

City of Phillips
Committee of the Whole Meeting
Municipal Building, Municipal Hall
174 S Eyder Avenue
April 2nd, 2024
5:30 pm

Mayor: Charles Peterson

Committee Members: Jerry Clark, Richard Heitkemper, Mark Brzeskiewicz, Marty Stephan, Bill Elliott, John Klimowski.

City Attorney: Bryce Schoenborn

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

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 ____, Mark Brzeskiewicz ____, Marty Stephan ____, Bill Elliott ____, John Klimowski ____.

Public Comment:

DISCUSSION-ACTION ITEMS:

General-Mayor/Clerk

1. Set next month’s meeting date and time: Tuesday May 7th, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.
2. Motion to approve the minutes from the March 5th, 2024, meeting.
3. Mayor updates:
4. Clerk updates:

Board of Public Works/Recreation –Klimowski/Elliott

5. DPW and Water/Sewer Updates:
 - a) Discussion/Action old Elk Lake Park playground equipment, potential sale of equipment
6. Discussion/Action regarding Collins Well Update at 586 S Eyder:
7. Fifield/Ash Street Reconstruction Updates:

Public Safety - Heitkemper

8. Fire Department updates:
9. Police Department Updates:
10. Discussion/Action regarding directive to City attorney to move forward with a draft ordinance for an ATV/UTV Route on Hwy 13 from Cty Rd F/S Airport Rd to Fayette St.

Licensing/Permits – Brzeskiewicz

Personnel/Budget/Finance – Clark

Legal
City Council

11. Council Update

12. Adjournment: Time: _____

Mayor Charles Peterson called the meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 5: 30p.m.
Members Present: Jerry Clark, Richard Heitkemper, Mark Brzeskiewicz, Marty Stephan, Bill Elliott, John Klimowski, Bryce Schoenborn and Shelby Kosmer

Also Present: Justin Schueman, Michael Hauschild, Blaine Peterson, Joe Perkins, Travis Abraham, Todd Toelle, David Lontcoski, Kristen Harper, Jim Heizler, Patty Stephan, Michael Stoffel and Lyn Ludwig.

Public Comment: None

DISCUSSION-ACTION ITEMS:

General-Mayor/Clerk

1. Set next month's meeting date and time: Tuesday May 7th, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.
2. Clark/ Klimowski moved to approve the minutes from the March 5th, 2024, meeting as corrected.
Carried
3. Mayor updates: Mayor Peterson informed everyone that Price County United Limited will be having a meeting regarding the transfer of sale of Lionite and the EPA Community Change Grant 4/3/24 at Barry Wehmiller University at 5:30pm.
4. Clerk updates: None

Board of Public Works/Recreation –Klimowski/Elliott

5. DPW and Water/Sewer Updates:
DPW: Tory Lind started on Monday, been doing some work down by the campground and at park to get it cleaned up.
 - a) Discussion/Action old Elk Lake Park playground equipment, potential sale of equipment. Jim proposed that the City could sell the current playground equipment. We would like to sell the 5 pieces individually and then we would like to donate the money to the fundraiser effort for the new equipment, Kristen Harper was in attendance and updated the council the timeline of when the project will take place. The manufacturing of the equipment is going to be the biggest hurdle for the timeframe. But the sales rep did not feel like it would be ready by 4th of July. They would like to hold off after the 4th of July to make sure there is some sort of equipment down there for the 4th of July, but then that would mean that there would be a couple of weeks of music in the park that there would not be playground equipment. Mark Brzeskiewicz questioned if TJ and Jody Podmolik from the Phillips Youth Baseball/Softball would be interested in the equipment for Forward Park. Bill Elliott mentioned there was some interest in the equipment for out in Lugerville. Council will table this item for the sale of the equipment until Jim Heizler can reach out a few people. Council confirmed that we should postpone the install of the new equipment until after the 4th of July to ensure that there is some equipment down there for the holidays.

