

City of Phillips
Committee of the Whole Meeting & Public Hearing
Municipal Building, Municipal Hall
174 S Eyder Avenue
February 2nd, 2021
5:30 pm

Mayor: Charles Peterson

Committee Members: Jerry Clark, Richard Heitkemper, Laura Tomaszewski, Marty Stephan, Bill Elliott, John Klimowski.

City Attorney: Bruce Marshall

Department Heads: Public Works Director–Jeff Williams; Water/Wastewater Supervisor-Todd Toelle; Police Chief-Michael Hauschild; Fire Chief-David Lontcoski; Library Director–Rebecca Puhl; Clerk/Treasurer- Shelby Prochnow.

This meeting is held in compliance with Wisconsin’s Open Meeting Law, WI § Chapter 19, Subchapter V. As such it is open to the public.

City Council members present may also represent a quorum of any Committee or Board of the City Council listed below and, as such, may proceed to meet and conduct business as listed under that Committee or Board portion of the agenda below, if the full City Council doesn’t have sufficient members present to satisfy quorum requirements to enable it to meet as the Committee of the Whole.

Call to Order (presiding officer) Time: _____

- a. Greeting
- b. Certification of compliance with Open Meeting Law
- c. Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Chuck Peterson ____, Jerry Clark ____, Richard Heitkemper ____, Laura Tomaszewski ____, Marty Stephan ____, Bill Elliott ____, John Klimowski ____.

1. Motion to open the Public Hearing for discussion on the amendment of Ordinance 12.03(10) amending Class “A” and “Class A” license closing hours for beer and liquor sales. Time: _____
2. Motion to close the Public Hearing. Time: _____
3. Action regarding amendment of Ordinance 12.03(10) License Closing Hours.

Public Comment:

DISCUSSION-ACTION ITEMS:

General-Mayor/Clerk

1. Set next month’s meeting date and time: Tuesday, March 2nd, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.
2. Motion to approve the minutes from the January 5th, 2021 meeting.
3. Mayor updates:
4. Clerk updates:
5. Discussion/Action regarding recommendation to Common Council to approve the renewal agreement between the NWRPC and the City of Phillips in regard to the CDBG Housing Program.

Board of Public Works/Recreation –Klimowski/Tomaszewski

6. DPW and Water/Sewer Updates:

7. Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Update:

Public Safety - Heitkemper

8. Fire Department updates:

9. Police Department Updates:
a. Staples Property Update

Licensing/Permits – Elliott.

Personnel/Budget/Finance – Clark

10. Discussion/Action for Library request for unused 2020 budget to be put into a capital outlay fund.

11. Discussion/Potential Action regarding funding request for the Park Falls Area Community Development Corp for fiscal year 2021.

Legal
City Council

12. Council Update

13. Adjournment: Time: _____

Committee of the Whole
Meeting Minutes
February 2nd, 2021

Mayor Peterson called the meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 5:31p.m.

Members Present: Charles Peterson, Jerry Clark, Richard Heitkemper, Laura Tomaszewski, Marty Stephan, Bill Elliott, John Klimowski, Shelby Prochnow, Bruce Marshall.

Also Present: Jeff Williams, Mike Stoffel, Todd Toelle, Michael Hauschild, David Lontcoski, Becky Puhl, Patricia Zeitner, Ruthann Rehberg, Christian Markle, and Jennifer Markle.

1. Klimowski/ Elliott moved to open the Public Hearing for discussion on the amendment of Ordinance 12.03(10) amending Class “A” and “Class A” license closing hours for beer and liquor sales. Time: 5:31pm

Ruthann Rehberg (Owner of Totem Pole) brought up the question as to why now, is it being changed. She has owned the liquor store for 22 years and stated that it seems like this is being changed due to Kwik Trip moving into town this year.

Police Chief Hauschild spoke and state that any time you extend sales there will be an increase of calls for the department.

Jerry Clark noted that this will affect alcohol related crime and issues as you give them more access to it. He also said the council needs to start looking at what is best for the safety of our community and not is what is best for sales.

Bill Elliott stated that if people want it, they will drive to outside the City limits to the other places in the county that have the hours we are now requesting. He only brought it up because he has just now become aware of the 9pm closing hours and that the rest of the County is able to sell beer until midnight and he is just looking at our hours being the same as the rest in the County.

2. Heitkemper/ Stephan moved to close the Public Hearing. Time: 5:37pm
3. Action regarding amendment of Ordinance 12.03(10) License Closing Hours.
Heitkemper/ Elliott moved to approve the Ordinance 12.03(10) amendment regarding Class “A” and “Class A” license closing hours. Roll Call: Clark – opposed, Heitkemper – aye, Tomaszewski – aye, Stephan – aye, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried 5-1

Public Comment: None

DISCUSSION-ACTION ITEMS:

General-Mayor/Clerk

1. Set next month’s meeting date and time: Tuesday, March 2nd, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.
2. Klimowski/ Clark moved to approve the minutes from the January 5th, 2021 meeting as corrected.
3. Mayor updates: Mayor Peterson informed the Council that the housing study the City has jumped on board with the City of Park Falls with is getting started. There will be a few meetings in the upcoming month to get going on the process.
4. Clerk updates: Prochnow informed the Council that the Auditors were here yesterday, and everything went very smooth.
5. Discussion/Action regarding recommendation to Common Council to approve the renewal agreement between the NWRPC and the City of Phillips in regard to the CDBG Housing Program.

