



CITY OF MERRILL
COMMON COUNCIL
MINUTES • TUESDAY JULY 9, 2019

Regular Meeting

City Hall Council Chambers

7:00 PM

1. Call to Order

Mayor Woellner called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Paul Russell	Aldersperson - First District	Present	
Steve Hass	Aldersperson - Second District	Present	
Rick Blake	Aldersperson - Third District	Present	
Steve Osness	Aldersperson - Fourth District	Present	
John M. Van Lieshout	Aldersperson - Fifth District	Present	
Dave Sukow	Aldersperson - Sixth District	Present	
Rob Norton	Aldersperson - Seventh District	Present	
Tim Meehean	Aldersperson - Eighth District	Present	
Derek Woellner	Mayor	Present	

2. Silent Prayer

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Roll Call

5. Public Comment Period

Steve Sabatke, LaDonna Fermanich and Alderman Meehean made comments related to the upcoming recall election.

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

1. Minutes of June 11, 2019 Common Council meeting

Motion (Norton/Osness) to approve.

RESULT: APPROVED

7. Revenue & Expense Reports(s):

1. Revenue & Expense Report for Period Ending June 30, 2019

Motion (Norton/Osness) to approve.

RESULT: APPROVED

8. General agenda items:

1. Employee Years of Service Recognition:

Joy Ellen Annis, 20 years (Parks & Recreation)

City Clerk Heideman read a certificate of recognition for Joy Annis.

9. Board of Public Works:

1. Request from Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce to close East Main Street, from South Center Avenue (west side) to Poplar Street, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. on Saturday, August 10th, 2019, in conjunction with a Chalk it Up Festival. The Board of Public Works recommends approval.

Motion (Hass/Norton) to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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2. Consider placing a Rapid Flashing Beacon on East Main Street at Memorial Drive. The Board of Public Works recommends approval.

Motion (Van Lieshout/Norton) to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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3. Receive input and consider options to address issues related to the rooftop HVAC units at the T.B. Scott Free Library. The Board of Public Works recommends replacing all three units, at an approximate cost of \$110,000.

Motion (Norton/Meehean) to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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4. Consider transfer of the vacant lot at 122 S. Prospect Street, from the City to the Merrill Area Housing Authority. Mayor Woellner is bringing this directly to the Common Council.

Motion (Norton/Van Lieshout) to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED, RUSSELL ABSTAINING
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5. Consider Street Use Permit application from Merrill Area Housing Authority to close Prospect Street (from Grand Avenue to West Main Street) from 4:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. on Wednesday, August 7, 2019, in conjunction with a City Band concert. Alderman Russell is bringing this application directly to the Common Council. This is part of an amended agenda.

Motion (Russell/Norton) to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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10. Health and Safety Committee:

1. Application from Friends of the River Bend Trail for a Class "B" (picnic) license to sell fermented malt beverages at the Agra Pavilion/Rotary Park (400 S. Park St.) during the "Pigout at the Pavilion" event on August 24th, 2019. The Health and Safety Committee recommends approval.

Motion (Van Lieshout/Russell) to approve.

RESULT: APPROVED

2. Application from Saint Stephen's United Church of Christ for a temporary Class "B" (picnic) license to sell fermented malt beverages at Normal Park, 500 North Center Avenue, during Saint Stephen's Oktoberfest, September 28th, 2019. The Health and Safety Committee recommends approval.

Motion (Sukow/Osness) to approve.

RESULT: APPROVED

3. Applications from Merrill Fastpitch for three temporary Class "B" (picnic) licenses to sell fermented malt beverages at the Merrill Area Recreation Complex (MARC), 1100 MARC Drive, during the 2019 Merrill Fastpitch Tournament, July 26-28, 2019. Alderman Sukow is bringing these applications directly to the Common Council.

Motion (Sukow/Norton) to approve.

RESULT: APPROVED

4. Consider request from Ballyhoo's for an extension of premises to sell alcoholic beverages in a closed-street area outside of Ballyhoo's, 124 N. Prospect Street, on Wednesday, August 7, 2019, in conjunction with a City Band concert. Alderman Russell is bringing this request directly to the Common Council. This is part of an amended agenda.

Motion (Russell/Osness) to approve.

RESULT: APPROVED

11. Personnel and Finance Committee:

1. Consider writing off 2018 over-collected Personal Property tax bills for Checkered Churn (\$76.29), Susie's on Main (\$33.56) and The Fresh Botique (\$30.51). The Personnel and Finance Committee recommends approving all three write-offs.

Motion (Meehean/Osness) to approve all three write-offs.

RESULT: APPROVED

12. Placing Committee Reports on File:

1. Place the following committee reports on file: Board of Public Works, City Plan Commission, Festival Grounds Committee, Health & Safety Committee, Library Board, Personnel & Finance Committee and Water & Sewage Disposal Committee.

Motion (Sukow/Van Lieshout) to place on file.

RESULT:	PLACED ON FILE
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13. Ordinances:

1. An Ordinance amending Chapter 14, Article II, Section 14-34, related to destruction of noxious weeds (Ordinance #2019-04).

City Attorney Hayden gave the ordinance a first reading.

Motion (Norton/Meehean) 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 [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Steve Hass, Alderperson - Second District
SECONDER:	Rob Norton, Alderperson - Seventh District
AYES:	Russell, Hass, Blake, Osness, Van Lieshout, Sukow, Norton, Meehean

14. Resolutions:

1. A Resolution for a Conditional Use Permit for storage buildings on Willow Bend Drive, requested by Jess Kufahl d/b/a Quality Built Garages (Resolution #2600).

