

**TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG**  
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**October 17, 2023 — 7:00 P.M.**

- 1. **CALL TO ORDER 7:03 pm** **By CP Wyant**
- 2. **OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT STATEMENT** **Read by CVP Clark**
- 4. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** **All**
- 5. **INVOCATION** **Led by Councilman Piazza**
- 6. **ROLL CALL – Present - Wyant, Clark, Piazza, Marino, Kennedy**

-Also in attendance: Mayor Tersigni, Business Administrator Hall, Attorney Wenner, Deputy Clerk Turner.

- 7. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 3, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes**

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion Carries 4-0-1-0**

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

October 3, 2023 Executive Session Minutes

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion Carries 4-0-1-0**

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

- 8. **BILLS LIST –**

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion Carries 5-0**

Councilmembers	First	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent

Councilman Piazza			X			
Councilman Marino			X			
Councilman Kennedy		X	X			
Council VP Clark	X		X			
Council President Wyant			X			

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS – None**

**10. MAYOR’S REPORT/ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS  
MAYOR'S REPORT OCTOBER 17, 2023**

I was pleased to welcome an estimated 3,500-4,000 people to Phillipsburg for the annual Pork Roll-Palooza festival. Though the weather has not cooperated with us this fall we still had a fantastic turnout and a wonderful day for our community. My thanks to all of the volunteers, staff, and organizations that made the day a success. Development and progress continue to flourish with work beginning on the Corliss Avenue building as well as the former Elks building. It is my hope that we will have a complete evaluation on the PILOT agreement for the Elks building back soon for consideration by Council. Additionally, our Open Space and Recreation Committees will be commencing work soon in order to settle the Town of Phillipsburg’s longstanding issues with the Green Acres program, which, once resolved, will allow us to access tremendous funding opportunities for our Rails to Trails initiative.

This evening first and foremost, I ask the Council to support a number of Resolutions including a new contract to provide the Borough of Alpha with Police and Court services, which has had a mutual benefit to both municipalities. We are pleased to continue the relationship with the Borough of Alpha, and I thank the Mayor and Council for a rigorous, thorough and fair evaluation process. In addition, we seek to authorize the creation of a new online and interactive zoning map which will help to drive redevelopment especially in our downtown area, LED lighting for our Library and Senior Center which will save on utility bills as well as overall maintenance costs, and finally, UEZ funding which will drive traffic to our downtown.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Todd M. Tersigni Mayor of Phillipsburg

**11. PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS - No Public approached podium. Public Discussion Session closed.**

**12. ORDINANCES FOR 2<sup>ND</sup> READING – No ordinances for second reading.**

**13. ORDINANCES FOR 1ST READING – No Ordinances for first reading.**

**14. RESOLUTIONS \*\* CONSENT AGENDA \*\***

**R2023-183 A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING HANDICAP PARKING SPACES WITHIN THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG**

**R2023-184 A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AN INTERLOCAL MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WHEREBY THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE POLICE COVERAGE FOR THE BOROUGH OF ALPHA**

R2023-185 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CONTINUANCE OF THE SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG AND THE BOROUGH OF ALPHA FOR COURT SERVICES

R2023-186 RESOLUTION IMPOSING LIEN FOR MUNICIPAL SERVICES

R2023-187 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)

R2023-188 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT WITH GENERAL CODE TO INCLUDE MAPLINK SERVICES

R2023-189 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING JCP&L-WILDAN DIRECT INSTALL AGREEMENT FOR LED LIGHTING AT THE PHILLIPSBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY AND PHILLIPSBURG SENIOR CENTER

R2023-190 APPROVAL TO SUBMIT AN AWARD EXTENSION REQUEST FOR LA-2022 MA PHILLIPSBURG TOWN IMPROVEMENTS TO HUDSON STREET 21 TO THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

R2023-191 UEZ FUNDING REQUEST: PHILLIPSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT CAMERA SYSTEM UPGRADE

R2023-192 UEZ FUNDING REQUEST: ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET FOR URBAN ENTERPRISE ZONE PROGRAM 9/1/23-12/31/23

R2023-193 UEZ FUNDING REQUEST: ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET FOR URBAN ENTERPRISE ZONE PROGRAM 1/1/24-6/30/24

