



CITY OF MERRILL
PERSONNEL AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES • TUESDAY OCTOBER 25, 2016

Regular Meeting

City Hall Council Chambers

5:15 PM

I. Call to Order

Alderman Schwartzman called the meeting to order at 515 P.M.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Ryan Schwartzman	Aldersperson - Third District	Present	
Tim Meehean	Aldersperson - Eighth District	Present	
Paul Russell	Aldersperson - First District	Present	

Also in attendance: City Administrator Dave Johnson, Finance Director Kathy Unertl, City Attorney Tom Hayden, Fire Chief Dave Savone, Police Chief Ken Neff, Alderwoman Mary Ball, Roger Drewek, Kortney Pike, Duane Pfister, Derek Woellner, Jeremy Ratliff (arr. 5:18) and City Clerk Bill Heideman. A representative from the Cable Access Channel was present to videotape the meeting.

II. Vouchers:

1. Vouchers for September, 2016

Finance Director Unertl and City Attorney Hayden answered questions related to the vouchers.

Motion (Meehean/Russell) to place on file.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

III. Agenda Items:

1. Consider resolution ratifying the hiring of employee relatives.

The proposed resolution was in the meeting packet.

Alderman Meehean suggested the resolution be amended by adding all cases of the hiring of relatives of employees.

Motion (Meehean/Schwartzman) to approve the resolution, including the amendment proposed by Alderman Meehean, and send it to the Common Council.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT TO COUNCIL Next: 11/9/2016 7:00 PM

2. Consider Police Department request to authorize sale of squad rifle components as part of an "upfit" program.

Police Chief Neff provided verbal details on the request.

Motion (Meehean/Russell) to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED & SENT TO COUNCIL	Next: 11/9/2016 7:00 PM
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3. Potential follow-up 2017 budget requests.

Updated Group Health Insurance options were distributed and discussed.

Alderman Meehean suggested that, in 2017, City employees could be provided health insurance options. Alderman Schwartzman and Alderman Russell agree with this suggestion. Alderman Meehean stated that, at this time, option #4 seems to be the best option.

Alderman Schwartzman suggested that workshops be held in the future to help educate employees on all aspects of group health insurance.

Motion (Meehean/Schwartzman) to approve option #4 for 2017 Group Health Insurance.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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IV. Monthly Reports:

1. Municipal Court

The report was in the meeting packet.

2. Finance Director Unertl

The report was in the meeting packet.

3. City Attorney Hayden

The report was in the meeting packet.

4. City Clerk Heideman

The report was in the meeting packet.

City Clerk Heideman provided up to date absentee voting statistics.

5. City Administrator Johnson

The report was in the meeting packet. Upon being asked, City Administrator Johnson reported that he has not received many requests to store boats and other items at the Festival Grounds. At this time, it is not possible to accommodate those requests.

6. Consider placing monthly reports on file

Motion (Meehean/Russell) to place the monthly reports on file.

RESULT:	PLACED ON FILE
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V. Establish date, time and location of next regular meeting

Tuesday, November 29th, 2016 at 5:15 P.M. in the City Hall Common Council Chambers.

VI. Public Comment Period

Derek Woellner has concerns on whether or not the City's nepotism policy conflicts with Federal Law. He stated that the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) does not always diligently pursue all incidents of "stepping out of line", and, in his opinion, the inclusion of a marital status field on an employment application is not discriminatory.

Mr. Woellner stated that it now appears to him that the Common Council could be on the verge of ratifying past hires that may have been illegal.

Mr. Woellner ended by stating his was disappointed that, in his opinion, the ordinance on nepotism continues to be ignored.

VII. Adjournment

Motion (Meehean/Russell) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 5:53 P.M.