

February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015

*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 in Regular Session, at the City Hall Council Chambers, 1004 East First Street. Mayor William R. Bialecki called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

**150210** Invocation by Pastor Paul Hohman, New Testament Church

**150215** Pledge of Allegiance

**150220** Roll Call showed the following Common Council members present (8 of 8): Alderman Chris Malm (First District), Alderman Peter Lokemoen (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) and Alderman Tim Meehean (Eighth District).

The following were also in attendance: Transit Director Rich Grenfell, Police Lieutenant Greg Hartwig, City Attorney Tom Hayden, City Clerk Bill Heideman, City Administrator Dave Johnson, Utility Superintendent Kim Kriewald, Street Commissioner Richard Lupton, Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Darin Pagel, Fire Chief Dave Savone, Library Director Stacy Stevens, Finance Director Kathy Unertl and Park and Recreation Director Dan Wendorf.

**150225** Public Comment Period

None.

**150230** Minutes of December Meeting

Motion (Burgener/Sukow) to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Common Council meeting and approve them as published. Carried.

**150240** Revenue and Expense Report – December 2014 and January 2015

Motion (Burgener/Schwartzman) to approve, as submitted, the December 2014 and January 2015 Revenue and Expense reports. Carried.

**1150261** Employee Recognition

City Clerk Heideman read certificates of recognition for the following City employees: Richard A. Sparks, 20 years of service; Stacy D. Stevens, 15 years of service; Christopher L. Graap, 15 years of service.

**1502120** Board of Public Works**1502121** The Board recommends approving the bid of \$23,000 from Akey Engineering Services, Merrill, WI, for the design of the Superior Street (Grand Avenue to West Tenth Street) project, which also includes a portion of West Tenth Street.

Motion (Schwartzman/Peterson) to adopt. Carried 8-0 on roll call vote.

**1502122** The Board recommends approving the 2015 sidewalk maintenance program, plus a proposed project to extend sidewalk on the west side of Memorial Drive, from East Sixth Street to north of East Tenth Street.

Motion (Schwartzman/Malm) to adopt. Carried.

**1502130** Health and Safety Committee**1502131** The Committee recommends approving 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 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

Motion (Sukow/Meehean) to adopt. Carried.

**1502132** Consider applications from St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church for seven temporary Class "B" (picnic) licenses to sell fermented beverages during fish fries in Bellarmine Hall at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 1708 East Tenth Street, on the following dates in 2015: February 20<sup>th</sup>, February 27<sup>th</sup>, March 6<sup>th</sup>, March 13<sup>th</sup>, March 20<sup>th</sup>, March 27<sup>th</sup> and April 3<sup>rd</sup>. (Alderman Sukow is bringing the applications directly to the Common Council)

Motion (Sukow/Schwartzman) to approve the applications. Carried.

**1502230** Placing Committee Reports on file

Motion (Sukow/Burgener) to place the following committee reports on file: Housing Authority, Committee of the Whole, Parks and Recreation Commission, Board of Public Works, Health and Safety Committee, Personnel and Finance Committee, Library Board, Redevelopment Authority, Enrichment Center Committee on Aging and Tourism Commission. Carried.

**1502240** Mayor's Appointments

Jean Ravn, to the Parks and Recreation Commission, term to expire May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019

Motion (Sukow/Malm) to approve the appointment. Carried.

**1502250** **ORDINANCE NO. 2015-03**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE MANUAL AT CHAPTER 1-3(B) MEETINGS – ORDER OF BUSINESS, TO MOVE THE “PUBLIC COMMENT” PERIOD TO NEAR THE BEGINNING OF COMMON COUNCIL MEETING AGENDAS

Motion (Schwartzman/Norton) to suspend the rules and give the ordinance a second reading and a third reading by title only. Carried.

SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE MANUAL AT CHAPTER 1-3(B) MEETINGS – ORDER OF BUSINESS, TO MOVE THE “PUBLIC COMMENT” PERIOD TO NEAR THE BEGINNING OF COMMON COUNCIL MEETING AGENDAS

THIRD READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE MANUAL AT CHAPTER 1-3(B) MEETINGS – ORDER OF BUSINESS, TO MOVE THE “PUBLIC COMMENT” PERIOD TO NEAR THE BEGINNING OF COMMON COUNCIL MEETING AGENDAS

Motion (Schwartzman/Burgener) to adopt. Carried 8-0 on roll call vote.

