

April 15th, 2014

Note: These minutes are subject to review and approval at the next regular Common Council meeting.

The Common Council of the City of Merrill met on the above date at 7:00 P.M. for the Reorganization Meeting. Mayor William R. Bialecki called the meeting to order.

140410S Silent Prayer

140415S Pledge of Allegiance

140420S Roll Call showed the following Common Council members present (7 of 8): Alderman Chris Malm (First District), Alderman Steve Hass (Second District), Alderman Ryan Schwartzman (Third District), Alderwoman Kandy Peterson (Fourth District), Alderman John Burgener (Fifth District), Alderman Dave Sukow (Sixth District), Alderman Rob Norton (Seventh District). Alderwoman Anne Caylor (Eighth District) had an excused absence.

100460S Oath of Office – Mayor, Alderpersons and Street & Weed Commissioner

Branch II Circuit Court Judge Robert Russell administered the Oath of Office to Mayor William R. Bialecki.

Branch II Circuit Court Judge Robert Russell administered the Oath of Office to Street & Weed Commissioner Dick Lupton.

Branch II Circuit Court Judge Robert Russell administered the Oath of Office to the following Alderpersons:

First District	Chris Malm
Second District	Peter Lokemoen
Third District	Ryan Schwartzman
Fourth District	Kandy Peterson
Fifth District	John Burgener
Sixth District	David L. Sukow
Seventh District	Rob Norton

Branch II Circuit Court Judge Robert Russell administered the Oath of Office to City Clerk Bill Heideman.

Roll call of the reorganized Common Council showed seven members present (see list above).

Interviews & Appointment of Eighth Aldermanic District Alderperson

Tim Meehean was the only Eighth Aldermanic District resident who submitted a letter expressing interest in being appointed the position of Eighth District Alderperson.

Motion (Malm/Sukow) to appoint Tim Meehean to fill the position of Eighth District Alderperson. Carried.

Branch II Circuit Court Judge Robert Russell administered the Oath of Office to Tim Meehean.

Election of Common Council President

Motion (Norton/Peterson) to nominate Alderman John Burgener as a candidate for Common Council President.

Motion (Lokemoen/Meehean) to nominate Alderman Chris Malm as a candidate for Common Council President.

Mayor Bialecki stated that a roll vote would be taken for Alderman John Burgener. Roll call vote resulted in a 4-4 tie. Voting Yes – Alderwoman Peterson, Alderman Burgener, Alderman Sukow and Alderman Norton. Mayor Bialecki broke the tie by voting Yes, so John Burgener was elected President of the Common Council.

Election of Alderperson member of the City Plan Commission

Motion (Sukow/Lokemoen) to nominate Alderman Peter Lokemoen for a candidate as Alderperson member of the City Plan Commission.

On voice vote, Alderman Peter Lokemoen was elected as Alderperson member of the City Plan Commission.

1404240S Mayor's Appointments

Personnel and Finance Committee

Alderman Schwartzman, Chairperson
Alderman Burgener
Alderman Meehean

Board of Public Works

Alderman Norton
Alderman Schwartzman
Alderman Lokemoen

Health and Safety Committee

Alderman Sukow, Chairperson
Alderwoman Peterson
Alderman Malm

Water and Sewage Committee

Alderman Norton, Chairperson
Alderman Burgener
Alderwoman Peterson

City Plan Commission

Alderman Lokemoen
Ralph Sturm
Melissa Schroeder
Steve Hass

Parks & Recreation Commission

Alderman Sukow
Mike Willman
Don Heyel

Transit Commission

Steve Willis
Sue Kunkel

Employee Safety Committee

Alderman Malm

Tourism Commission

Alderman Malm
Russ Grefe
Jim Arndt
Laureen O'Day

Community Development Committee

Alderman Schwartzman
Peter Koblitz
Nancy Kwieseilewicz
Betsy Wiesneski

Zoning Board of Appeals

Steve Hass, Chairperson
Dean Haas
Jim Koebe

Historic Preservation Committee

Alderman Meehean, Chairperson
Alderman Lokemoen
Bea Lebal

CATV Committee

Alderman Malm

Redevelopment Authority

Alderman Schwartzman

Library Board

Alderman Meehean
James Wedemeyer
Kyle Reimann

Board of Review

Alderman Burgener
Alderman Sukow
Alderman Meehean

Airport Commission

Alderman Malm

Police & Fire Commission

Carol Holz

Housing Authority

Alderman Norton

Parking Commission

Alderman Lokemoen
Alderman Sukow

ADA Compliance Committee

Jeff Lombardo

Sewer Service Advisory Committee

Alderman Norton

Tree Board

Alderman Sukow

Motion (Burgener/Norton) to approve the Mayor's Appointments as presented. Carried.

1404260S RESOLUTION NO. 2359**A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR THE CITY OF MERRILL**

WHEREAS, Section 985.03 of the Wisconsin Statutes requires the designation of an official newspaper for the printing of all the City's Official Business; and

WHEREAS, the Merrill Courier has qualified for such designation.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 15th day of April, 2014, that the Merrill Courier of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin, shall be and is hereby designated, until further action, as the official newspaper for the City of Merrill.

Motion (Schwartzman/Peterson) to adopt. Carried.

