

February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013

*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.

**130210** Invocation by Pastor Paul Hohman, New Testament Church

**130215** Pledge of Allegiance

**130220** Roll Call showed the following Common Council members present (8 of 8): Alderman Chris Malm (First District), Alderman Steve Hass (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 Alderwoman Anne Caylor (Eighth District).

The following were also in attendance: Police Captain Corey Bennett, Community Enrichment Center Director Jane Deau, Transit Director Rich Grenfell, City Attorney Tom Hayden, City Clerk Bill Heideman, City Administrator Dave Johnson, Street Commissioner Richard Lupton, Airport Manager/FBO John Miller, City Hall Maintenance Supervisor Ramona Pampuch, Fire Chief Dave Savone, Library Director Stacy Stevens, Finance/Technology Director Kathy Unertl and Park & Recreation Director Dan Wendorf.

**130230** Minutes of January Meeting

Motion (Hass/Sukow) to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Common Council meeting and approve them as published. Carried.

**130240** Revenue and Expense Reports – December 2012 and January 2013

Motion (Hass/Peterson) to approve, as submitted, the December 2012 and January 2013 Revenue and Expense reports. Carried.

**130260** Communications and Petitions

**130261** Employee Recognition

City Clerk Heideman read certificates of recognition for the following City employees: Kim N. Kriewald, 25 years of service; Michael J. Schroeder, 25 years of service; Jennifer J. Thorson, 15 years of service; Peter A. Borchardt, 15 years of service.

**130290** Committee of the Whole

**130291** The Committee recommends approving, as presented, the Economic Development Program Policy for Tax Delinquent Properties.

Motion (Schwartzman/Hass) to adopt. Carried.

**130292** The Committee recommends offering customers an e-commerce (online bill/debt payment) option and authorizing City staff to select a provider for e-commerce services. Customers using a credit card or debit card for online payments would be assessed a convenience fee to be paid to the e-commerce service provider.

Motion (Schwartzman/Sukow) to adopt. Carried.

**1302120** Board of Public Works

**1302121** The Board recommends continuing, for an indefinite period, the two cents per gallon surcharge on all fuel used by City vehicles.

Motion (Hass/Burgener) to adopt. Carried.

**1302130** Health and Safety Committee

**1302131** The Committee recommends approving the 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 2013: February 15<sup>th</sup>, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, March 1<sup>st</sup>, March 8<sup>th</sup>, March 15<sup>th</sup>, March 22<sup>nd</sup> and March 29<sup>th</sup>.

Motion (Caylor/Sukow) to adopt. Carried.

**1302150** Water and Sewage Disposal Committee

**1302151** The Committee recommends approving a \$4,000 payment to Strand Associates, in response to their request of an additional \$8,337.45 in engineering services related to the Manganese Treatment Facility and Well House Improvements Project.

Motion (Burgener/Schwartzman) to adopt. Carried 6-2 on roll call vote.  
Voting No – Alderman Hass and Alderman Norton.

**1302230** Placing Committee Reports on file

Motion (Sukow/Hass) to place the following committee reports on file: Housing Authority, Committee of the Whole, Community Development Committee, Parks and Recreation Commission, Board of Public Works, Health and Safety Committee, Personnel and Finance Committee, Water and Sewage Disposal Committee, City Plan Commission, Transit Commission, Library Board, Redevelopment Authority, Airport Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals. Carried.

**1302250** **ORDINANCE NO. 2013-02**

FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY OF MERRILL CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 32, ARTICLE V, SECTION 127 TO ADD PARADE REGULATIONS

Motion (Hass/Schwartzman) 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 CITY OF MERRILL CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 32, ARTICLE V, SECTION 127 TO ADD PARADE REGULATIONS

THIRD READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY OF MERRILL CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 32, ARTICLE V, SECTION 127 TO ADD PARADE REGULATIONS

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

**1302251** **ORDINANCE NO. 2013-03**

FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE DISTRICT ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN FOR BLOCK 7 OF T.B. SCOTT LUMBER COMPANY ADDITION AND BLOCK 1 AND 2 OF M.A. SPACE ADDITION

