

**City of Merrill  
Committee of the Whole  
Strategic Planning Session  
Thursday, March 6, 2014 at 5:30 P.M.  
City Hall Common Council Chambers  
1004 East First Street**

Committee of the Whole members present (7 of 9): Mayor Bill Bialecki, 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) and Alderman Dave Sukow (Sixth District). Alderman Rob Norton (Seventh District) and Alderwoman Anne Caylor (Eighth District) had excused absences.

Other attendees included: City Administrator Dave Johnson, Enrichment Center Director Jane Deau, Transit Director Rich Grenfell, City Attorney Tom Hayden, Utility Superintendent Kim Kriewald, Street Commissioner Richard Lupton, Police Chief Ken Neff, Fire Chief Dave Savone, Library Director Stacy Stevens, Finance Director Kathy Unertl, City Hall Maintenance Supervisor Ramona Vanderkam, Park and Recreation Director Dan Wendorf, Judy Woller, Duane Pfister, Garth Swanson (arr. 5:40 P.M.), Gene Bebel, Sharon Anderson, Mike Morrissey, Lincoln County Community Development Educator Art Lersch and City Clerk Bill Heideman.

**Call to order**

Mayor Bialecki called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. He then turned the meeting over to Lincoln County Community Development Educator Lersch.

**Strategic long-term planning session/discussion #2 (facilitated by Art Lersch)**

The Session #1 Report was reviewed. There were no changes or corrections to the report.

Lincoln County Community Development Educator Lersch provided an overview currently provided by the City of Merrill government. It was suggested that public input on city services could be received by placing a citizen survey on the City website. City Administrator Johnson will discuss this with Information Technology Manager Ron Turner.

The attendees were then divided into two separate groups. One group worked on vision development for city government and the other group worked on vision development for the community. These group sessions began at 6:00 P.M. and ended at 6:45 P.M. At that time, the two groups reconvened together and reviewed both vision developments.

Lincoln County Community Development Educator Lersch then distributed information on “mil” rates. That information was then discussed.

A “SOAR” analysis of city government was begun. SOAR stands for strengths, opportunities, aspirations and results.

The next strategic planning meeting will be held in the City Hall Common Council Chambers, on March 27<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 5:30 P.M.

*Note: After the meeting, Lincoln County Community Development Educator Lersch prepared and submitted a meeting report. That report will be filed with these minutes and is also available on the City website.*

### **Public Comment**

None.

### **Adjournment**

Motion (Hass/Schwartzman) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 7:31 P.M.

Minutes prepared and submitted by:

William N. Heideman, CMC, WCMC  
City Clerk