R2023-194 UEZ FUNDING REQUEST: CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MANAGED EVENT SUPPORT

R2023-195 UEZ FUNDING REQUEST: PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS TO SUPPORT PUBLIC EVENTS

R2023-196 UEZ FUNDING REQUEST: CLEAN STREETS PROGRAM YEAR 1

R2023-197 UEZ FUNDING REQUEST: CLEAN STREETS PROGRAM YEAR 2

R2023-198 UEZ FUNDING REQUEST: OPEN AIR MARKET

R2023-199 UEZ FUNDING REQUEST: RAILS TO TRAILS/DELAWARE RIVER PARK LSRP CONSULTANT

R2023-200 UEZ FUNDING REQUEST: CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MANAGED EVENT SUPPORT

R2023-201 UEZ FUNDING REQUEST: UEZ MEMBER FORGIVEABLE LOANS

R2023-202 UEZ FUNDING REQUEST: ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET FOR URBAN ENTERPRISE ZONE PROGRAM FY23-FY24

R2023-203 UEZ FUNDING REQUEST: UEZ AUDIT SERVICES

*Matters listed on the Consent Agenda Resolutions 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** **Motion Carries** **5-0**

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

**15. OLD BUSINESS –**

-McDonald’s Sidewalk waiver – postponed to the December 5, 2023 meeting.

-Councilman Marino had requested an invoice for the purchase of motor oil for the Mayor’s vehicle in Stroudsburg at a previous meeting. He has not received the invoice or an explanation of why this was done in Stroudsburg. Matt Hall stated the vendor is located in Stroudsburg, but he does not know why that vendor was used.

-Councilman Piazza noted that one Alternate appointment on the Open Space Committee is still open and asked if this would be advertised. Matt Hall stated it would be. Councilman Piazza asked for an accurate description of the vacant/abandoned property procedures.

**16. NEW BUSINESS –** No new business

**17. MOTIONS –** Junior Firefighter Application – Scott Ziems

**ROLL CALL** **Motion Carries** **5-0**

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

Special Event Application – DRJTBC Free Bridge Lighting Ceremony

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion Carries**

**5-0**

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

**18. PUBLIC PETITIONS**

-Joe Meyner, 392 South Main Street, Phillipsburg – Mr. Meyner invited candidates to attend a debate he plans to hold in Shappell Park on October 29<sup>th</sup>. CP Wyant stated a debate is scheduled for October 24<sup>th</sup> at the Middle School.

-MaryJo Harris – NORWESCAP – Thanked all who contributed to making the Pork Roll Palooza so successful: the Mayor, Council, Police, Fire and EMS, Recreation and the volunteers. The vendors were very happy with the turnout with 3 of them running out of food. A big plus from the day was the Head of Marketing for the John Taylor Pork Roll Company attended the event and said the company will help sponsor Pork Roll Palooza in the future.

-Ms. Simmons, 131 Lewis St, Phillipsburg – is in the process of evicting the tenant. She received an invoice from the Town for 2 hours of garbage removal. Councilman Marino stated she has had ongoing problems with this tenant, and he would like to see the town waive these fees for the owner. Attorney Wenner took her information.

-Joan Pierce, Prospect Street, Phillipsburg – stated that phone calls to the Municipal Building are not answered and voice mails are not returned. She had an emergency sewer issue at her residence and could not get through to anyone. She asked if anyone was charged regarding the damage to the band shell and asked for a report. CP Wyant stated she should contact the Police Department.

**Public Petitions closed.**

**19. COUNCIL OPEN TIME**

Councilman Piazza – attended Pork Roll Palooza. It was a great event. He has received emails from other residents who also had difficulties contacting people at the Municipal Building. He will be talking with Administration regarding this. He offered prayers for everyone affected in Israel.

Councilman Marino – He has a chart for Administrator Hall. The official town records show 57 vacant properties but he has record of more than that. He would like a clear accounting of rental properties in town. He would like two officers hired to enforce abandoned/unregistered vehicle laws. He asked that Administrator Hall look into Edison Field on Stockton and see if it is owned by the Town.

Councilman Kennedy – recognized the Phillipsburg Field Hockey team who won the Hunterdon Warren Sussex Championship for the first time. He thanked MaryJo Harris, NORWESCAP, the vendors, volunteers and everyone that helped make Pork Roll Palooza a great success.

Council Vice President Clark – he thanked NORWESCAP and all its partners for making Pork Roll Palooza such a success. He feels the event will continue to grow and become even better.

Council President Wyant – thanked everyone involved in Pork Roll Palooza. It was a great event.

**20. EXECUTIVE SESSION IF REQUIRED – No Executive Session**

**21. ADJOURNMENT – 7:27 PM**

Councilman Piazza moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilman Marino.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0  
Absent: 0  
Motion passed.