Motion (Hass/Sukow) 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 DISTRICT ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN FOR BLOCK 7 OF T.B. SCOTT LUMBER COMPANY ADDITION AND BLOCK 1 AND 2 OF M.A. SPACE ADDITION

THIRD READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE DISTRICT ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN FOR BLOCK 7 OF T.B. SCOTT LUMBER COMPANY ADDITION AND BLOCK 1 AND 2 OF M.A. SPACE ADDITION

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

**1302260 RESOLUTION NO. 2283**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VACATION OF A PART OF VALLEY STREET**

WHEREAS, 1211 Water Street LLC has requested the vacation of a portion of Valley Street in the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Public Works on November 28, 2012 and the City Plan Commission on December 4, 2012 have recommended such vacation;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February 2013, that the following described street be vacated:

All that part of Valley Street lying South of the South right-of-way line of West Main Street and the North right-of-way line of Water Street extended between the Southeast corner of Lot Six (6), Block Two (2), and the Southwest corner of Lot Seven (7), Block One (1), all in the Riverview Addition Subdivision of the Merrill Woodenware Co., being a part of Government Lot Nine (9), Section Ten (10), Township Thirty-one (31) North, Range Six (6) East, in the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin.

The City of Merrill reserves an easement for construction and maintenance purposes related to utilities serving the public currently located in, on or around the vacated area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City hereby declares that the street to be vacated is not needed for public purposes and hereby declares that the portion vacated shall revert, to the extent permitted by law, to the adjoining property owners.

Motion (Schwartzman/Sukow) to adopt. Carried.

**1302261**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2284**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VACATION OF A PART OF WATER STREET**

WHEREAS, 1211 Water Street LLC has requested the vacation of a portion of Water Street in the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Public Works on November 28, 2012 and the City Plan Commission on December 4, 2012 have recommended such vacation;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February 2013, that the following described street be vacated:

All that part of Water Street lying East of a line between the Southeast corner of Lot Six (6), Block Two (2), and the Northeast corner of Lot Fourteen (14), Block Three (3) all in the Riverview Addition Subdivision of the Merrill Woodenware Co., and lying West of the Wisconsin River, being a part of Government Lot Nine (9) and a part of Government Lot Two (2), both in Section Ten (10), Township Thirty-one (31) North, Range Six (6) East, in the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin.

The City of Merrill reserves an easement for construction and maintenance purposes related to utilities serving the public currently located in, on or around the vacated area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City hereby declares that the street to be vacated is not needed for public purposes and hereby declares that the portion vacated shall revert, to the extent permitted by law, to the adjoining property owners.

Motion (Schwartzman/Sukow) to adopt. Carried.

**1302262 RESOLUTION NO. 2285****A RESOLUTION APPROVING A CERTIFIED SURVEY MAP ON STATE HIGHWAY 17 IN THE TOWN OF PINE RIVER BY DEWEY D. SCHWOCH AND BONNIE SCHWOCH**

WHEREAS, Dewey D. Schwoch and Bonnie Schwoch have applied for approval of a division of land by certified survey map pursuant to Code of Ordinances Sections 111-116 and 111-119 for land located in the Southwest  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the Northeast  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 8, township 31 North, Range 7 East, Town of Pine River, Lincoln County, Wisconsin; and,

WHEREAS, the application was referred to the City Plan Commission which considered the proposed division at a meeting on February 5, 2013; and,

WHEREAS, the City Plan Commission has recommended approval of the land division by certified survey map;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2013, that the proposed certified survey map presented by Dewey D. Schwoch and Bonnie Schwoch and prepared by Keith J. Walkowski, of Riverside Surveying LLC, involving the Southwest  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the Northeast  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 8, township 31 North, Range 7 East, Town of Pine River, Lincoln County, Wisconsin is hereby approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk is directed to so certify the approval of this certified survey map and return the original to the applicant together with a certified copy of this resolution.

Motion (Sukow/Peterson) to adopt. Carried.

