

**City of Merrill
Committee of the Whole
Thursday, July 17, 2014 at 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Common Council Chambers
1004 East First Street**

Committee of the Whole members present (8 of 9): Mayor Bill Bialecki, Alderman Chris Malm (First District), Alderman Peter Lokemoen (Second District), Alderman Ryan Schwartzman (Third District), Alderman John Burgener (Fifth District), Alderman Dave Sukow (Sixth District), Alderman Rob Norton (Seventh District) and Alderman Tim Meehean (Eighth District). Alderwoman Kandy Peterson (Fourth District) had an excused absence.

Other attendees included: City Administrator Dave Johnson, Enrichment Center Director Jane Deau, Transit Director Rich Grenfell, City Attorney Tom Hayden, Utility Superintendent Kim Kriewald, Street Commissioner Richard Lupton, Police Chief Ken Neff, Fire Chief Dave Savone, Library Director Stacy Stevens, Finance Director Kathy Unertl, Parks and Recreation Director Dan Wendorf, Duane Pfister, Judy Woller, Lincoln County Community Development Educator Art Lersch 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.

Public Comment

None.

Strategic long-term planning session/discussion #8 (facilitated by Art Lersch)

Mayor Bialecki turned the meeting over to Lincoln County Community Development Educator Lersch, who began by leading discussion on a review of the Strategic Plan Framework document that he has prepared. The document was in the meeting packet, and is based on eight strategic plan meetings.

Alderman Sukow stated that, after the plan is adopted, it needs to be used and he hopes it does not end up “on a shelf” unused.

Lincoln County Community Development Educator Lersch agreed with Alderman Sukow. He urged that the plan remain visible and suggested that it be reviewed annually.

Finance Director Unertl mentioned that there are numerous properties within the City that are dormant and therefore not helping the City tax base situation.

Alderman Burgener noted that, within the Strategic Plan Framework document, there are several instances in which the responsible party and/or the timeline are missing.

Lincoln County Community Development Educator Lersch will revise the document and then submit it to Mayor Bialecki, City Administrator Johnson and Alderman Burgener, for their review.

It is anticipated that there will be a Committee of the Whole meeting on August 13th, before the Common Council meeting that same evening. Further review, discussion and a potential recommendation for adoption of a Strategic Plan document will take place at that Committee of the Whole meeting.

Adjournment

Motion (Burgener/Norton) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 7:13 P.M.

Minutes prepared and submitted by:

William N. Heideman, CMC, WCMC
City Clerk