



CITY OF MERRILL
PERSONNEL AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES • TUESDAY MAY 26, 2020

Regular Meeting

City Hall Council Chambers

5:15 PM

I. Call to Order

Alderman Hass called the meeting to order at 5:15 P.M.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Rick Blake	Aldersperson - Third District	Present	
Steve Osness	Aldersperson - Fourth District	Present	
Steve Hass	Aldersperson - Second District	Present	

Others in attendance: City Administrator Dave Johnson, City Attorney Tom Hayden, Alderman Mark Weix, Alderman Steve Sabatke, Alderman Mike Rick, Fire Chief Joshn Klug, Galen Bayne-Allison, Robert Caylor and City Clerk Bill Heideman.

II. Vouchers:

1. Vouchers

The vouchers were in the meeting packet.

Motion (Osness/Blake) to approve.

RESULT: APPROVED

III. Agenda items for consideration:

1. Discuss existing sound system in City Hall Common Council Chambers and potential sound system at Bierman Building.

Alderman Hass placed this item on the agenda. He explained that, when he viewed the video of the most recent Health and Safety Committee meeting, he found it difficult to hear the sound.

Both the sound system in the Common Council Chambers and the sound system at the Bierman Building were discussed. It was noted that the Bierman Building currently has only a single-microphone system.

At the direction on the Committee, City Administrator Johnson will instruct Information Technology Manager Dustin Brown to conduct research related to the cost of upgrade(s) to both systems.

No action was taken at this time.

2. Review of the City and State Smal Business Grant Programs

Information was in the meeting packet.

City Administrator Johnson reported that the state program is scheduled to begin in June.

To date, the City program has provided \$108,926 in grants and loans. The program is still active and it is anticipated that more applications will be received.

3. Consider other employee health insurance providers

Alderman Hass stated his opinion that having only one insurance provider is somewhat limited. Currently, M3 (the City's insurance broker) provides options on insurance coverage to the City.

It was mentioned that a municipality receives better rates if they refrain from seeking insurance quotes every year. Insurance providers are looking for continuity.

After discussion, it was decided to continue discussion on this at the June meeting .No action was taken at this time.

4. Consider forming employee insurance committee

Alderman Hass reminded everyone that the employees have a financial interest in their health insurance. He then mentioned that, if an employee insurance committee was created, the purpose of the committee would be to explore and receive insurance options and then present to these options to the employees. He envisions that the committee would be made up employees from various departments. This would give the employees an opportunity to participate in the insurance process. Options on the composition of the committee were discussed.

It was suggested that a sign-up sheet could be made available to allow employees to volunteer to serve on the proposed committee. This would help determine the level of employee interest in such a committee. No formal action was taken.

IV. Monthly Reports:

1. Municipal Court

The report was in the meeting packet.

2. Finance Director Unertl

The report was in the meeting packet.

3. City Attorney Hayden

The report was in the meeting packet.

4. City Clerk Heideman

The report was in the meeting packet.

5. City Administrator Johnson

The report was in the meeting packet.

6. Consider placing monthly reports on file

Motion (Osness/Blake) to place on file.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

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

Tuesday, June 23rd, 2020 at 5:15 P.M. in the City Hall Common Council Chambers.

VI. Public Comment Period

None.

VII. Closed Session(s):

1. The Committee may convene in closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85(1)(e) & (g) for deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session and to confer with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved in, for a status report and discussion on negotiations with the Fire union.

Motion (Osness/Blake) to convene in closed session. Motion carried 3-0 on roll call vote.

Convened in closed session at 5:32 P.M.

The closed session minutes will be filed separately.

VIII. Open Session:

1. The Committee may reconvene in open session for potential action(s) on closed session issue(s).

The Committee opted not to reconvene in open session.

IX. Adjournment

Motion (Osness/Blake) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned (from closed session) at 6:45 P.M.