

CITY OF MERRILL
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
MINUTES • WEDNESDAY JULY 24, 2019

Regular Meeting

City Hall Council Chambers

5:30 PM

1. Call to Order

In the absence of Mayor Woellner, Alderman Hass called the meeting to order at 5:34 P.M.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Rob Norton	Aldersperson - Seventh District	Present	
John M. Van Lieshout	Aldersperson - Fifth District	Present	
Derek Woellner	Mayor	Excused	
Steve Hass	Aldersperson - Second District	Present	

Also in attendance: City Administrator Dave Johnson, Public Works Director/City Engineer Rod Akey, Street Superintendent Dustin Bonack, Street & Weed Commissioner Ron Liberty, Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Darin Pagel, City Attorney Tom Hayden, Police Chief Corey Bennett, Steve Sabatke, Mark Raymer Jeff Voigt, Eric Dayton and City Clerk Bill Heideman. A representative from Merrill Productions was present to videotape the meeting.

2. Preliminary items:

1. Vouchers

Motion (Norton/Van Lieshout) to approve.

RESULT: APPROVED

3. Other agenda items for consideration:

1. Consider eliminating Champagne Street (Grand Ave. to Taylor St.) as a truck route

Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey reported that, if Champagne Street is eliminated as a truck route, trucks could use Taylor Street instead to access businesses.

Alderman Van Lieshout reported that he has received complaints related to safety concerns, and he has also personally observed potentially dangerous incidents related to trucks on Champagne Street.

If the elimination is approved, it would be considered by ordinance at the August 13th, 2019 Common Council meeting.

Motion (Van Lieshout/Norton) to eliminate Champagne Street as a designated truck route.

RESULT: **APPROVED & SENT TO COUNCIL** Next: 8/13/2019 7:00 PM

2. Continue discussion on downtown parking layout for E. Main Street (Scott St. to Court St.)

Discussion on this issue has been ongoing. Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey mentioned that he has also been discussing this with Street Superintendent Bonack. The public reaction has been mixed, as some people/businesses are in favor of retaining angle parking and some are in favor of returning to parallel parking. A decision should be made at the August meeting.

Alderman Norton suggested authorizing Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey and Street Superintendent Bonack to make the final decision. Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey will seek additional public input before the August meeting, and also encourage the public to attend that meeting and provide input prior to a decision being made.

No action was taken at this time.

3. Consider one side parking for the 1000 block of E. 6th and E. 7th Streets during Normal Park events

It has been suggested that, one-side only parking on the 1000 block of East Sixth Street and East Seventh Street be in place during events at Normal Park.

Motion (Norton/Van Lieshout) to approve one-side only parking only parking on the 1000 block of East Sixth Street and East Seventh Street during events at Normal Park. Parking will be allowed only on the south side in the 1000 block of East Sixth Street and only on the north side in the 1000 block of East Seventh Street. The organization hosting the event will be responsible for putting up the signs prior to the event and removing them after the event.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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4. Consider allowing mountable curb along Kwik Trip on Curran Street

Information was in the meeting packet.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey that, as part of the request, Kwik Trip has agreed to pay all costs associated with their request. He noted that, even with the curbing installed, there would still be sufficient room for a sidewalk. He has no concerns with the request as submitted.

Motion (Norton/Van Lieshout) to approve the request, contingent upon Kwik Trip paying all costs associated with the installation.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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5. Discuss land development and proposed road construction on city parcel W. 10th & St. Paul

City Administrator Johnson reported on this residential development. 14 lots are available, with three houses planned for the first year. "Spec" homes will be built. It is estimated that the assessed value of each home will be approximately \$185,000.

At a future Redevelopment Authority meeting, this development will be considered in the form of a development agreement.

No Board of Public Works action was necessary, requested or taken at this time.

6. Discuss the option of picking up home compost

Mayor Woellner had requested that this item be placed on the agenda. Street Superintendent Bonack stated that is not in favor of considering this now, since it would add more work to an already short-staffed department.

No action was taken at this time.

4. Monthly Reports:

1. Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey

The report was in the meeting packet.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey provided a verbal status report on current projects.

2. Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Pagel

The report was in the meeting packet.

Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Pagel noted that current priorities are exterior maintenance and garbage issues.

3. Street Superintendent Bonack

The report was in the meeting packet.

Street Superintendent Bonack reported chip sealing is ongoing. Work on the 800 block of East First Street should be completed July 25th. Work on downtown storm sewers is pending. Filling vacancies in the department is being addressed.

4. Street & Weed Commissioner Liberty

The report was in the meeting packet.

Street and Weed Commissioner Liberty verbally reviewed the monthly report.

5. Consider placing monthly reports on file

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

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

5. Establish date, time and location of next regular meeting

Wednesday, August 28th, 2019 at 5:30 P.M. in the City Hall Common Council Chambers.

6. Public Comment Period

Mark Raymer made several comments related to parking, snow plowing and snow removal.

7. Adjournment

Motion (Norton/Van Lieshout) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 6:22 P.M.