

April 14th, 2015

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.

150410 Invocation by Pastor Paul Hohman, New Testament Church

150415 Pledge of Allegiance

150420 Roll Call showed the following Common Council members present (7 of 8): Alderman Peter Lokemoen (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 Alderman Tim Meehean (Eighth District). Alderman Chris Malm (First District) had an excused absence.

The following were also in attendance: Transit Director Rich Grenfell, City Attorney Tom Hayden, City Clerk Bill Heideman, City Administrator Dave Johnson, Utility Superintendent Kim Kriewald, Street Commissioner Richard Lupton, Enrichment Center Director Tammie Mrachek, Police Chief Ken Neff, Fire Chief Dave Savone, Library Director Stacy Stevens, Finance Director Kathy Unertl and Park and Recreation Director Dan Wendorf. Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Darin Pagel had an excused absence.

150425 Public Comment Period

None.

150430 Minutes of March Meeting

Motion (Burgener/Schwartzman) to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the March 10th, 2015 Common Council meeting and approve them as published. Carried.

150440 Revenue and Expense Report – March 2015

Motion (Burgener/Sukow) to approve, as submitted, the March 2015 Revenue and Expense report. Carried.

150460 Communications and Petitions

150461 Employee Recognition

City Clerk Heideman read certificates of recognition for the following City employees: Gregory D. Hartwig, 25 years of service; Ronald L. Turner, 25 years of service.

1504110 Parks and Recreation Commission

1504111 The Commission recommends approving the bid of \$137,666 from Frank J. Zamboni & Co. Inc. for the City purchase of a new ice resurfacer to be housed and used at the Smith Center.

Motion (Sukow/Meehean) to adopt. Carried.

1504120 Board of Public Works

1504121 The Board recommends approving the bid from S.D. Ellenbecker Inc. (\$111,670) for the M-2-2015 Sidewalk Maintenance Project.

Motion (Schwartzman/Peterson) to adopt. Carried.

1504122 MS4 annual permit update (agenda item requested by City Administrator Johnson)

Representing Clark-Dietz Engineers, Tonia Speener provided verbal information related to the annual MS4 report.

No action was necessary, requested or taken.

1504123 Consider bid(s) for construction of River Bend Trail, from Genesee Street to Highway 64 (agenda item requested by City Administrator Johnson).
Note: Bids will be presented at the meeting.

City Administrator Johnson reported that the bid tabulation report was distributed. He noted that three bids were received. Becher Hoppe Engineers and Architects recommends approving the bid of \$81,800 from Merrill Gravel and Construction Co.

Motion (Meehean/Norton) to approve the bid from Merrill Gravel and Construction Co. Carried.

1504140 Personnel and Finance Committee

1504141 The Committee recommends approving the proposal from Carlson Dettmann Consulting, LLC to conduct a wage and compensation study for the City. The base cost for the study would be \$19,250, plus mileage at the IRS approved rate, for the 55 job classifications currently used. The base cost includes department head interviews only. Each additional interview would add \$125 to the total project cost.

Motion (Schwartzman/Sukow) to adopt. Carried.

1504160 City Plan Commission

1504161 The Commission recommends approving, as presented, the site plan for an aquatic center at 1100 Marc Drive.

Motion (Sukow/Peterson) to adopt. Carried.

1504185 Redevelopment Authority

1504186 The Authority recommends entering into negotiations with Kwik Trip for the potential City purchase of vacant property west of the dumpsters at Kwik Trip #241, 300 South Pine Ridge Avenue, to facilitate potential future new development.

Motion (Schwartzman/Norton) to adopt. Carried.

1504230 Placing Committee Reports on file

Motion (Sukow/Burgener) to place the following committee reports on file: Housing Authority, Committee of the Whole, Parks and Recreation Commission, Board of Public Works, Health and Safety Committee, Personnel and Finance Committee, City Plan Commission, Transit Commission, Library Board, Redevelopment Authority and Enrichment Center Committee on Aging. Carried.

1504240 Mayor's Appointments

Mayor Bialecki requested that he be allowed to make amendments to the list submitted. Without objection, it was so ordered. The changes were as follows:

- 1) Gene Bebel, rather than Miss Holdorf, would be appointed to the Enrichment Center Committee on Aging.

- 2) Ron Burrow's appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals would be as an Alternate.
- 3) Robert Reimann's term on the City Plan Commission would expire May 1st, 2018 rather than May 1st, 2017.

The following is a complete list of proposed appointees, including the amendments requested by Mayor Bialecki.

