



**CITY OF MERRILL**  
**HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES • MONDAY AUGUST 24, 2015**

**Regular Meeting**

**City Hall Council Chambers**

**5:00 PM**

**I. Call to Order**

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

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Chris Malm	Aldersperson - First District	Present	
Kandy Peterson	Aldersperson - Fourth District	Excused	
Dave Sukow	Aldersperson - Sixth District	Present	

Also in attendance: City Administrator Dave Johnson, Fire Chief Dave Savone, Police Chief Ken Neff, Deputy Health Officer Norbert Ashbeck, Justin Novitski and City Clerk Heideman.

**II. Nuisance Complaints and Vouchers:**

**1. Nuisance Complaints**

The nuisance complaint report was in the meeting packet.

Deputy Health Officer Ashbeck reported that there are no current health-related cases. Many of the building-related cases have orders due in September. It was suggested that some of the long-term cases should be removed from the report. Deputy Health Officer Ashbeck will suggest this to Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Pagel.

Alderman Malm suggested that someone from the Building/Zoning Department should attend Health and Safety meetings, in order to provide information and answer questions related to building-related cases. City Administrator Johnson will contact Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Pagel to discuss this suggestion.

No action was taken.

**2. Vouchers**

The vouchers were in the meeting packet.

Motion (Malm/Sukow) to approve the vouchers.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

**III. Picnic and/or Liquor License Applications:**

1. Consider application from the Merrill Historical Society, 100 East Third Street, for a temporary Class "B" license to sell fermented malt beverages and wine at 100 East Third Street on Saturday, November 7, 2015, as part of a trivia contest.

Police Chief Neff has no concerns with the application.

Motion (Malm/Sukow) to approve the application

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED &amp; SENT TO COUNCIL</b>	<b>Next: 9/8/2015 7:00 PM</b>
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- 2. Any other license application(s)

None.

IV. Other agenda items to consider:

- 1. Consider street use permit from Ott's Garage Teen Center, 805 East Main Street, to close East Main Street (past Trophy Bar west to Scott Street, in front of Ott's Garage) from 5:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. on Wednesday, September 2, 2015, for concert and skateboarding competition.

Information was in the meeting packet.

Representing Ott's Garage Teen Center, Justin Novitski appeared at the meeting. He reported that a similar event was held in July, and that it was successful. Mr. Novitski then gave a synopsis on plans for the upcoming event.

It was noted that, if the Health and Safety Committee approves the application, it would be considered a final approval, since the event will take place prior to the next Common Council meeting.

Motion (Malm/Sukow) to approve the application.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED</b>
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- 2. Ordinance stipulating allowable dimensions for commercial use fire pits.

The proposed ordinance was in the meeting packet.

The current ordinance specifies that fire rings can have a maximum diameter of 42 inches. The proposed ordinance would continue to specify that the maximum diameter allowed on residential properties as 42 inches, but fire rings with a maximum diameter of 60 inches would be allowed on commercial properties.

Fire Chief Savone has no concerns with the proposed ordinance.

Motion (Malm/Sukow) to recommend approving the ordinance.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED &amp; SENT TO COUNCIL</b>	<b>Next: 9/8/2015 7:00 PM</b>
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- 3. Consider Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. At a meeting on August 11, 2015, the Common Council referred the plan to the Health and Safety Committee and the Board of Public Works.

Alderman Sukow reported that the Parks and Recreation Commission has been working on the plan for several months. He is not sure of what concerns Alderman Lokemoen and Street Commissioner Lupton have with the plan. Alderman Sukow stated that he was taken aback that no concerns were expressed until the plan reached the Common Council level.

The plan will also be discussed at the August 26<sup>th</sup> Board of Public Works meeting.

The Health and Safety Committee took no action.

V. **Monthly Reports:**

1. **Fire Chief Savone**

The report was in the meeting packet.

The Fire Department has been notified that their rating from the Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO) has been upgraded. Alderman Sukow congratulated Fire Chief Savone and the Fire Department on this accomplishment.

The Fire Department has been notified that they will be receiving a \$1,500 grant to be used for funding Hazmat equipment.

A firefighter recently was awarded a training grant.

The ladder truck has mechanical problems, with the cost of repairs in the \$15,000 to \$20,000 range. It was determined that the truck would need to be transported elsewhere for repairs. During that transportation, the truck was involved in a mishap. This resulted in additional damage, which is estimated at \$20,000. At this time, the truck is not available for use. Until the truck is repaired and returned, ladder truck coverage will be through mutual aid with neighboring departments.

Alderman Sukow requested that Fire Chief Savone include dates on his list of activities in the monthly report. Alderman Malm suggested that perhaps it is not necessary to include "regular" job-related items on the monthly reports.

2. **Police Chief Neff**

The report was in the meeting packet.

Police Neff reported that Rich Dabbert has retired as a crossing guard. He was sharing the duties with another crossing guard. That person has agreed to be a "full-time" crossing guard.

In anticipation of a pending retirement at the end of the year, a new eligibility list is being established.

3. **Lincoln County Humane Society**

The report was in the meeting packet.

4. **Consider placing monthly reports on file**

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

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED</b>
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VI. **Establish date, time and location of next regular meeting**

Monday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 5:00 P.M., in the City Hall Common Council Chambers.

VII. Public Comment Period

There was no public comment.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion (Malm/Sukow) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 5:40 P.M.