**1302263 RESOLUTION NO. 2286****A RESOLUTION APPROVING A CERTIFIED SURVEY MAP ON JOHN, ARTHUR AND SOUTH THOMAS STREET REQUESTED BY MARIANNE BUNGE**

WHEREAS, Marianne Bunge has applied for approval of a division of land by certified survey map pursuant to Code of Ordinances Sections 111-116 for land located in Lots 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 of Block 2 of R.C. Schulz's Addition and a part of Assessor's Plat Lot 612 all being located in part of the Southwest  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the Northeast  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 15, Township 31 North, Range 6 East, City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin; and,

WHEREAS, the application was referred to the City Plan Commission which considered the proposed division at a meeting on February 5, 2013; and,

WHEREAS, the City Plan Commission has recommended approval of the land division by certified survey map;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2013, that the proposed certified survey map presented by Marianne Bunge and prepared by Keith J. Walkowski, of Riverside Land Surveying LLC, involving Lots 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 of Block 2 of R.C. Schulz's Addition and a part of Assessor's Plat Lot 612 all being located in part of the Southwest  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the Northeast  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 15, Township 31 North, Range 6 East, City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin is hereby approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk is directed to so certify the approval of this certified survey map and return the original to the applicant together with a certified copy of this resolution.

Motion (Sukow/Schwartzman) to adopt. Carried.

**1302264 RESOLUTION NO. 2287**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN AND WILLIAM J. AND SUNEI FILLMORE**

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Merrill created Tax Increment District (TID) No. 8 on September 13, 2011; and,

WHEREAS, William J. and Sunee Fillmore propose an addition to the building at 1000 West Main Street which is located within TID No. 8; and

WHEREAS, at least one new full-time job and potential additional part-time jobs will result from this building expansion and equipment installation; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Merrill finds that the proposed redevelopment and the fulfillment of the items and conditions of the attached Agreement are in the vital and best interest of the City of Merrill, Redevelopment Authority and City residents and serve a public purpose in accordance with State law; and,

WHEREAS, the City and William J. and Sunee Fillmore have negotiated the development agreement to provide an incentive payment to facilitate the building expansion.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2013, that the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to sign the development agreement by and between the City of Merrill and to facilitate the implementation thereof.

Motion (Hass/Schwartzman) to adopt. Carried 6-2 on roll call vote. Voting No – Alderman Malm and Alderman Burgener.

**1302265 RESOLUTION NO. 2288**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN AND MARK A. RAYMER**

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Merrill created Tax Increment District (TID) No. 8 on September 13, 2011; and,

WHEREAS, Mark A. Raymer proposes rehabilitating the exterior façade of a historic commercial building located at 1502 West Main Street which is located within TID No. 8; and

WHEREAS, both retail and residential interior rehabilitation is proposed; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Merrill finds that the proposed redevelopment and the fulfillment of the items and conditions of the attached Agreement are in the vital and best interest of the City of Merrill, Redevelopment Authority and City residents and serve a public purpose in accordance with State law; and,

WHEREAS, the City and Mark A. Raymer have negotiated the development agreement to provide an incentive payment to facilitate the rehabilitation of a historical commercial building.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2013, that the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to sign the development agreement by and between the City of Merrill and Mark A. Raymer to facilitate the implementation thereof.

Motion (Hass/Schwartzman) to adopt. Carried 6-2 on roll call vote. Voting No – Alderman Malm and Alderman Burgener.

**1302266 RESOLUTION NO. 2289**

**A RESOLUTION AMENDING LEAVES – SICK LEAVES AT SECTION 12-3 AND SECTION 12-3-9, TO ADD EMPLOYEE DEATH PLAN**

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 Leaves at Section 12-3 and 12-3-9, to add a new Employee Death Plan option at Section 12-3-9; and

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

**12-3 SICK LEAVE.** Sick leave for all regular employees is accumulated at a rate of one work day for each month of continuous service. Upon termination of an employee, any accumulated sick leave, except for retirement or employee death, as provided below, is forfeited and not paid.

**12-3-9** Sick leave accumulation upon employee death before retirement is set at a maximum of the employee's total accumulated sick leave hours or 1,300 hours, whichever is less. Accumulated sick leave may be converted to a sick leave cash equivalent based on the employee's hourly rate at the time of death times the sick leave accumulation. The sick leave cash equivalent may only be paid as a cash payout to the estate of the deceased employee. The effective date of this provision is April 1, 2013.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2013, that the Personnel Policies Employee Handbook is amended by adding the highlighted language as follows at Section 12-3 and 12-3-9:

**12-3 SICK LEAVE.** Sick leave for all regular employees is accumulated at a rate of one work day for each month of continuous service. Upon termination of an employee, any accumulated sick leave, except for retirement or employee death, as provided below, is forfeited and not paid.

