



CITY OF MERRILL

Parks & Recreation Dept. - Smith Center

1100 Marc Drive - Merrill, WI 54452

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Fax (715)539-2790

DECEMBER MEETING NOTICE

The Merrill Parks and Recreation Commission will have a meeting on **Wednesday, December 4, 2019 at 4:15 p.m.**, at the **Merrill City Hall**.

Voting members of Commission: Kate Baker, Jean Ravn, Brian Artac, Kyle Gulke, Joan Tabor, John Vanlieshout and Dan Novitch

The following items will be included on the agenda:

1. Approve minutes from previous meeting.
2. Approve claims.
3. Public Comment
4. Update on 2020 Budget
5. Update and discussion on trail to connect Prairie Trails to the River Bend Trail.
6. Discuss connecting Merrill/River Bend Trail to the Bearskin/Hiawatha State Trail in Tomahawk.
7. Continued discussion on future projects and program ideas.
8. Monthly reports.
9. Set date for next meeting.
10. Public comment
11. Adjournment

Submitted by

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Novitch".

Dan Novitch, Chairperson
Parks and Recreation Commission

The Merrill City Hall is accessible to the physical disadvantaged. If special accommodations are required, please contact City Hall at 536-5594.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

November 6, 2019

The Merrill Parks and Recreation Commission met on Wednesday, November 6, 2019 at 4:15 p.m. at the Merrill City Hall.

Members Present: Kyle Gulke, Kate Baker, Jean Ravn, Joan Tabor, Brian Artac, John Vanlieshout and Dan Novitch.

Members Excused Absent:

Department Staff Present: Dan Wendorf and Dawn Smith

Visitors: City Administrator Hunter Lane from MP3, Mike Ravn

***Motion by Artac, seconded by Baker to approve the minutes from the October meeting.

***Carried unanimously.

***Motion by Baker, seconded by Vanlieshout, to approve the claims from October.

Ravn questioned what the bill was for from Baumgart Waste Removal for 2018. Wendorf stated that Baumgart forgot to bill us for the 2018 summer season.

***Carried unanimously.

Public Comment: None

The next item on the agenda was the 2020 budget update. Wendorf stated that they were still in the process of approving the 2020 budget. Wendorf stated that a couple items he knows has been removed from capital like the docks at Ott's Park, the solar panel at the Smith Center, the parking lots have been revamped, so instead of redoing them they will crack seal them, and the flooring in the office has been reduced from \$15,000 to \$5,000. Final budget meeting is November 12th.

The next item on the agenda is to discuss and invite future projects and initiatives. Novitch stated that this is a little bit of homework for the commission members. Novitch stated that with some creative thinking maybe some programs can be upgraded or improved, maybe some new ideas for some programs, some recreation projects and etc. If you do have a ideas to let Dan Wendorf know and some items could be included in on the 10 year plan.

The next item on the agenda was monthly reports. Wendorf stated that the weather has not been favorable for tree planting so the chances are good that trees will be planted in the spring of next year. Wendorf stated that he would go to the homes of the people where trees were marked to be planted and let them know that planting will take place in Spring and that they will have to make sure that they water the trees at least twice a day. Wendorf stated that the first draft of the skate park was completed and was sent back for changes. Wendorf and Heather O'Neill felt that the design didn't offer what was asked for so it was sent back with some changes to be made. Ravn questioned if the River Rat has been put back up. Wendorf stated that they are waiting on the enclosure to be completed. Wendorf stated that there has been some damage done at Normal park again. The doors were kicked in, toilet paper all over the bathroom, and toilets plugged.

Baker questioned if there were camera's and Wendorf stated no, but thought about putting some trail cam's up. Wendorf stated that people need to have pride in the community and in the parks.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 4, 2019 at 4:15 p.m. at the Merrill City Hall.