1404261S RESOLUTION NO. 2360**A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES FOR THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 15th day of April, 2014, that the following financial institutions shall be qualified as public depositories under Chapter 34 of the Wisconsin Statutes, and shall be and hereby are designated until further action as public depositories for all public monies coming into the hands of the Treasurer for the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin, State of Wisconsin:

BMO Harris Bank, Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin
 Lincoln Community Bank, Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin
 River Valley Bank, Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin
 Local Government Investment Pool, State of Wisconsin Treasurer
 Merrill Federal Savings and Loan Association, Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin
 Park City Credit Union, Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin
 Associated Bank, N.A., Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin
 US Bank, Twin Cities, Minnesota
 Edward Jones, Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin

Motion (Schwartzman/Norton) to adopt. Carried.

1404262S RESOLUTION NO. 2361**A RESOLUTION HONORING STEVE HASS FOR HIS EXTENDED SERVICE AND GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO THE CITY OF MERRILL**

WHEREAS, Steve Hass is retiring as Second District Alderperson of the City of Merrill; and,

WHEREAS, Steve Hass has served as an alderperson for the City of Merrill since April 20, 2004; and,

WHEREAS, the personal commitment and unselfish dedication Steve Hass has put forth has contributed greatly to the growth, progress and stability of the City of Merrill; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Merrill offers a solid and stable community environment for all of its citizens in part because of Steve Hass' dedicated service; and,

WHEREAS, Steve Hass' cheerful manner and hard work will be missed at the Merrill City Hall;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 15th day of April, 2014, that the Common Council, and the people of Merrill officially acknowledge with deep appreciation the dedicated and faithful service Steve Hass has given to the City of Merrill and commend him for those years of service.

Motion (Common Council/Common Council) to adopt. Carried.

1404263S RESOLUTION NO. 2362**A RESOLUTION HONORING ANNE CAYLOR FOR HER EXTENDED SERVICE AND GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO THE CITY OF MERRILL**

WHEREAS, Anne Caylor is retiring as Eighth District Alderperson of the City of Merrill; and,

WHEREAS, Anne Caylor has served as an alderperson for the City of Merrill since April 15, 2008; and,

WHEREAS, the personal commitment and unselfish dedication Anne Caylor has put forth has contributed greatly to the growth, progress and stability of the City of Merrill; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Merrill offers a solid and stable community environment for all of its citizens in part because of Anne Caylor's dedicated service; and,

WHEREAS, Anne Caylor's cheerful manner and hard work will be missed at the Merrill City Hall;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 15th day of April, 2014, that the Common Council, and the people of Merrill officially acknowledge with deep appreciation the dedicated and faithful service Anne Caylor has given to the City of Merrill and commend her for those years of service.

Motion (Common Council/Common Council) to adopt. Carried.

Mayor's Address

Mayor Bialecki thanked Steve Hass and Anne Caylor for their years of service on the Common Council.

Mayor Bialecki stated the emphasis over the next four year will be on blight elimination, economic development and jobs. He stated that Merrill is getting much attention from developers, and he is optimistic about the next four years.

Mayor Bialecki welcomed Peter Lokemoen and Tim Meehean as Common Council members.

A Committee of the Whole meeting will be held at the Eagles on May 3rd. Mayor Bialecki stated that he hoped the meeting would conclude by 2:00 P.M. that day.

The next Committee of the Whole Strategic Planning Session is scheduled for 5:30 P.M. on Thursday, April 17th, in the Common Council Chambers.

1404280S Public Comment Period

Steve Hass congratulated Peter Lokemoen and Tim Meehean as new additions to the Common Council. Mr. Hass then questioned the procedures used earlier in the meeting, during the election of the new Common Council President. He also questioned the fact that the new Common Council President will receive more money than the other alderpersons, in light of the fact that the new Common Council President will not be serving as chairperson of any committees.

Motion (Schwartzman/Sukow) to convene in closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes Section 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, to consider potential acquisition of land by the City and to consider potential renegotiation of development agreements regarding projects and properties in TID #4 and #8. Carried 6-2 on roll call vote. Voting No – Alderman Malm and Alderman Norton.

Convened in closed session at 7:28 P.M. Attending: Malm, Lokemoen, Schwartzman, Peterson, Burgener, Sukow, Norton, Meehan, Mayor Bialecki, City Administrator Dave Johnson, City Attorney Tom Hayden, Hayden, Finance Director Kathy Unertl, City Clerk Heideman, Information Technology Manager Ron Turner, Lincoln County Economic Development Director Susan Ryman, Jack Sroka, Judy Woller, Mike Willman, Gene Bebel, Brian Arndorfer.

During the first closed session, on behalf of the River District Development Foundation, Gene Bebel gave a presentation and answered questions on a potential land acquisition by the City. No action was taken.

Prior to the beginning of the second closed session, Judy Woller, Mike Willman and Gene Bebel left the meeting.

The second closed session began at 8:02 P.M. Former Economic Development Director Sroka gave an update on negotiations with prospective businesses for West Side development, and related matters.

Lincoln County Economic Development Director Ryman then gave a report on several potential development projects.

1404999S Motion (Burgener/Peterson) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned (from closed session) at 8:42 P.M.

William R. Bialecki
Mayor

William N. Heideman, CMC, WCMC
City Clerk

I, William N. Heideman, City Clerk of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the Mayor approved the above action of the Common Council on April 17th, 2014.

William N. Heideman, CMC, WCMC
City Clerk