12-3-9 Sick leave accumulation upon employee death before retirement is set at a maximum of the employee's total accumulated sick leave hours or 1,300 hours, whichever is less. Accumulated sick leave may be converted to a sick leave cash equivalent based on the employee's hourly rate at the time of death times the sick leave accumulation. The sick leave cash equivalent may only be paid as a cash payout to the estate of the deceased employee. This change is effective as of April 1, 2013.

Motion (Hass/Sukow) to adopt. Carried 8-0 on roll call vote.

**1302267 RESOLUTION NO. 2290**

**A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE RIVER BEND TRAIL PROJECT**

WHEREAS residents of the City of Merrill organized the River District Development Foundation of Merrill (Foundation) and a Friends of the River District group to provide resources that allow all Merrill area citizens to take part in the community's beautiful river corridors; and

WHEREAS the Foundation is a donor advised organization of the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin and donations would realize IRS charitable contribution benefits; and

WHEREAS the Foundation has produced a trail concept report through a grant and technical services from the National Park Service; and

WHEREAS the Foundation will undertake a capital campaign to raise \$1 million dollars to fund development of a segment of the River Bend Trail west from Center Avenue in the City of Merrill to Council Grounds State Park; and

WHEREAS in cooperation with the Foundation, the Merrill Parks and Recreation Department (Department) has been studying the concept of developing a multiple-use, non-motorized trail along the Wisconsin River on abandoned railroad right-of-way west from Center Avenue to Council Grounds State Park; and

WHEREAS linear parks (trails) are included as a category of park facilities in the new five-year Parks and Recreation Plan through which the City is eligible for federal and state recreation funding; and

WHEREAS the Department has obtained appraisals of Canadian National Railroad (the railroad) properties: known as the Wood Line, in Merrill along the Wisconsin River in anticipation of possible purchase for a corridor on which a trail would be developed in part; and

WHEREAS The Department has engaged the railroad in discussions about the purchase of the Wood Line properties; and

WHEREAS the City requires an environmental assessment, with acceptable results, and indemnification to use land on which a trail may be developed; and

WHEREAS the Department anticipates submitting applications to the Department of Natural Resources and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for grants to purchase land and develop trail facilities; and

WHEREAS Wisconsin Public Service Corporation has communicated that it will cooperate with the City to provide public access to land it owns on the Wisconsin River at Center Avenue that may serve as a trail head facility; and

WHEREAS funding to build the trail would be provided through the Foundation and demonstrate cooperation for public good;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 12th day of February, 2013, that the Common Council along with the Merrill Parks and Recreation Commission supports the River Bend Trail project and will enter into discussions with the Foundation to establish mutual understandings on which the partnership would be based, such discussions to include the following concepts:

1. The Foundation would raise money to finance development of the trail project including:
  - a. Purchase of land
  - b. Local match dollars for grants
  - c. Environmental investigations
  - d. Preliminary and final design documents
  - e. Trail construction
  - f. Trail enhancements and amenities
  - g. Ongoing trail maintenance

2. Within its usual and customary methods of project management and park facility development activities, the Department would provide guidelines and specifications for trail facilities that may be constructed.
3. The Foundation, in cooperation with and under the oversight of the Commission, would undertake the following tasks:
  - a. Encourage the adoption by the Commission of a River Bend Trail of Merrill project concept west from Center Avenue to Council Grounds State Park as described in the River Bend Trail Concept Plan Report, prepared by the National Park Service, and Foundation literature
  - b. Seek the preparation of a scope of work on terms acceptable to the Commission for possible trail development that would provide guidance and detail as necessary and would include pledges for the following activities:
    - i. Secure for the City an acceptable Environmental Assessment with appropriate indemnification to make it possible for the City to become holder in title to any property that is proposed for trail development
    - ii. Prepare an Environmental Assessment in cooperation with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
    - iii. Prepare documents to place the railroad Wood Line parcels on official City Map
    - iv. Administer a schedule for federal and state grant applications
    - v. Acquire land for trail development purposes
    - vi. Prepare preliminary and final design documents
    - vii. Prepare a trail construction project description and schedule
  - c. Determine annual maintenance costs for a trail and a method to finance them.
4. In cooperation with the Foundation, the Department would administer applications for federal and state grants.
  - a. The Foundation would provide the funding required for the local match requirements for grants that may be awarded to the Department
5. The Foundation would initiate discussions with Wisconsin Public Service Corporation for possible access through easement or other means to land at the Merrill hydro dam on the Wisconsin River at Center Avenue for trail purposes.

