



CITY OF MERRILL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
AGENDA • TUESDAY JUNE 2, 2015

Regular Meeting

City Hall Council Chambers

6:30 PM

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment Period
- III. Agenda items for consideration:
 1. Consider Resolution passed by Lincoln County Board regarding fairgrounds property ownership
- IV. Adjournment

Motion by: Woller				
Second by: Baughan				
Dist.	Supervisor	Y	N	Abs
13	Alber	X		
19	Allen	X		
10	Baughan	X		
11	Breitenmoser	X		
1	Caylor		X	
12	Gilk		X	
4	Hetfeld	X		
17	Koth	X		
15	Lee	X		
16	Loka	X		
14	Lussow	X		
21	Pike		X	
8	Plant	X		
18	Powell	X		
22	Reichelt	X		
7	Rusch		X	
3	Schwartzman		X	
5	Swanson		X	
20	Vander Sanden	X		
2	Weaver	X		
6	Woller	X		
9	Zeitz		X	
Totals		15	7	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carried <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input type="checkbox"/> Amended				
Voice vote <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roll call				

Convey Fairgrounds Ownership to City of Merrill – Offer

WHEREAS, the “Fairgrounds” is located in the City of Merrill; and

WHEREAS, after decades of ongoing study and discussion about how to make the Fairgrounds viable, there continues to be no clear consensus among stakeholders about how to move forward with development and management; and

WHEREAS, the County has concluded that the City of Merrill has a clear, vested interest in its’ maintenance and development; and

WHEREAS, the City of Merrill has indicated a willingness to invest in the property

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in the interest of moving this issue forward for both the City of Merrill and the greater county interests, the County Board of Supervisors does hereby offer the property known as the Fairgrounds to the City of Merrill (via Quit Claim Deed containing a deed restriction that the property remain in public use) for \$1.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the county reimburse the City for capital improvements not to exceed \$1,220,687; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that should the City of Merrill Common Council fail to officially accept this offer by July 1, 2015, that the Forestry, Land & Parks Committee is authorized to dispose of the property by public sale. The committee chair and department administrator are authorized to sign such documents as may be necessary.

Dated this 19th day of May, 2015.

Introduced by the Public Property Committee
 Passed 5-0 on 5/12/15
 Fiscal Impact: \$1.00 revenue/ins proceeds to City not to exceed \$1,220,687.00

Drafted by: Public Property Committee

Attachment: Resolution on Fairgrounds passed by County Board (1077 : Consider Resolution passed by Lincoln County Board regarding



Merrill Historical Society, Inc.

100 East Third Street, Merrill, WI 54452
715-536-5652 ♦ merrillhs@frontier.com

RECEIVED
MAY 26 2015
BY: _____

May 22, 2015

Common Council
1004 E. First Street
Merrill, WI 54452

Dear Council Members:

The members of the Board of Directors of the Merrill Historical Society have directed me to write on their behalf to urge you to accept ownership and future maintenance of the fairgrounds.

The fairgrounds not only represents important aspects of this area's past, but today: provides a venue for many different kinds of recreational and educational activities; offers, through those activities, opportunities for self-expression and the growth of knowledge and skills for people of all ages; and gives nonprofit organizations a critical means of raising funds that are dispensed back into the community to benefit us all.

The Historical Society-in conjunction with the county- has maintained the Brickyard School Museum, and we are also concerned about the future of this program. Each summer during the fair two to three thousand people visit the school to reminisce about their own past, or to learn more about family history. In the fall, first graders visit the school to better understand the educational experience of their grandparents and great-grandparents.

All of these shared opportunities and experiences help give our city a "sense of place" that adds immeasurably to the quality of life that is so vital to attracting and retaining residents to the community.

Sincerely yours,

Beatrice Lebal, President