***Motion by Ravn, seconded by Baker to adjourn at 4:45 p.m.

***Carried unanimously.

Dawn Smith
Recording Secretary

NOVEMBER

AMERICAN WELDING	HELIUM TANKS	10/31/2019	3703750	\$69.79	55300-03-41500
AMERICAN WELDING	CYLINDER RENTAL	10/31/2019	6703227	\$103.46	55200-02-15000
CONNTRY 106	ADVERTISING	10/31/2019		\$360.00	BARLEYFEST
COUNCIL GROUNDS STATE PARK	SUMMER PLAYGROUND	10/31/2019		\$110.00	55300-03-41500
DAVE'S COUNTY MARKET	STORYTIME/CRAFT TIME	10/30/2019		\$2.99	55300-03-41500
DAVE'S COUNTY MARKET	STORYTIME/CRAFT TIME	11/6/2019		\$2.99	55300-03-41500
ELLY WAID	SECURITY DEPOSIT	11/5/2019	VOUCHER	\$100.00	10-21-7200
FULLY PROMOTED	GLASSES FOR BARLEYFEST	11/7/2019	6385	\$1,195.00	BARLEYFEST
J. WENNING	ZAMBONI KNIFE	11/5/2019	98035	\$81.00	55400-03-51500
JASON WYLAND	SECURITY DEPOSIT	11/5/2019	VOUCHER	\$100.00	10-21-7200
JEFFERSON SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	SECURITY DEPOSIT	10/30/2019	VOUCHER	\$100.00	10-21-7200
LEE RECREATION	DOGIPOT BAGS	10/28/2019	12437-19	\$253.00	55200-03-40000
MENARDS	TOOLS FOR SMITH CENTER	10/30/2019		\$57.96	55400-03-50000
MERRILL STREET DEPARTMENT	P-6	10/3/2019	16430	\$200.86	55200-03-50000
MERRILL STREET DEPARTMENT	P-4	10/2/2019	16427	\$126.53	55200-03-50000
NASSCO	BATH TISSUE	11/4/2019	52539039	\$280.50	55400-03-50000
NORTHWOODS 92.5	ADVERTISING	10/5/2019		\$350.00	BARLEYFEST
NORTHWOODS NURSERY	TREES	10/29/2019	76430	\$4,591.25	55200-08-92000
NORTHWOODS NURSERY	TREES	10/29/2019	76430	\$1,903.75	TIMBER SALES
O'SO BREWING COMPANY	BARLEYFEST	11/1/2019		\$200.00	BARLEYFEST
R & R SPECIALITIES OF WISCONSIN	ICE PAINT	11/6/2019	68939	\$2,494.00	55400-08-82000
R.T.L.	AQUATIC CENTER/	11/6/2019	63369	\$106.35	55200-02-15000
R.T.L.	MARC CENTER	11/6/2019	63370	\$310.17	55400-03-50000
R.T.L.	MARC CENTER/WPS POWER POLE	11/6/2019	63371	\$171.25	55400-03-50000
R.T.L.	MARC CENTER/LAMP RECYCLING	11/6/2019	63372	\$121.50	55200-02-15000
SKATE CITY	NO SCHOOL FUN DAY	11/4/2019		\$175.00	55300-03-41500
SUNRISE BROADCASTING	ADVERTISING	11/1/2019		\$273.00	55400-03-410000
WALMART	OFFICE SUPPLIES	11/8/2019		\$74.43	55200-03-10000
WISCONSIN BUILDING SUPPLY	PARTS FOR SMITH CENTER	10/31/2019	336448	\$78.04	55200-08-91500
MERRILL ACE HARDWARE	TRASH BAGS	10/31/2019		\$31.48	55200-03-40000
MERRILL ACE HARDWARE	BATTERY	11/4/2019		\$1.99	55200-03-40000
CENTRAL WISCONSIN WHOLESALE AUTO	ULTRA SUPREME #3 MOLY	11/12/2019		\$145.20	55200-03-40000
RIESTERER & SCHNELL	WHEEL REPAIR	10/30/2019	1656292	\$209.21	55200-03-50000

Bearskin State Trail

Key

- Bearskin Trail
- Bearskin Trail Road Route (5 mi)
- Hiawatha County Trail
- Road
- River
- NHAL Forest Boundary
- ▲ Camping
- ⌘ Picnic Table
- ★ Rest Area
- ◆ Observation deck
- ♿ Handicap Accessible



