



CITY OF MERRILL

COMMON COUNCIL

MINUTES • TUESDAY DECEMBER 13, 2016

Regular Meeting

City Hall Council Chambers

7:00 PM

1. Call to Order

In the absence of Mayor Bialecki, Common Council President Burgener called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Paul Russell	Aldersperson - First District	Present	
Pete Lokemoen	Aldersperson - Second District	Present	
Ryan Schwartzman	Aldersperson - Third District	Present	
Kandy Peterson	Aldersperson - Fourth District	Present	
John Burgener	Aldersperson - Fifth District & President	Present	
Mary Ball	Aldersperson - Sixth District	Present	
Rob Norton	Aldersperson - Seventh District	Present	
Tim Meehean	Aldersperson - Eighth District	Excused	
Bill Bialecki	Mayor	Excused	

Also in attendance: Public Works Director/City Engineer Rod Akey, Street Superintendent Dustin Bonack, Transit Director Rich Grenfell, City Attorney Tom Hayden, City Administrator Dave Johnson, Utility Superintendent Kim Kriewald, Enrichment Center Director Tammie Mrachek, Police Chief Ken Neff, Fire Chief Dave Savone, Library Director Stacy Stevens, Finance Director Kathy Unertl, Parks and Recreation Director Dan Wendorf and City Clerk Bill Heideman. Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Darin Pagel had an excused absence.

2. Invocation by Pastor Brad Main, Journey Church

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Roll Call

5. Public Comment Period

Representing the Lincoln County Fair Association, Dale Christiansen provided historical information and financial data related to the fair. He expressed concerns that policies and procedures proposed at the Festival Grounds Committee meeting could have an adverse financial impact on the fair and may force the fair association to make dramatic changes to the fair.

Trina Johnson addressed the recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Commission to locate the skateboard park at the site near the River Street municipal parking area. She expressed disappointment that the businesses in that area were not contacted in order to obtain input. Demographically, it is her opinion that the site selected is not the proper place for a skateboard park.

Stephanie Springborn gave an update on her remodeling project at 419 West Main Street. She noted that she is using only local labor on the project.

Library Director Stevens provided information on efforts initiated by the library to encourage and increase citizen involvement and engagement in local government.

6. Minutes of previous Common Council meeting(s):

1. Minutes of November 9, 2016 meeting

Motion (Schwartzman/Ball) to approve.

RESULT: APPROVED

7. Revenue & Expense Reports(s):

1. Revenue & Expense Report for Period Ending November 30, 2016

Motion (Schwartzman/Peterson) to approve.

RESULT: APPROVED

8. Parks & Recreation Commission

1. Consider acceptance of \$30,408 grant from the Recreational Trail Aids program. The Parks and Recreation Commission recommends acceptance.

Motion (Schwartzman/Norton) to approve acceptance of the grant.

RESULT: APPROVED

2. Consider acceptance of \$83,342 grant from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund. The Parks and Recreation Commission recommends acceptance.

Motion (Schwartzman/Norton) to approve acceptance of the grant.

RESULT: APPROVED

9. Personnel and Finance Committee:

1. Consider creation of Police Department Drug Investigator position. The Personnel and Finance Committee recommends approving, as submitted, the restructuring of the Police Department for one year. The Drug Investigator position would be created as a result of the restructuring. The Police Chief would be authorized to terminate the restructuring at any time during that year, if he deems it necessary. In the event the restructuring is terminated, the Police Department structure would revert back to the current structure.

Motion (Russell/Ball) to approve.

RESULT: APPROVED

10. Redevelopment Authority:

1. Consider purchase of 2101 Logan Avenue (former Merrill Pavers property) for \$30,000. The Redevelopment Authority recommends approval.

RESULT:	APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE [7 TO 0]
MOVER:	Ryan Schwartzman, Alderperson - Third District
SECONDER:	Pete Lokemoen, Alderperson - Second District
AYES:	Russell, Lokemoen, Schwartzman, Peterson, Burgener, Ball, Norton
EXCUSED:	Meehean

11. Water & Sewage Disposal Committee:

1. Consider 3% adjustment to Water & Sewer Fees for 2017. The Water & Sewage Disposal Committee recommends approval.

Motion (Norton/Ball) to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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12. Placing Committee Reports on File:

1. Consider placing the following committee reports on file: Airport Commission, Board of Canvass, Festival Grounds Committee, Historic Preservation Committee, Library Board, Merrill Enrichment Center Committee, Parks & Recreation Commission, Personnel & Finance Committee, Redevelopment Authority and Water & Sewage Disposal Committee.

Motion (Schwartzman/Peterson) to place on file.

RESULT:	PLACED ON FILE
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13. Mayor's Appointment(s):

1. Alderman Paul Russell to the Police & Fire Commission, term to expire May 1, 2018.

Motion (Norton/Ball) to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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14. Ordinances:

1. An Ordinance amending Chapter 38, Division 2, Section 38-149 of the City of Merrill Code of Ordinances, to adjust Sewer Service Charges (Ordinance 2016-19).

City Attorney Hayden gave the ordinance a first reading.

