not working until they change light on PA side. Hoping Bridge Commission would have accepted the proposal of 2 lanes of traffic heading west. Current situation unacceptable, need to reach out to Mr. Resta – emergency vehicles still can't respond.

VP Clark – stated EMS Week – hard working volunteer squad. Record number of calls in year. Continued, Infrastructure Grant shows how far bi-partisan efforts can go. Sewer crumbling in some areas – sections go back to the 1800s. Congressman can get through if he says he can. Thanked Mayor Tersigni for work towards Grant. Added, we all want best for our children, interest in seeing things – positive for our kids. Steele Hill, FYC and PFPL available for our children in the past and hopefully in the future. This Summer, need to stay cool – be proactive – keep them safe and engaged.

**17. EXECUTIVE SESSION - NONE**

R: 2022-

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

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

VP Clark moved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:27 PM