

**CITY OF MERRILL
COMMON COUNCIL
Wednesday August 3, 2022 MINUTES
Special Meeting City Hall Council Chambers 6:00 p.m.**

- I. **Call to Order:** Mayor Hass called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The following elected officials, department heads and residents were in attendance:

Paul Russell – First District	Excused
Michael “Gus” Caylor – Second District	Present
Rick Blake – Third District	Present
LaDonna Fermanich – Fourth District	Present
Dick Lupton – Fifth District	Present
Mike Rick – Sixth District	Present
Mark Weix – Seventh District	Present
Steve Sabatke – Eighth District	Present

Elected Officials and Department Heads present: City Attorney – Tom Hayden, City Clerk – Lori Anderson-Malm, Police Chief – Corey Bennett, Public Works Director/ City Engineer – Rod Akey, and Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator – Darin Pagel and Merrill Productions.

Residents in attendance: Mike Newman – Trinity Lutheran Church

- II. **Invocation** – silent prayer
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited.
- IV. **Public Comment** – There was no public comment.
- V. **Agenda Items for Consideration:**

Consider a right-of-way lease for Trinity Daycare

City Attorney Hayden explained this is a standard form lease and is less than \$50.00 per year and recommended approval.

Aldersperson Lupton made a motion to approve the right-of-way lease for Trinity Daycare.
Aldersperson Weix seconded and the motion passed.

- VI. **Closed Session**

The Committee may convene in closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes Section 19.85(1) (c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of an employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, to review materials provided by interim City Administrator candidates and potentially interview those candidates.

Aldersperson Rick made a motion to move into closed session. Aldersperson Blake seconded the motion. The motion passed on a 7/0 roll call vote with Aldersperson Russell being excused.

Closed Session Summary:

The Common Council entered into closed session at 6:05 pm. City Clerk Anderson-Malm took the minutes.

The Common Council discussed the three applicants for the interim City Administrator position. The candidates were interviewed and the council made their decision.

Aldersperson Caylor made a motion to appoint Police Chief Bennett and Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey as interim City Administrator team with Police Chief Bennett being the main point-of-contact with the existing City Administrator. Aldersperson Rick seconded the motion and the motion carried on a voice vote.

VII. Reconvene in Open Session:

Aldersperson Caylor made a motion to move into open session. Aldersperson Rick seconded and the motion carried on a voice vote. The Council went back to open session at 7:00 pm.

Once back in open session, the candidates were asked to come into the Council Chambers to hear the decision of the Common Council.

Mayor Hass read the motion that was made in closed session. He asked Police Chief Bennett and Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey to include Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Pagel in collaboration and the transition. All agreed.

VIII. Adjournment:

Mayor Hass asked for a motion to adjourn. Aldersperson Rick made a motion to adjourn. Aldersperson Fermanich seconded and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:04 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lori L Anderson-Malm – City Clerk.