This is the contract between Northwest Regional Planning Commission and the City to have them administer and run the CDBG Housing Program.

Klimowski/ Elliott moved to approve the renewal agreement between the NWRPC and the City of Phillips regarding the CDBG Housing Program. Carried.

Board of Public Works/Recreation –Klimowski/Tomaszewski

6. DPW and Water/Sewer Updates:

DPW: Skating Rink is doing fantastic. Lynn Ludwig painted the warming house, and it looks awesome. A few people have approached Jeff regarding when the City is going to get rid of the property the old skating rink was on. Williams mentioned that we need to start looking at redoing some of the alleys because there is no funding that is available from the state for these it would all be out of the City budget. Also need to look at the downtown sidewalks because only a few businesses have gone through and made the repairs needed. We also have a property on Springs Drive where the old well used to be that we could look at selling as well. Council members thought maybe selling these properties could help get a couple alleys done. Todd Toelle also mentioned we have another well property that someone has asked him about the City selling. Williams and Prochnow will come up with a list of properties available for the next COW meeting.

Water/Sewer: Everything is going well. Just had the DNR water inspection and that went well. In doing our PSC (Public Service Commission) report for the auditors Toelle found there was a 3-million-gallon loss. However, after doing a little investigating the department found a property that has had a pipe broken for the last year but never reported it, and there was also another house where the meter stopped working due to sand being in the meter. Had our first water main break on Ash & First St, it was a smooth fix.

7. Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Update:

Plans are out and there will be a pre-bid meeting at the plant on February 16th at 10 am for contractors to come and view the plant before bidding. On the 24th of February bids close, with the bid opening to follow and then they will be brought to the March 2nd COW meeting.

Public Safety - Heitkemper

8. Fire Department updates: It has been a very quiet start of the year. Winterfest fireworks went well. They have a DNR training coming up. Lontcoski reported that former fire chief Jim Pisca is having some health issues and they are planning a celebration of all his years of service coming up soon. They did have to respond to a call in Prentice because Prentice fire department was so short staffed, they could not respond.

9. Police Department Updates:

a. Staples Property Update: Mr. Staples has been in the process of taking down the house himself, so Chief gave him a 30-day extension. Chief will see keep an eye on the progress.

Calls of Service:

	2021	2020
Jan	189	188

Chief Hauschild presented the council with his annual report and gave a summary. He also informed the council that in 2020 it was considerably lower for the meth, but it is coming back into the area so they will be busy again.

Chief also presented the council with a fitness incentive program. Hauschild stated that once an officer is graduated from the academy there really is no more baseline requirements to be met regarding physical fitness. He would like to start this fitness incentive program where once a year the officers will go through and try to meet the 2 different standard levels and if they completed it, they would get a bonus. Park Falls did this same program and it went over very well there.

Licensing/Permits – Elliott.

Personnel/Budget/Finance – Clark

10. Discussion/Action for Library request for unused 2020 budget to be put into a capital outlay fund. Becky informed the council that the library department came in under budget roughly over \$17,000. This money would have been spent for the library redesign project, however, with the pandemic it put the redesign on hold. She is hoping the remodeling will start this year. The last 2 years the City has approved placing her budget surplus in a Capital outlay fund to set aside for the redesign. Total redesign will be roughly \$150,000-\$200,000. Have a little over \$30,000 already set aside from previous year budgets and rest will come from fundraising. Klimowski/ Elliott moved to recommend to the Common Council to approve moving the 2020 library budget surplus to a Capital Outlay fund. Roll Call: Clark – aye, Heitkemper – opposed, Tomaszewski – aye, Stephan – opposed, Elliott – aye, Klimowski – aye. Motion Carried 4-2
11. Discussion/Potential Action regarding funding request for the Park Falls Area Community Development Corp for fiscal year 2021. Clerk Prochnow presented the Council with the final 2020 budget now that all year end expenses have been made. Prochnow briefly discussed some budget matters that explained the year end numbers but also told them about some upcoming items that will need to be budgeted for. No action taken tonight; this will be back on the agenda in July to be discussed before the 2022 budget is set.

Legal
City Council

12. Council Update
Heitkemper: He was approached by a citizen with concerns regarding the Ambulance service responding to Prentice calls. Heitkemper stated that the Ambulance will be going to the Prentice Ambulance board at their next meeting to discuss this matter.
Stephan: Informed the Council he made a stop at the Price County Powersports business and talked with the owner, owner said business has been good and Stephan was very impressed with the great work they have done to the interior of the business.
13. Clark/ Elliott moved for adjournment: Time: 6:24pm



Shelby Prochnow
Clerk/Treasurer