THE VILLAGE OF PHILLIPSBURG
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 20, 2026

Mayor Simpson called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Heather Craft - absent, Hope Hoard - here, Zach Moore – here, Chrystal Beavers – absent (on vacation), and Jake Cramer - here. Hope motioned to approve Heather's absence. Zach seconded. Approved by unanimous vote. Hope motioned to approve Chrystal's absence. Zach seconded. Approved by unanimous vote.

Hope motioned to approve meeting minutes from October 6, 2026, regular meeting. Zach seconded. Approved by unanimous vote.

Mayor Simpson stated that Council had not filled the vacant council seat within 30 days, leaving the responsibility to him. The council term will end on December 31, 2029. Mayor Joshua Simpson then swore in Noah Waters to fill the vacant council seat.

Mayor Simpson indicated that Jake isn't feeling well, so he could excuse himself from the meeting at that time.

Public Comment – NONE

OLD BUSINESS –
Mayor Josh Simpson reported that quotes had been distributed for park improvements, pickleball courts, or both. No one attended the community meeting held to gather public input. He asked what improvements should move forward and noted that checklists were available.

Super Tennis gave a quote to build Pickle Ball Court properly - $139,000, not leaving much for the park. Mayor asked for a quote if someone completed excavating, and they came back with $110,000. Quote from Playground Boss – Sealing cracks and placing equipment - $92,000. We've tried our best to get public interest feedback. Most would like to see a playground for the kids. We received another quote for $150,000. And another for $173,000. Colors are subject to change as we go along and we are ordering things. Another quote for $178,000. All for 4800-5000 square foot parks. All companies giving quotes have all necessary certifications and qualifications. Mayor Simpson wants council approval as to what exactly they want to see done with the money from the grant. There are questionnaires for future planning of the parks in the back if people would like to look at it before heading out.

Miami County Blaze has contributed $14,000 in time and effort toward field improvements, including batting cages and a new clay-turf top layer. All fields now have base studs and bases. Under a signed 10-year contract, Miami County Blaze may continue using the fields at no cost in exchange for improvements. Concession stand revenue will fund additional agreed-upon improvements. The Boy Scouts repaired all bleachers, but player benches are still needed for the girls. After considering several options, including wooden benches being made, we found 12-foot aluminum benches online for $711 each. We requested business contributions in exchange for fence advertising and have received three checks. Dokken's Eagle Scout project raised an extra $600, and they donated that to us by check. We have enough funding for four benches and are awaiting checks from two more businesses. Hope requested the information to share with Jacob and suggested asking for help funding the benches because they also use the fields at no cost. Mayor Simpson suggested offering them fence advertising and welcomed donations. He plans to contact larger corporations, citing Cargil's $20,000 donation to the Brookville Football Association for new helmets a few years ago. Future plans include restoring permanent outfield fences and the 90 feet of safety fencing on both sides of the outfield removed in recent years. Restoring the safety fencing is a priority because the field cannot be used without it. Outfield fencing is estimated to cost $5,000–$10,000, depending on material prices at the time. We will explore offering advertising space in exchange for the work. The outfield fences would provide additional advertising space, and field naming could be considered for a substantial contribution. The goal is broad community involvement.

New Ordinances or Resolutions - None

Harvest Party
Hope Hoard gave plans for the Harvest Party this Saturday. The party is from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. There will be kids dressed up. Refreshments, cupcakes, cookies, snacks, and candy will be provided. Hope indicated that costumes are preferred. She stated that this is something fun to enjoy with the kids before trick or treat the following week on October 31, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Hope said she wasn't sure if they would have a bonfire or not. Mayor Simpson indicated that the Hunters Club is rented that day, however, he will ask those individuals if they would mind if we had the bonfire (the firepit is close to the Hunter's Club building so best to ask).

Mayor Simpson indicated to Noah that council appreciates him coming on board. We have an excellent group of people with children and a future here, and we want to see things get better for them.

Hope motioned to adjourn. Zach seconded. Motion carried, meeting adjourned.

Joshua V. Simpson, Mayor

Lori Hartman, Fiscal Officer