Motion (Norton/Schwartzman) to suspend the rules and give the ordinance a second reading and a third reading by title only. Carried.

City Attorney Hayden gave the ordinance a second reading and a third reading by title only.

RESULT:	APPROVED [7 TO 0]
MOVER:	Rob Norton, Alderperson - Seventh District
SECONDER:	Mary Ball, Alderperson - Sixth District
AYES:	Russell, Lokemoen, Schwartzman, Peterson, Burgener, Ball, Norton
EXCUSED:	Meehean

15. Resolutions:

1. A Preliminary Resolution of Intent to exercise Special Assessment Powers by Police Power under Section 66.0703 of the Wisconsin Statutes (Resolution #2491).

RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin:

- A. The Common Council hereby declares its intention to exercise its power under Section 66.0703 Wisconsin Statutes, to levy special assessments under the police power upon all properties abutting the following improvements in the City of Merrill, Wisconsin:
 1. Sidewalk inspection pursuant to sidewalk inspection program. Sidewalk maintenance area is generally confined to the Fourth District:
 - a) Isolated sidewalk repairs requested or needed.
 - b) Driveway approaches requested or needed.
 - c) Curb and gutter requested or needed.
 - d) New sidewalk extensions as requested and/or approved by Board of Public Works.
 2. Resurfacing of Poplar Street from East 5th Street north to East 6th Street involving:
 - a) Curb and gutter placement and pavement replacement
 - b) Limited sidewalk replacement associated with curb and gutter replacements.
 3. Reconstruction of Chestnut Street from East 6th Street north to East 8th Street involving:
 - a) Replacement of water main and laterals.
 - b) Replacement of sewer main and laterals.
 - c) Replacement and upgrade of existing storm sewer.
 - d) Curb and gutter and pavement replacement.
 - e) Limited sidewalk replacement associated with curb and gutter replacements.
 4. Paving of Edgewater Drive from Grand Avenue to Highland Drive involving:
 - a) Curb and gutter and pavement placement.
 - b) Storm sewer inlet adjustments.
 5. Paving of Highland Drive, entire length, involving:
 - a) Curb and gutter and pavement placement.
 - b) Storm sewer inlet adjustments.
 6. Paving of Francis Street from East 6th Street to East 8th Street involving:

- a) Curb and gutter and pavement placement.
 - b) Storm sewer inlet adjustments.
7. Paving of Hollywood Drive from East 8th Street to East 10th Street involving:
- a) Curb and gutter placement and pavement replacement.
 - b) Storm sewer inlet adjustments.
8. Paving of East Tenth Street from Sales Street to Memorial Drive involving:
- a) Curb and gutter placement and pavement replacement.
 - b) Storm sewer inlet adjustments.
 - c) Sidewalk installation, north side only.
- B. Said public improvements shall include, where appropriate:
1. The grading of said street.
 2. The surfacing of said street with asphalt.
 3. The installation of curb and gutter on said street.
 4. The installation, removal or replacement of sidewalk, driveway and curb and gutter on said street.
 5. The installation of water main and water laterals on said street.
 6. The installation of sanitary sewer and sewer laterals on said street.
 7. The installation of storm sewer on said street.
 8. The necessary landscaping on said street.
 9. All improvements shall be completed to plans and specifications prepared or approved by the Public Works Director and recorded in the office of the Public Works Director/City Engineer.
- C. The Common Council determines that the above improvements constitute an exercise of the police power and the amount assessed each parcel abutting on the street shall be on a reasonable basis as approved by the Common Council and which rates are in effect at the time of installation in accordance with special assessment procedures set forth in provisions of Chapter 18, Article III, Division 3 of the Code of Ordinances, City of Merrill, Wisconsin.
- D. The assessments against any parcels of land may be paid in cash not later than November 1 of the year such improvements are made, or in installments as provided by Chapter 18, Article III, Division 3 of the Code of Ordinances, City of Merrill, Wisconsin. Rate of interest on installment payments shall be as set by Common Council action.
- E. The City Engineering/Zoning Department shall, with respect to the items mentioned at paragraph A above, prepare a report consisting of:
1. Preliminary or final plans and specifications with maps of the improvements.
 2. An estimate of the entire cost of the proposed work or improvements.
 3. A schedule of the proposed assessments as to each parcel of property affected.
 4. A statement that the properties against which the assessments are proposed are benefited and that the improvements constitute an exercise of the police power.
- F. The City Engineering/Zoning Department shall complete and file such reports in the City Clerk's office for public inspection no later than December 23rd, 2016.

The Board of Public Works of the City of Merrill shall hold a public hearing on Wednesday, January 25th, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. The hearing shall be held in the Council Chambers in the City Hall, Merrill, Wisconsin, on the improvements mentioned in paragraph A above. The City Clerk shall cause a notice of said hearing to be published once as a Class I notice no later than December 23rd, 2016. The City Clerk shall mail a copy of the notice to all interested persons at least ten (10) days before the date of the hearing.

Motion (Schwartzman/Ball) to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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16. **Mayor's Communications**

Common Council President Burgener thanked all those who had attended the meeting. He then wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

17. **Adjournment**

Motion (Norton/Schwartzman) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 7:33 P.M.