Trestles:

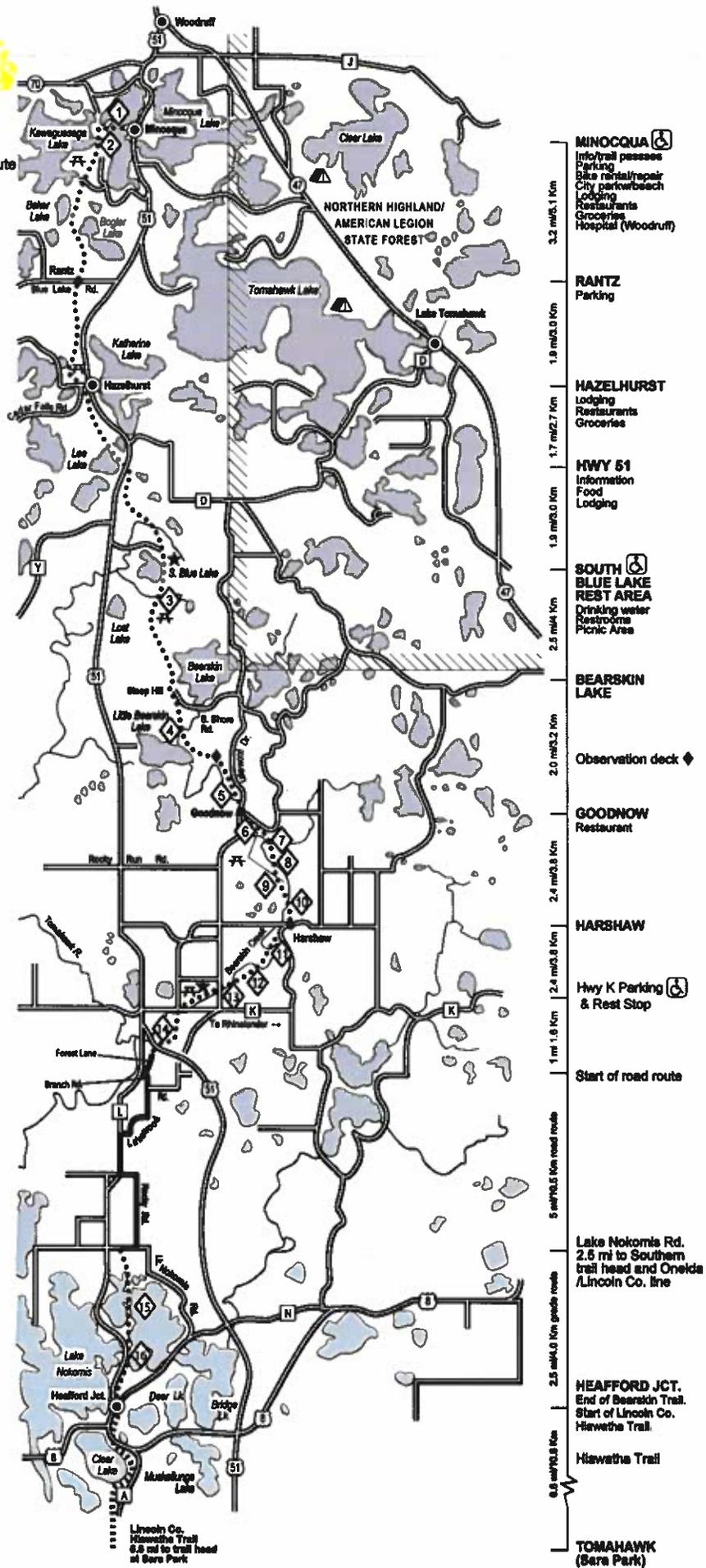
- 1 Minocqua Trestle
- 2 Kawaga Trestle
- 3 Scott Springs Trestle
- 4 Bearskin Trestle
- 5 Goodnow Trestle
- 6 Pinewood Trestle
- 7 Horsehead Trestle
- 8 Cedar Trestle
- 9 Tamarack Trestle
- 10 Harshaw Trestle
- 11 Brandy Trestle
- 12 Triple Tubes Trestle
- 13 Lakewood Trestle
- 14 Highway K Trestle
- 15 Lake Nokomis Trestle
- 16 Shaffer's Wharf Trestle