Richard Mamer, Library Board, term to expire June 30th, 2018

Vickie Yelle, Library Board, term to expire June 30th, 2018

Sr. Peggy Jackelen, Enrichment Center Committee on Aging, term to expire May 1st, 2016

Eugene Simon, Enrichment Center Committee on Aging, term to expire May 1st, 2016

Mary Ball, Enrichment Center Committee on Aging, term to expire May 1st, 2016

Diane Goetsch, Enrichment Center Committee on Aging, term to expire May 1st, 2016

Gene Bebel, Enrichment Center Committee on Aging, term to expire May 1st, 2016

Art Lersch, Enrichment Center Committee on Aging, term to expire May 1st, 2016

Mark Peterson, Zoning Board of Appeals (Alternate), term to expire May 1st, 2018

Adam Rekau, Zoning Board of Appeals (Alternate), term to expire May 1st, 2018

Ron Burrow, Zoning Board of Appeals (Alternate), term to expire May 1st, 2018

Tony Kusserow, Transit Commission, term to expire May 1st, 2018

Rick Blake, Transit Commission, term to expire May 1st, 2018

Adam Rekau, Community Development Committee, term to expire May 1st, 2018

Laureen O'Day, Tourism Commission, term to expire May 1st, 2016

Jim Arndt, Tourism Commission, term to expire May 1st, 2016

Russ Grefe, Tourism Commission, term to expire May 1st, 2016

Kurt Helmstadter, Police & Fire Commission, term to expire May 1st, 2020

Ken Maule, City Plan Commission, term to expire May 1st, 2018

Robert Reimann, City Plan Commission, term to expire May 1st, 2018

Jeremy Thompson, Historic Preservation Committee, term to expire May 1st, 2018

Motion (Meehean/Burgener) to approve the appointments, including the amendments requested by Mayor Bialecki. Carried.

1504250 ORDINANCE NO. 2015-08

AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING TERRITORY FROM THE TOWN OF PINE RIVER ON A PETITION FOR DIRECT ANNEXATION BY UNANIMOUS APPROVAL PURSUANT TO WIS. STAT. SEC. 66.0217(2); ASSIGNING ALDERMANIC DISTRICT AND ESTABLISHING TEMPORARY ZONING

Motion (Sukow/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 ANNEXING TERRITORY FROM THE TOWN OF PINE RIVER ON A PETITION FOR DIRECT ANNEXATION BY UNANIMOUS APPROVAL PURSUANT TO WIS. STAT. SEC. 66.0217(2); ASSIGNING ALDERMANIC DISTRICT AND ESTABLISHING TEMPORARY ZONING

THIRD READING OF AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING TERRITORY FROM THE TOWN OF PINE RIVER ON A PETITION FOR DIRECT ANNEXATION BY UNANIMOUS APPROVAL PURSUANT TO WIS. STAT. SEC. 66.0217(2); ASSIGNING ALDERMANIC DISTRICT AND ESTABLISHING TEMPORARY ZONING

Motion (Schwartzman/Norton) to adopt. Carried 7-0 on roll call vote.

1504260 RESOLUTION NO. 2404**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF THE LINCOLN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Fairgrounds has, for generations, been a venue for activities, programs, and entertainment for Lincoln County, the City of Merrill and the State of Wisconsin; and,

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Board is debating whether to re-build the grandstand, a vital part of the Lincoln County Fairgrounds operation; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Merrill and Lincoln County have debated and discussed the best use of the Lincoln County Fairgrounds;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 14th day of April 2015, that:

1. The City of Merrill encourages the prompt replacement of the Grandstand on the Fair Grounds Property.
2. Assuming that the grandstand will be constructed, the City of Merrill pledges, annually, a contribution equal to that budgeted by Lincoln County, for maintenance of the fairgrounds buildings and property.
3. The City of Merrill would also, if a grandstand is constructed, use Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) in the amount of \$250,000, to assist in construction of utility and other "TIF eligible" improvements.
4. The City of Merrill will cooperate in the formation of a management entity, implementation of a management plan, and related organizational tools to better manage the Lincoln County Fairgrounds well into the future.

Motion (Schwartzman/Meehean) to adopt. Carried.

1504261 RESOLUTION NO. 2405**A RESOLUTION PETITIONING THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION FOR AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT AID**

Airport Commission Chairperson Gary Schwartz provided verbal information related to the resolution.

WHEREAS, the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin, hereinafter referred to as the Sponsor, being a municipal Body Corporate of the State of Wisconsin, is authorized by law (Wis. Stats. §114.11) to acquire, establish, construct, own, control, lease, equip, improve, maintain, and operate an airport; and,

WHEREAS, the Sponsor desires to develop or improve the Merrill Municipal Airport, Lincoln County, Wisconsin,

“PETITION FOR AIRPORT PROJECT”

WHEREAS, the foregoing proposal for airport improvements has been referred to the City Plan Commission for its consideration and report prior to council action as required by Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 62.23(5); and,

WHEREAS, airport users have been consulted in formulation of the improvements included in this Resolution; and,

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held prior to the adoption of this petition in accordance with Chapter 114.33(2) as amended, and a transcript of the hearing is transmitted with this petition; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN, the Sponsor, this 14th day of April, 2015, that a petition for Federal and (or) State Aid in the following form is hereby approved:

The petitioner, desiring to sponsor an airport development project with Federal and State Aid or State Aid only, in accordance with the applicable State and Federal laws, respectfully represents and states:

1. That the airport, which it is desired to develop, should generally conform to the requirements for a general aviation type airport as defined by the Federal Aviation Administration.
2. The character, extent, and kind of improvements desired under the project are as follows: Acquire land in runway approaches; install security lighting; conduct wildlife assessment; clear and maintain runway approaches; and any necessary related work.
3. That the airport project, which your petitioner desires to sponsor, is necessary for the following reasons: to meet the existing and future needs of the airport.

