

1502130

**City of Merrill
Health and Safety Committee
Monday, January 26, 2015 at 5:00 P.M.
City Hall Basement Conference Room, 1004 East First Street**

Voting Members Present (3 of 3): Alderman Dave Sukow (Chairperson), Alderwoman Kandy Peterson and Alderman Chris Malm.

Others Present Included: City Administrator Dave Johnson, Deputy Health Officer Norbert Ashbeck, Fire Chief Dave Savone, Police Chief Ken Neff, Kortney Pike, Robert Knoop, Christopher Nienow and City Clerk Bill Heideman.

Call to order

Alderman Sukow called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

Nuisance complaints and exterior maintenance report

The report was in the meeting packet. Deputy Health Officer Ashbeck reported that access to a property on Mill Street has now been granted, so he and Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Pagel will be viewing that property on January 28th.

Work continues on a property on East Street.

Vouchers

The vouchers were in the meeting packet. Police Chief Neff and Fire Chief Savone answered questions related to the vouchers.

Motion (Malm/Peterson) to approve the vouchers, as presented. Carried.

Picnic license application from Merrill Rotary – Artisan Showcase

The Merrill Rotary has filed an application and paid the fee for a temporary Class “B” (picnic) license to sell wine at the Merrill Artisan Showcase at Bell Tower Assisi Hall, 1500 O’Day Street, on February 14th, 2015.

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Motion (Malm/Peterson) to approve the application from the Merrill Rotary for a temporary Class "B" (picnic) license to sell wine at the Merrill Artisan Showcase at Bell Tower Assisi Hall, 1500 O'Day Street, on February 14th, 2015. Carried.

Other picnic and/or liquor license applications

None.

Consider creating licensing and regulation of escorts and escort services

This item was originally discussed at the November 17th, 2014 Health and Safety Committee meeting, at the request of Police Chief Neff. Discussion continued at the December 22nd, 2014 Health and Safety Committee meeting.

Alderman Sukow announced that consideration of this item will be delayed until the February Health and Safety Committee meeting. At that meeting, Police Chief Neff will provide additional information related to escorts and escort services.

Ordinances re: snowmobile, UTV and ATV operation within City limits

This item was originally discussed at the November 17th, 2014 Health and Safety Committee meeting, at the request of Alderman Sukow. Discussion continued at the December 22nd, 2014 Health and Safety Committee meeting, and public input was also received at that meeting.

Alderman Sukow provided a verbal update on the process to date. He announced that a meeting of interested parties will be held at 5:00 P.M. in the Common Council Chambers on Monday, February 16th. Representatives from local snowmobile clubs will be invited to attend. Note: This is not a Health and Safety Committee meeting.

It was noted that the City of Tomahawk has opened their city to snowmobiles, and they have had minimal problems and/or concerns. It was also mentioned that, at a meeting on January 23rd, the City of Merrill Tourism Commission discussed this issue and voiced their approval to increased snowmobile traffic and routes.

Discussion on this issue will continue at the February Health and Safety Committee meeting. No action was taken at this time.

Monthly Report – Fire Chief Savone

The report was in the meeting packet.

Monthly Report – Police Chief Neff

The report was in the meeting packet. Police Chief Neff reported that another round of alcohol licensee compliance checks has been completed. Of 30 businesses, 7 were found to be non-compliant. Those seven were issued citations, but were also offered an opportunity to attend an alcohol compliance workshop. If they pay the workshop fee and attend the workshop, their citation will be dismissed.

Alderman Sukow requested that Police Chief Neff prepare and submit a report on the alcohol compliance checks. Police Chief Neff responded that he would prepare the report for review at the February meeting.

Police Chief Neff reported on an inspection that Eros, the K-9 officer, performed recently at the Lincoln County Jail.

Monthly Report – Lincoln County Humane Society

The report was in the meeting packet. Alderwoman Peterson reported that the Board of Directors has a new secretary.

Place monthly reports on file

Motion (Peterson/Malm) to place the monthly reports on file. Carried.

Schedule next meeting

Monday, February 23rd, 2015 at 5:00 P.M.

Public Comment

Kortney Pike urged the committee to continue work on snowmobile access and routes.

Adjournment

Motion (Peterson/Malm) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 5:22 P.M.

Minutes prepared and submitted by:

William N. Heideman, CMC, WCMC
City Clerk