State Trail Pass Fee

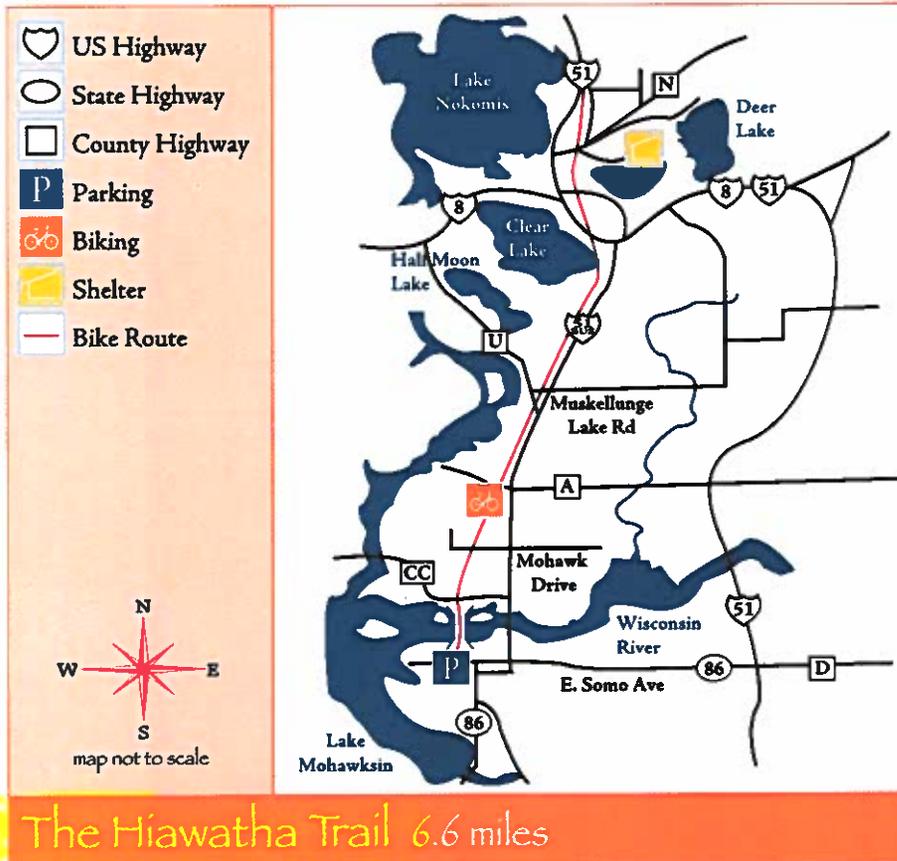
For bikers age 16 and older.
Fees subject to change.

