

**CITY OF MERRILL
FESTIVAL GROUNDS COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, June 2, 2022 MINUTES**

Regular Meeting

City Hall Council Chambers

6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor Steve Hass, Alderpersons Michael “Gus” Caylor, Steve Sabatke, Mike Rick. Other committee members present: Bryan Bloch, Brad Becker and Becky Meyer.

Absent: City Administrator Dave Johnson

Others Present: Festival Grounds Manager Rick Bjorklund, City Clerk Lori Anderson-Malm, and Merrill Productions video operator

1. Chair Hass called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Agenda Items for Consider:
 1. Fair Update – Fair Association Rep Becker reported the landscaping is complete. Entertainment has been scheduled and they are looking for sponsors.
 2. Rodeo Update – Rodeo Association Rep Bloch reported the setup will take place on Friday. They are having increased online sales. Tickets can be obtained online at WRPR.org website. Overflow parking is set for Pine Crest if needed.
 3. Water & Electric Update –The water and electric is in for the campsites. There are 20 camping spots.
 4. Arena Lighting Update –The lighting will be up and running for the Fair. There was a request to have outlets on all poles. It was decided additional outlets could be added as needed.
 5. Food Vendor Update – There was no update from the food vendors.
 6. Calendar of Events

List of dates for May through July 2022 events was included in the agenda packet.
3. Monthly Reports
 1. Meeting minutes from May 5, 2022 – Motion (Caylor/Sabatke) to approve the meeting minutes.

Mayor Hass asked only City Council members vote until clarification is established regarding voting members. Mayor Hass and City Attorney Hayden are working on this issue.

Aldersperson Rick had questions regarding the lighting bid that was approved at the May Common Council meeting. He wanted clarification regarding the amount from the Bierman Foundation and the additional \$25,000. Discussion occurred regarding this issue. City Attorney Hayden will check on the lighting question and report back at the next meeting.

The motion was amended to approve the minutes except the lighting. Aldersperson Caylor amended the original motion and Aldersperson Sabatke seconded. Carried.

2. Festival Grounds Manager – Bjorklund reported the wrestling event sales are doing well. Event set-up is requiring very little oversight.

Aldersperson Sabatke asked if additional campsites would improve the events and Festival Grounds Manager Bjorklund agreed having more campsites could increase attendance.

Aldersperson Sabatke asked if there was discussion regarding collecting rents for camping for various events. It was decided this item would be on next month's agenda for discussion.

3. Food Vendor Representative – there was no food vendor report for this meeting.
4. Public Comment Period – None.
5. Establish date, time and location of next meeting – Next meeting will be the Call of the Chair.
6. Motion (Rick/Caylor) to adjourn at 6:13 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Lori Anderson-Malm City Clerk