WHEREAS, it is recognized that the improvements petitioned for as listed will be funded individually or collectively as funds are available, with specific project costs to be approved as work is authorized, the proportionate costs of the airport development projects described above which are to be paid by the Sponsor to the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (hereinafter referred to as the Secretary) to be held in trust for the purposes of the project; any unneeded and unspent balance after the project is completed is to be returned to the Sponsor by the Secretary; the Sponsor will make available any additional monies that may be found necessary, upon request of the Secretary, to complete the project as described above; the Secretary shall have the right to suspend or discontinue the project at any time additional monies are found to be necessary by the Secretary, and the Sponsor does not provide the same; in the event the sponsor unilaterally terminates the project, all reasonable federal and state expenditures related to the project shall be paid by the sponsor; and,

WHEREAS, the Sponsor is required by law (Wis. Stats. §114.32(5)), to designate the Secretary as its agent to accept, receive, receipt for and disburse any funds granted by the United States under the federal Airport and Airway Improvement Act, and is authorized by law to designate the Secretary as its agent for other purposes.

“DESIGNATION OF SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION AS
SPONSOR’S AGENT”

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Sponsor that the Secretary is hereby designated as its agent and is requested to agree to act as such in matters relating to the airport development project described above, and is hereby authorized as its agent to make all arrangements for the development and final acceptance of the completed project whether by contract, agreement, force account or otherwise; and particularly , to accept, receive, receipt for and disburse federal monies or other monies, either public or private, for the acquisition, construction, improvement, maintenance and operation of the airport; and, to acquire property or interests in property by purchase, gift, lease, or eminent domain under chapter 32 of the Wisconsin Statutes; and to supervise the work of any engineer, appraiser, negotiator, contractor or other person employed by the Secretary; and, to execute any assurances or other documents required or requested by any agency of the federal government and to comply with all federal and state laws, rules, and regulations relating to airport development projects.

FURTHER, the Sponsor requests that the Secretary provide, per Wis. Stats. §114.33(8)(a), that the Sponsor may acquire certain parts of the required land or interests in land that the Secretary shall find necessary to complete the aforesaid project.

“AIRPORT OWNER ASSURANCES”

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sponsor agrees to maintain and operate the airport in accordance with certain conditions established in Chapter Trans 55, Wisconsin Administrative Code, or in accordance with Sponsor assurances enumerated in a Federal Grant agreement.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to sign and execute the Agency Agreement and Federal Block Grant Owner Assurances authorized by this Resolution.

Motion (Meehean/Peterson) to adopt. Carried.

1504262 RESOLUTION NO. 2406

A RESOLUTION HONORING RAMONA PAMPUCH FOR HER LONG-TIME SERVICE TO THE CITY OF MERRILL

WHEREAS, Ramona Pampuch has served the City of Merrill at City Hall for 34 years, from June 15, 1981 to March 27, 2015; and,

WHEREAS, these years of service have been marked by exemplary dedication to the best interests of our community, and the safety and well-being of our employees and citizens; and

WHEREAS, Ramona Pampuch has earned the admiration and respect of her fellow employees by the way in which she has carried out her responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, Ramona Pampuch’s cheerful demeanor will be missed at City Hall;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 14th day of April, 2015, that the Common Council, and the people of Merrill officially acknowledge with deep appreciation the dedicated and faithful service Ramona Pampuch has given the City of Merrill and commends her for those 34 years of service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN, that we hereby commend the meritorious and dedicated service of Ramona Pampuch, congratulate her upon the occasion of her retirement from the City of Merrill, and extend our warmest wishes for her enjoyment and continued prosperity in the years that lie ahead.

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

1504270 Mayor's Communications

The fire danger in Lincoln County is currently high.

On May 2nd, Riverside Athletic Club will be hosting a fundraiser run, which will benefit local charities.

Mayor Bialecki announced that joint Committee of the Whole/Redevelopment Authority meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, April 21st at 6:00 P.M. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the Downtown Vision Plan. The meeting will be held in the City Hall Common Council Chambers.

1504999 Motion (Burgener/Schwartzman) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 7:32 P.M.

William R. Bialecki
Mayor

William N. Heideman, CMC, 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 April 17th, 2015.

William N. Heideman, CMC, WCMC
City Clerk