Annual Pass.....\$25

Daily Pass:\$5



Lincoln Co.
Hiawatha Trail
0.6 mi to trail head
at Bare Park



Tomahawk to Merrill (North to South)
Marc to Sara Park

Lincoln County Public Access Land Records Viewer



Lincoln County, WI

Author: Public

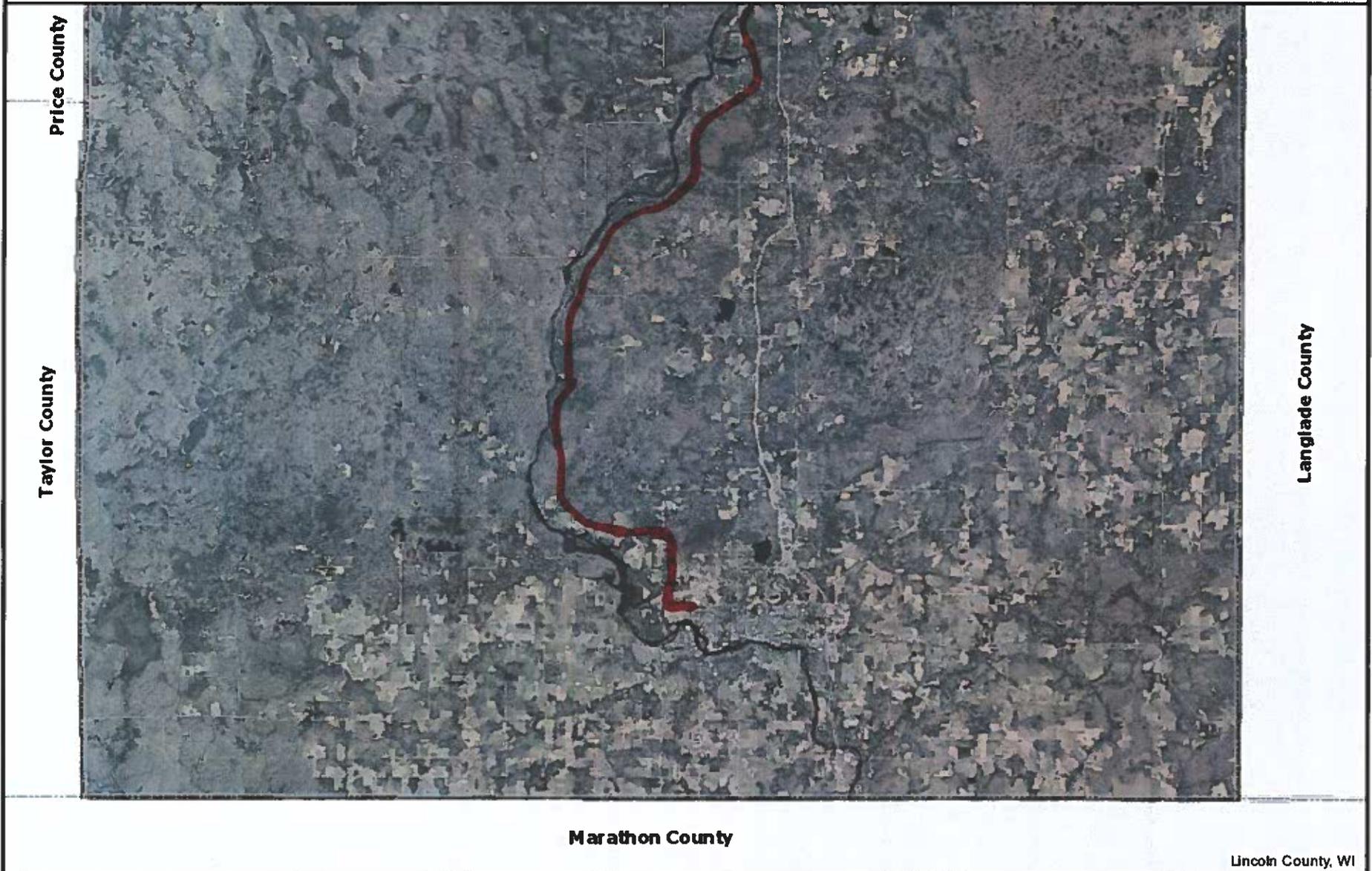
Date Printed: 11/22/2019



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Tomahawk to Merrill pt. 2