WHEREAS, Jess Kufahl d/b/a Quality Built Garages has requested a Conditional Use permit pursuant to the Merrill Zoning Code Chapter 113-103 for the purpose of the development of storage buildings on the following described property:

Lots 17-20 of Lot 1 of CSM #1253, PIN #3106-161-0049, within the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin; and,

WHEREAS, the City Plan Commission scheduled a hearing on the application on July 2, 2019, due public notice having been given, and opportunity given to those interested to speak on the application; and,

WHEREAS, the City Plan Commission has reviewed the Application and has recommended approval of said application, with the condition that trees be planted on the east side of property to provide screening acceptable to Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 9th day of July, 2019, that a Conditional Use permit shall be issued to Jess Kufahl d/b/a Quality Built Garages for the purpose of developing storage buildings on the aforesaid described property.

Motion (Hass/Blake) to approve.

RESULT: APPROVED

2. A Resolution honoring Carol H. Wendorf for her long-term service to the City of Merrill (Resolution #2601).

WHEREAS, Carol H. Wendorf has served the City of Merrill T.B. Scott Library for 20 years; and,

WHEREAS, these years of service have been marked by dedication to the best interests of our community and citizens; and

WHEREAS, Carol H. Wendorf has earned the admiration and respect of her fellow employees by the way in which she has carried out her duties; and

WHEREAS, Carol H. Wendorf's skills and experience will be missed at the City of Merrill T.B. Scott Library;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 9th day of July, 2019, that the Common Council, and the people of Merrill officially acknowledge with deep appreciation the dedicated and faithful service Carol H. Wendorf has given the City of Merrill T.B. Scott Library and commends her for those 20 years of service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we hereby commend the meritorious and dedicated service of Carol H. Wendorf, congratulate her upon the occasion of her retirement from the City of Merrill T.B. Scott Library, and extend our warmest wishes for her enjoyment of continued prosperity in the years that lie ahead.

Motion (Common Council/Common Council) to approve.

RESULT: APPROVED

3. A Resolution honoring Lorri L. Vandre for her long-term service to the City of Merrill (Resolution #2602).

WHEREAS, Lorri L. Vandre has served the City of Merrill Enrichment Center for 29 years; and,

WHEREAS, these years of service have been marked by dedication to the best interests of our community and citizens; and

WHEREAS, Lorri L. Vandre has earned the admiration and respect of her fellow employees by the way in which she has carried out her duties; and

WHEREAS, Lorri L. Vandre's skills and experience will be missed at the City of Merrill Enrichment Center;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 9th day of July, 2019, that the Common Council, and the people of Merrill officially acknowledge with deep appreciation the dedicated and faithful service Lorri L. Vandre has given the City of Merrill Enrichment Center and commends her for those 29 years of service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we hereby commend the meritorious and dedicated service of Lorri L. Vandre, congratulate her upon the occasion of her retirement from the City of Merrill Enrichment Center, and extend our warmest wishes for her enjoyment of continued prosperity in the years that lie ahead.

Motion (Common Council/Common Council) to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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4. Resolution honoring Steven D. Hintze for his long-term service to the City of Merrill (Resolution #2603).

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, Steven D. Hintze has served the City of Merrill as a Firefighter, MPO, AMB, Lieutenant, Captain, Ass't Chief, and Battalion Chief from February, 1993, to June 1, 2019; and,

WHEREAS, Steven D. Hintze's cheerful manner, dedication to Fire service and Emergency Medical Service and to the City of Merrill and his hard work in virtually every area in which he was involved will be greatly missed by the Merrill Fire Department and Merrill's citizens; and

WHEREAS, the personal commitment and unselfish dedication Steven D. Hintze 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 Steven D. Hintze's dedicated service; and,

WHEREAS, Steven D. Hintze's cheerful manner and hard work will be missed at the Merrill Fire Department;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 9th day of July, 2019, that the Common Council, and the people of Merrill officially acknowledge with deep appreciation the dedicated and faithful service Steven D. Hintze has given the City of Merrill Fire Department and commends him for those 26 years of service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we hereby commend the meritorious and dedicated service of Steven D. Hintze, congratulate him upon the occasion of his retirement from the City of Merrill Fire Department, and extend our warmest wishes for his enjoyment of continued prosperity in the years that lie ahead.

Motion (Common Council/Common Council) to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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5. A Resolution honoring Diane M. Wais for her long-term service to the City of Merrill (Resolution #2604).

WHEREAS, Diane M. Wais has served the City of Merrill City Attorney's Office for 21 years; and,

WHEREAS, these years of service have been marked by dedication to the best interests of our community and citizens; and

WHEREAS, Diane M. Wais has earned the admiration and respect of her fellow employees by the way in which she has carried out her duties; and

WHEREAS, Diane M. Wais' skills, experience, and cheerful manner will be missed at the City of Merrill City Attorney's Office and City Hall;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 9th day of July, 2019, that the Common Council, and the people of Merrill officially acknowledge with deep appreciation the dedicated and faithful service Diane M. Wais has given the City of Merrill City Attorney's Office and the City overall, and commends her for those 21 years of service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we do hereby commend the meritorious and dedicated service of Diane M. Wais, congratulate her upon the occasion of her retirement from the City of Merrill City Attorney Office, and extend our warmest wishes for her enjoyment of continued prosperity in the years that lie ahead.

Motion (Common Council/Common Council) to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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15. Mayor's Communications

Alderman Russell issued a reminder that, at some point, the Personnel and Finance Committee will need to address the cost of the recall election.

Mayor Woellner noted that several community events are upcoming, including the Relay for Life event at the Festival Grounds on Friday, August 9th.

16. Adjournment

Motion (Norton/Meehean) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 7:42 P.M.