Water/Sewer: The treatment plant is running good, right now having some issues on County Rd F as some of the valves are under the blacktop and right now they are having to heat up the asphalt and chisel out the main. Also, out on County Rd F is only serviced by one main pipe that feeds the whole north end of town, and if we would need to add any water/sewer to anything North of town, we need to create a solution to add a new line to service that end of town.

City Engineer Mike Stoffel did touch base on the Price Group owning a chunk of land in the north annex that they are looking to develop but with the cost of developing they are struggling to be able to do so. There are potential funding sources that can bring in funding to help bring those costs down to

the developer, but it is limited to senior housing or workforce housing, and those have rental caps. The group is looking at marketing this as regular housing but there is not really funding sources to help other than what is available through TIF districts, which at this time the City does not have those sources available.

6. Discussion/Action regarding Collins Well Update at 586 S Eyder: We need to get water service to this property. It would require boring a line over off of argyle to get the curb stops and boring the line over to the house on S Eyder. Collins needs to do the well abandonment. Howard Brothers will be here next week to provide Toelle with a quote. Bryce informed the council there is no funding for the City to pursue to do this work. Justin from ayres, stated, technically the city is only responsible up to the right of way. We could run two lines off Argyle to the Collins property and then create a survey to figure out the property on argyle and then we need to survey to determine our road right of way to know where the right of way is on Collins Property. Toelle was instructed to get some quotes and bring it back to the council to determine how to proceed.
7. Fifield/Ash Street Reconstruction Updates: Working through loan closing with the DNR. Preconstruction meeting will be next Tuesday. Looking to start with removable April 15th.

Public Safety - Heitkemper

8. Fire Department updates: Both sirens were down but they are back up right now, but one is only working on battery backup, Northway is coming tomorrow. Met with custom fire and he should be getting the proposal for the new fire engine and then once we get the proposal, they are good for 30 days. The junior program is doing good, but still just have 1 so far.
9. Police Department Updates:
Calls for Service 2024 2023
 March 152 136
 YTD 444 431
Wednesday March 13th, PRSO and PPD executed a search warrant on Germania Ave, where 3 grams of meth and 100cc of loaded needles were located, and two people were arrested. The full time position got 4 applications, would like to schedule interviews on May 7th after the council meeting. 1 done with recruit academy in May in Rhinelander, 1 gentleman from Rhinelander, 1 from butternut but he won't be done with the academy until September, and 1 part timer who wants to apply full time. Have 2 people interested in the part time job.
10. Discussion/Action regarding directive to City attorney to move forward with a draft ordinance for an ATV/UTV Route on Hwy 13 from Cty Rd F/S Airport Rd to Fayette St. Tyler Weber president of ATV club, the county is a go for enacted the ordinance, but they want us to get our ordinance enacted first and then they will follow suit.
Elliott/Klimowski moved to direct City Attorney to move forward with drafting an ordinance for an ATV/UTV Route on Hwy 13 from Cty Rd F/S Airport Rd to Fayette St. Carried.

Licensing/Permits – Brzeskiewicz

Personnel/Budget/Finance – Clark

Legal
City Council

11. Council Update
Brzeskiewicz did attend the Park Falls area economic development meeting. Nothing to report of new businesses, the Park Falls school district did grow by 62 Micronesian students, they will actually be

looking at hiring a teaching with fluency the Micronesian language. The library does have a survey out right now Mark informed everyone. Industrial Development Corporation is looking to create a community development group created to see what we can improve on the strengths of Phillips.

Heitkemper – talked to an individual today and he was from Ogema and he was very concerned about the school district of Prentice and expanding the tax base for the Pentice school district, this was a referendum question on their election and the individual urged that this is very important for the school because they were told that if that does not go through they may close the Prentice school district.

Clark: Questions the change of Lionite ownership, does that affect the cleanup, Bryce stated the transfer does not affect the cleanup effort.

12. Elliott moved for adjournment: Time: 6:22pm

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shelby Kosmer".

Shelby Kosmer
Clerk/Treasurer