6. The Foundation and Commission would on a regular basis inform each other about The River Bend Trail of Merrill fund raising and project development activities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Merrill Common Council, City of Merrill Parks and Recreation Commission, and the River District Development Foundation of Merrill shall use their best efforts to implement the goals and tasks as set forth above, and as maybe adopted and reviewed by the signers hereof from time to time.

Motion (Hass/Sukow) to adopt.

Motion (Malm/Hass) to suspend the rules and grant floor privileges to Phil Valitchka. Carried.

Representing the River District Development Foundation of Merrill, Phil Valitchka gave a presentation and then answered questions on the project.

City Administrator Johnson urged the Common Council to adopt the resolution. He stated that he would be willing to serve as the City's liaison with the River District Development Foundation of Merrill, and would also be willing to serve on other committee(s) related to the project.

Motion to adopt the resolution carried.

**1302268 RESOLUTION NO. 2291**

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2013 – 2018 MERRILL OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN**

WHEREAS, the City of Merrill must maintain its eligibility for State and Federal funding through the LAWCON and Stewardship programs for the development of park and recreational facilities; and,

WHEREAS, the Park and Recreation Commission have worked closely with the City's staff and Planning Consultant to update the previous recreation plan; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2013, that pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section 62.23(3), the Common Council, as an aid to the Park and Recreation Commission in the performance of their duties, does hereby approve and certify the following document, as amended,

City of Merrill 2013 – 2018 Merrill Outdoor Recreation Plan (February 6 2013 as amended);

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Merrill Outdoor Recreation Plan of the City of Merrill shall replace the City of Merrill Outdoor Recreation Plan dated 2008-2013.

Motion (Sukow/Burgener) to adopt. Carried.

**1302269 RESOLUTION NO. 2292**

**A RESOLUTION HONORING DALE E. KNAPP 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, Dale E. Knapp has served as a Police Officer at the Merrill Police Department from February 8, 1993 to December, 30, 2012; and,

WHEREAS, the personal commitment and unselfish dedication Dale E. Knapp 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 Dale E. Knapp's dedicated service; and,

WHEREAS, Dale E. Knapp'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 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2013, that the Common Council, and the people of Merrill officially acknowledge with deep appreciation the dedicated and faithful service Dale E. Knapp has given to the City of Merrill and commends him for those years of service.

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

**1302269A RESOLUTION NO. 2293**

**A RESOLUTION HONORING DENNIS H. BERNDT 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, Dennis H. Berndt has served at the City of Merrill Street Department from January 6, 2003 to January 4, 2013; and,

WHEREAS, the personal commitment and unselfish dedication Dennis H. Berndt 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 Dennis H. Berndt's dedicated service; and,

WHEREAS, Dennis H. Berndt's cheerful manner and hard work will be missed at the City of Merrill Street Department;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2013, that the Common Council, and the people of Merrill officially acknowledge with deep appreciation the dedicated and faithful service Dennis H. Berndt has given to the City of Merrill and commends him for those years of service.

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

**1302270** Mayor's Communications

The Spring Primary Election will be held on February 19<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Bialecki congratulated Boy Scout Troop #503 on their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**1302280** Public Comment Period

Gene Bebel thanked Mayor Bialecki, City staff and the Common Council for their support of the River Bend Trail project resolution adopted earlier in the meeting.

Gene Bebel also addressed some misconceptions about Library Board fundraising and fundraising related to the Merrill Area Recreation Complex (MARC).

**1302999** Motion (Hass/Caylor) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 8:39 P.M.

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William R. Bialecki  
Mayor

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William N. Heideman, 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 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

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William N. Heideman, WCMC  
City Clerk