**1502260** **RESOLUTION NO. 2399**

**A RESOLUTION AMENDING MISCELLANEOUS CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT – NON-UNION FIRE PERSONNEL AT SECTION 23-22-2 TO ADD LANGUAGE TO FOLLOW THE UNION CONTRACT**

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Merrill adopted a Personnel Policies, Employee Handbook for the City of Merrill non-union employees by Resolution No. 2226; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel and Finance Committee has reviewed that manual as it relates to Miscellaneous Conditions of Employment – Non-Union Fire Personnel at Section 23-22-2, to add “as per the current contract with the Merrill Firefighters Local 847, International Association of Firefighters”; and,

WHEREAS, the Personnel and Finance Committee has recommended a change to that policy as follows:

23-22-2 Firefighters who have obtained at least an Associates Degree in Fire Administration, Fire Prevention Technology, Fire Science or a related field shall receive an annual education benefit as per the current contract benefit as per the current contract with the Merrill Firefighters Local 847, International Association of Firefighters.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015, that the Personnel Policies Employee Handbook is amended by adding the highlighted language as follows at Section 23-22-2

23-22-2 Firefighters who have obtained at least an Associates Degree in Fire Administration, Fire Prevention Technology, Fire Science or a related field shall receive an annual education benefit as per the current contract benefit as per the current contract with the Merrill Firefighters Local 847, International Association of Firefighters.

Motion (Meehean/Burgener) to adopt. Carried.

**1502261 RESOLUTION NO. 2400**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING A REQUEST FOR A STEWARDSHIP GRANT**

WHEREAS, the City of Merrill Parks and Recreation Commission has authorized Dan Wendorf, Parks and Recreation Director, to work on its behalf with representatives of the River District Development Foundation to submit an application to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for financial assistance under the Stewardship Program for the River Bend Trail Construction, and to sign documents, and to take whatever other action is necessary to undertake, direct, and complete an approved Stewardship project;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015, that it recognizes and acknowledges the long-term ownership and management responsibilities of the Stewardship Program, and agrees to comply with all stewardship laws and regulations and will meet its obligations under the Grant and Management Contract for the project.

Motion (Sukow/Malm) to adopt. Carried.

**1502262 RESOLUTION NO. 2401**

**A RESOLUTION HONORING KAYE L. SEVERT FOR HER EXTENDED SERVICE AND GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO THE CITY OF MERRILL**

WHEREAS, the City of Merrill offers a solid stable community environment for all of its citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Merrill has a strong foundation on which to expand, progress, and develop towards an even better community; and,

WHEREAS, Kaye L. Severt has served as an Administrative Assistant in the Merrill Police Department from August, 1985 to February, 2015; and,

WHEREAS, the personal commitment and unselfish dedication Kaye L. Severt 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 stable community environment for all of its citizens in part because of Kaye L. Severt's dedicated service; and,

WHEREAS, Kaye L. Severt's cheerful manner and hard work will be missed at the City of Merrill Police Department;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015, that the Common Council, and the people of Merrill officially acknowledge with deep appreciation the dedicated and faithful service Kaye L. Severt has given to the City of Merrill and commends her for those years of service.

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

**1502263 RESOLUTION NO. 2402**

**A RESOLUTION HONORING BRAD G. BYER FOR HIS EXTENDED SERVICE AND GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO THE CITY OF MERRILL**

WHEREAS, the City of Merrill offers a solid stable community environment for all of its citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Merrill has a strong foundation on which to expand, progress, and develop towards an even better community; and,

WHEREAS, Brad G. Byer has served in various positions in the Merrill Fire Department from January, 1989 to January, 2015; and,

WHEREAS, the personal commitment and unselfish dedication Brad G. Byer 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 stable community environment for all of its citizens in part because of Brad G. Byer's dedicated service; and,

WHEREAS, Brad G. Byer's cheerful manner and hard work will be missed at the City of Merrill Fire Department;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015, that the Common Council, and the people of Merrill officially acknowledge with deep appreciation the dedicated and faithful service Brad G. Byer has given to the City of Merrill and commends him for those years of service.

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

**1502270** Mayor's Communications

Mayor Bialecki thanked several Boy Scout troops for their attendance at the meeting.

In times of unrest in various parts of the world, Mayor Bialecki urged residents to pray for the safe return of our soldiers serving in foreign lands.

Mayor Bialecki noted the recent passing of Gus "Gussy" Kalafice. Gussy was a longtime Merrill resident and a "fixture" at two downtown businesses. Mayor Bialecki extended condolences to the family.

**1502999** Motion (Burgener/Norton) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 7:22 P.M.

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William R. Bialecki  
Mayor

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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 February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

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William N. Heideman, CMC, WCMC  
City Clerk