Lincoln County Public Access Land Records Viewer



Author: Public
Date Printed: 11/22/2019

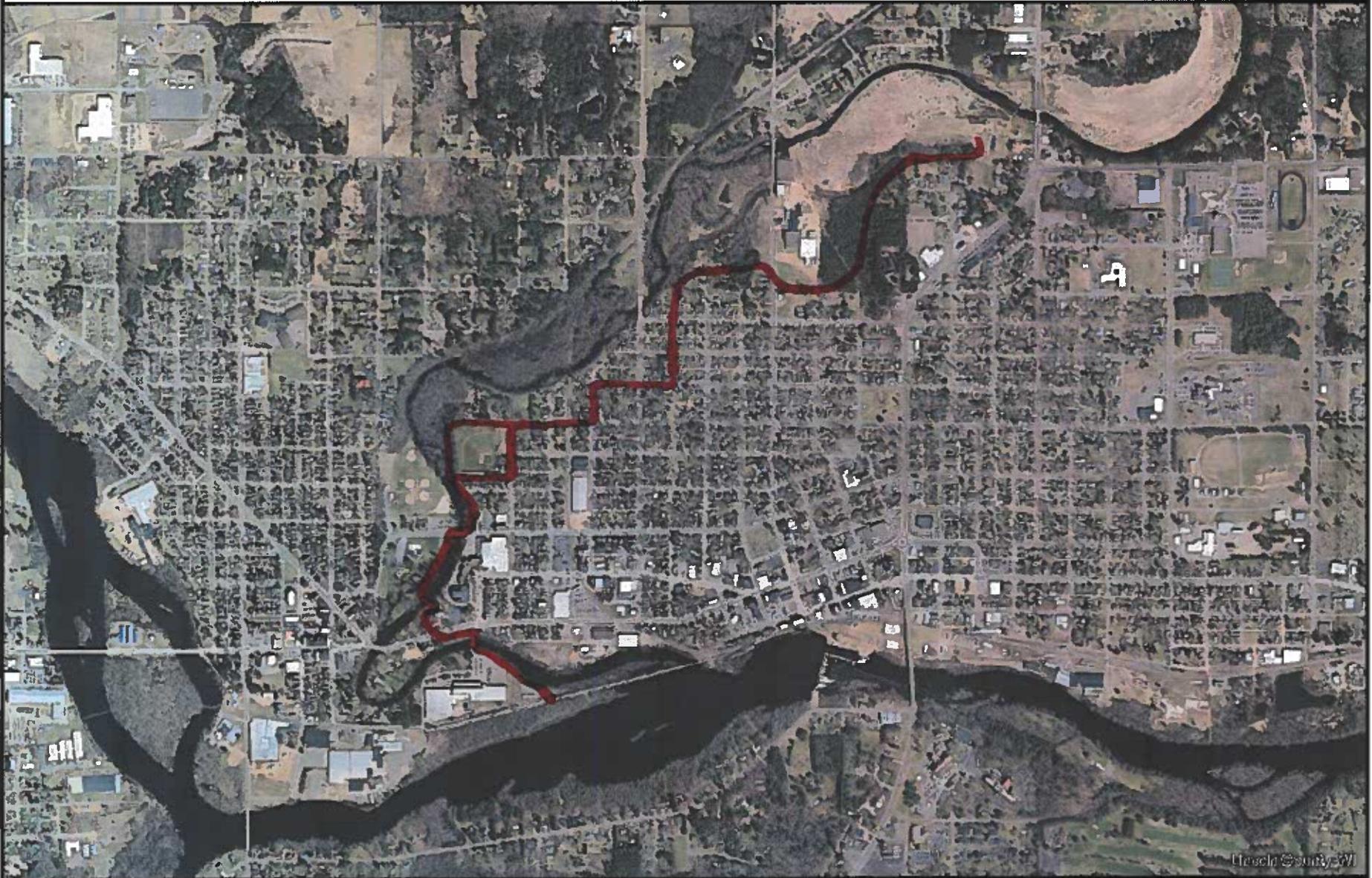


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Lincoln County, WI

Overall Concept Revised

Lincoln County Public Access Land Records Viewer



Author: Public
Date Printed: 11/22/2019



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December 2019 Parks & Recreation Director's Report

