

1305120

**City of Merrill
Board of Public Works
Wednesday, April 24, 2013 at 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Basement Conference Room, 1004 East First Street**

Members Present (4 of 5): Mayor Bill Bialecki (Chairperson), Street Commissioner Richard Lupton, Alderman Steve Hass and Alderman John Burgener.

Others Present Included: City Administrator Dave Johnson, Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Darin Pagel, Police Chief Ken Neff, Alderman Dave Sukow, Alderman Ryan Schwartzman, Alderwoman Kandy Peterson, Ryan Peacock and City Clerk Bill Heideman. A student was in attendance to videotape the meeting for the Cable Access Channel.

Call to order

Mayor Bialecki called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

Vouchers

The vouchers were in the meeting packet.

Motion (Hass/Burgener) to approve the vouchers, as presented. Carried.

Review & discuss angle parking on Pine Street, north of West Main Street

Alderman Hass had requested that this item be placed on the agenda.

Mark Raymer has submitted a request for the installation of six parking spots (angle parking) on North Pine Street, at 1502 West Main Street.

Street Commissioner Lupton stated that the installation of angle parking would not result in an increase of available parking spaces. He also had safety concerns with angle parking, as drivers are "backing out blind" when exiting angle parking spots. In his opinion, the request is not feasible.

Alderman Hass suggested delaying any action on this until the next meeting. Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Pagel suggested that a shared parking agreement might be a feasible option in this case.

No action taken at this time.

Amend Ord. Sec. 36-119(7) to delete two-hour parking on 100 block of N. Scott St.

A proposed ordinance was in the meeting packet.

After researching the issue, Police Chief Neff is now proposing that parking still be allowed on the west side of the street. On the east side of the street, "Bus Parking Only" signage would be installed in the area of the three parking spots on that side.

Motion (Hass/Lupton) to approve the ordinance, with the amendment that parking would still be allowed on the west side of the street. Carried.

The proposed ordinance will be on the May 14th, 2013 Common Council meeting agenda.

Amend Ord. Sec. 36-122 to establish two 15-minute parking stalls @ 1021 E. Main

A proposed ordinance was in the meeting packet.

On February 25th, 2013, the Health and Safety Committee passed a motion approving a request from Robert Johnson for two 15-minute parking spaces at 1021 East Main Street. The proposed ordinance would incorporate that 15-minutes parking zone into Section 36 of the Code of Ordinances.

On April 22nd, 2013, the Health and Safety Committee recommended approving the ordinance.

Alderman Hass stated that, in his opinion, it would be difficult if not impossible to enforce the 15-minute parking time limit. He also speculated that approval could be interpreted as showing favoritism to one business owner.

No action was taken.

Note: Because the Health and Safety Committee has already recommended approval of the ordinance, it will still appear on the May 14th, 2013 Common Council meeting agenda.

Review and consider approval of 2013 MS4 Annual Report

A copy of the 2013 Municipal Separate Storm System (MS4) report was in the meeting packet. Street Commissioner Lupton is requesting review and approval of the report.

Motion (Hass/Burgener) to approve the 2013 MS4 report, as submitted. Carried.

Note: No Common Council action on the motion is necessary.

Discuss various aspects of upcoming Taylor Street repair project

Street Commissioner Lupton had requested that this item be placed on the agenda. He stated that discussion with Town of Merrill officials on the Taylor Street repair project is ongoing.

Various aspects of the upcoming Taylor Street repair project were discussed, including the bridge work and costs related to curb and gutter. Street Commissioner Lupton speculated that the costs associated with the installation of curb and gutter could be prohibitive.

Mayor Bialecki suggested that further discussion with Town of Merrill officials be held before any major decisions related to the project are made.

No action was taken at this time.

Discuss Normal Park City/County agreement re: downtown parking spaces

Mayor Bialecki reported that he and Lincoln County Administrative Coordinator Randy Scholz have discussed the agreement whereby the City took ownership of the Normal Park block. Under the terms of that agreement, the City is to provide Lincoln County ten parking spaces in the downtown area.

Mayor Bialecki reported that he and County Administrative Coordinator Scholz have reached a tentative agreement whereby the City would provide Lincoln County with three parking spaces in the new parking lot (former Courtview Apartments) and seven parking spaces in Municipal Lot #1 off East Main Street.

Street Commissioner Lupton recommends that the City instead offer four parking spaces in the new parking lot and six parking spaces in Municipal Lot #1. The Street Department was directed to provide appropriate signage once an agreement is reached and approved.

1305121

Motion (Hass/Burgener) to offer Lincoln County four parking spaces in the new parking lot at the former Courtview Apartments site and offer them six parking spaces in Municipal Lot #1 (off East First Street), to fulfill the obligation of the City obtaining the former Lincoln County Normal property on Center Avenue, between East Sixth Street and East Seventh Street.
Carried.

Monthly report - Street Commissioner

The report was in the meeting packet.

Monthly report – Exterior Maintenance

The report was in the meeting packet. Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Pagel noted that, as requested, the aldermanic district for properties with exterior maintenance concerns has been added to the report.

Monthly report – Northwinds Inspection

The report was in the meeting packet. Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Pagel reported that he hopes sidewalk work can begin soon.

Monthly report – City Hall Maintenance Supervisor

No report submitted.

Monthly report from contracted engineering firms

No report(s) submitted.

Review Common Council action: Remove Tyler St. sidewalk (amended agenda)

This item was part of an amended agenda.

At a meeting on February 20th, 2013, the Board of Public Works passed a motion recommending removal of the sidewalk on Tyler Street, at the following addresses: 402 Tyler Street, 404 Tyler Street and 406 Tyler Street. That motion (#1303122) was then adopted by the Common Council at their March 12th, 2013 meeting.

At a meeting on April 8th, 2013, in a motion recommending approval of the site plan for the new Merrill Fire Station, the City Plan Commission included language that the consideration of sidewalk removal on Tyler Street be referred back to the Board of Public Works. That motion (#1304162) was then adopted by the Common Council at their April 9th, 2013 meeting.

Alderman Hass stated that he has no strong opinion one way or the other on this issue. It was noted that, under the revised plan for the new fire station, it is possible to allow the sidewalk to remain in place.

1305122

Motion (Hass/Burgener) to reverse the motion adopted at the April 9th, 2013 Common Council meeting (Motion #1304162) to remove the sidewalk on Tyler Street near the site of the new fire station. Instead the Board of Public Works now recommends that the sidewalk remain.
Carried.

Next meeting

Wednesday, May 29th, 2013 at 5:30 P.M.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

Motion (Hass/Burgener) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 6:08 P.M.

Minutes prepared and submitted by:

William N. Heideman, WCMC
City Clerk