Parks: The very cold and unseasonal weather we experienced for the past month has put a halt on a number of tasks that we intended to finish up. We are hoping that the recent warm up will allow for some of these things to be completed. We were able to get everything winterized in time for the freezing conditions so we are good there. We did experience some more vandalism over the past few weeks, with the most recent happening in the restrooms at Normal Park. We have been leaving them open since the new playground opened to allow for families to use that amenity and enjoy the new playground. Unfortunately someone(s) went in and trashed both restrooms. We had quite a stretch of small vandalism type things in a number of locations and were able to catch one person on a trail camera at Stange Park and things have slowed down quite a bit since. Hopefully this is the end of the foolishness, as it is such a shame and waste of our time and taxpayer dollars on senseless acts. I met with Weinbrenner and FreMarq recently regarding the proposed trail to connect the River Bend Trail with Prairie Trails. Both businesses loved the idea of the trail and are on board with working with us on using their property to allow the trail to move forward. It was very refreshing and positive to hear their viewpoints on our community and on the trail initiative! That is great news and will allow for this initiative to move forward. I am working with our City Attorney to draft up easements and agreements to move forward with that portion of the project. At some point in the near future, I will begin to more accurately map out the trail and begin with more details regarding the trail. On those same lines I have begun discussions with the State of Wisconsin on possibly connecting the Bearskin/Hiawatha State Trail with the Mountain Bay State Trail through Merrill. I was given some instructions on how best to make this happen (or get it started at least). I have taken the first few steps and began discussions with Tomahawk as the starting point and will have to discuss with the townships from Tomahawk heading south to Merrill to connect to us first. This initiative is going to take some time and I will discuss further with you all during the meeting but I think it is something worth pursuing and has very major regional and statewide ramifications if we were to take the lead on this. Our 2020 Budget passed on 11/19/19 a week after the regular City Council meeting. We did have a few adjustments to our capital requests, including: removal of diamond drag replacement – but approval of a new engine for the existing dragger for up to \$2,000, removal of one of the two zero turn mowers requested, and the Smith Center office flooring remained at \$5,000. The rest of the changes that I mentioned last month remained the same as discussed previously. I hope that we go back to an all-day process next year to keep thoughts and processes continuous. By spreading the process out over almost two months, it seems to become too fragmented (in my opinion).

Forestry: The Street Department has started working on tree pruning's and removals and will continue until they get caught up with my lists. With the weather trending a little more towards normal, I called all of our tree planting locations into digger's hotline and am hoping that some of the frost breaks up and we can plant as many trees as possible. We are going to try a few park trees right now (as I am typing this) and once we get going we might even be able to have all trees planted by the time we meet on December 4th. The ultimate goal is to get them all in yet this year so that we don't have to try

and fit it into next spring. Not only do we have very limited time in the spring, but we haven't had an actual "spring" in quite a few years so it is too unpredictable to rely on that. Either way we will be ready to plant trees at a moment's notice and it will help us get this done this fall/early winter. I have started the paperwork for our 2019 Tree City USA application, as it is due at the end of the year. As usual, we will once again qualify with flying colors for a Tree City USA. There is quite a bit of paperwork involved in the application process but I will have plenty of time to finish all of the documentation and get it in.

Recreation: Our registrations are still ongoing for our winter recreation programs. We have good numbers for Little Dribblers so far and we are always hoping for more. We do have some special programs coming up as well, including Breakfast with Santa in the Smith Center on December 14th and Christmas Stories on December 9th. As always, work on our 2020 Recreation Programs has begun and will continue throughout the winter months so we are ready to unveil our entire program as early as we can in the spring to promote to the public and hopefully build on all of our program numbers and involvement.

Smith Center: We have a full month of ice activities in already, which is hard to believe. It has been going very well to this point. The only issue we still have is finding one more Arena Specialist to fill our job vacancy. We posted the job opening right away for two weeks and had two applicants and hired one of them and didn't hear back from the other. We posted it again for another two weeks and received one applicant who would not qualify for the position, leaving us one short to this point. We have been making due with what we have but it would be very nice to get that position filled in the very near future. I do need to thank our entire staff for stepping up and going the extra mile and filling in where needed in order to make this happen, they have all been amazing and we are extremely fortunate to have great people here at the Parks & Recreation Department! If anyone knows of anyone interested in a great part time job, please have them contact us as soon as possible. MHS games will be starting very soon here, and both of our major user groups have been in full swing already and it is great to see everyone back in our beautiful arena for another season.

****Note:** I would like to wish everyone a Safe and Happy Holiday Season! It has been a pleasure once again to work with each and every one of you and I cannot thank you enough for helping our department and community. We are fortunate, as City of Parks, to have a wonderful Parks & Recreation Commission and wonderful staff members who help make all of these initiatives, programs, and parks the best they can be. From the bottom of my heart. THANK YOU! We are already looking forward to an even bigger and better year in 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Wendorf
Parks & Recreation Director
City of Merrill